



Frankfort School District 157-C
Parent and Student Handbook
2016-2017

Grand Prairie Elementary School
Chelsea Intermediate School
Hickory Creek Middle School

Adopted January 20, 2016
Board of Education

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I. GENERAL SCHOOL INFORMATION

This handbook is a summary of the school's rules and expectations, and is not a comprehensive statement of school procedures. The Board's comprehensive policy manual is available for public inspection through the District's website:

www.fsd157c.org

or at the Board office, located at:
Frankfort School District 157-C
District Office
10482 W. Nebraska Street
Frankfort, IL 60423

The District's website is a welcoming, well-organized, and engaging destination for parents/guardians, students, staff, and the community. The website contains current information complete with school/district calendars, news from each school, and contact information for all school personnel. Please take time to visit www.fsd157c.org on a regular basis to stay informed about the District.

The School Board governs the District, and is elected by the community. Current School Board members are:

Gina Briese, President

gbriese@fsd157c.org

Expires in 2017

Dr. Brian Sasso, Vice President

bsasso@fsd157c.org

Expires in 2017

Edie Adamski, Secretary

eadamski@fsd157c.org

Expires in 2019

Kevin Regas, Member

kregas@fsd157c.org

Expires in 2019

Mike Turner, Member

mturner@fsd157c.org

Expires in 2017

Tom Reidy, Member

treidy@fsd157c.org

Expires in 2019

Edith Lutz, Member

elutz@fsd157c.org

Expires in 2019

District Office Personnel

10482 W. Nebraska Street
Frankfort, IL 60423
815-469-5922
Hours: 7:30 am – 4:00 pm

Dr. Maura Zinni, Superintendent
mzinni@fsd157c.org

Curt Saindon, Assistant Superintendent
csaindon@fsd157c.org
Jennifer Bajda, Director of Special Services
jbajda@fsd157c.org

Janet McClarence, Director of Curriculum
jmccclarence@fsd157c.org
Jacob Nelson, Director of Technology
jnelson@fsd157c.org

Grand Prairie Elementary School

10480 W. Nebraska Street
Frankfort, IL 60423
815-469-3366
Hours: Project Begin/Early Childhood
Morning Session: 8:30 am – 11:00 am
Afternoon Session: 12:20 pm – 2:50 pm
Full Day Kindergarten: 8:35 am – 3:00 pm
Extended Day Kindergarten: 8:35 am – 1:30 pm
Grades 1 and 2: 8:35 am – 3:00 pm

Eileen Nelson, Principal
enelson@fsd157c.org

Sean Rhoads, Assistant Principal
srhoads@fsd157c.org

Chelsea Intermediate School

22265 S 80th Avenue
Frankfort, IL 60423
815-469-2309
Hours: 9:15 am – 3:40 pm

Dr. Sharon Paver-Nepote, Principal
spaver-nepote@fsd157c.org

Rachel Newcomb, Assistant Principal
rnewcomb@fsd157c.org

Hickory Creek Middle School

22150 116th Avenue
Frankfort, IL 60423
815-469-4474
Hours: 7:55 am – 2:20 pm

William Seidelmann, Principal
wseidelmann@fsd157c.org

Christine Slechter
cslechter@fsd157c.org

Matthew Swies, Assistant Principal
mswies@fsd157c.org

Mission Statement

The mission of the District is to prepare all students to be confident, life-long learners and productive citizens by challenging them to reach their fullest potential and by providing a quality educational environment in partnership with family and community.

Home and School Partnership

We are dedicated to partnering with parents and guardians to assist students in identifying and making positive behavioral choices. As partners, we share the responsibility of developing and supporting a system that provides the structures which allow all students to achieve to the best of their abilities and maximize their potential.

Our District has adopted The Six Pillars of Character® as our model for exemplary behaviors and decision-making. It is expected that all students, parents, and staff cooperate with and exhibit The Six Pillars of Character® towards everyone in our educational community, themselves, and the school's property at all times.

The Pillars of Character are:

- **Trustworthiness**

Be honest • Do not deceive, cheat, or steal • Be reliable — do what you say you'll do • Have the courage to do the right thing • Build a good reputation • Be loyal — stand by your family, friends, and country

- **Respect**

Treat others with respect • follow the Golden Rule • Be tolerant and accepting of differences • Use good manners, not bad language • Be considerate of the feelings of others • Don't threaten, hit, or hurt anyone • Deal peacefully with anger, insults, and disagreements

- **Responsibility**

Do what you are supposed to do • Plan ahead • Persevere — keep on trying • Always do your best • Use self-control • Be self-disciplined • Think before you act — consider the consequences • Be accountable for your words, actions, and attitudes • Set a good example for others • Take an active role in preventing harm to others — don't be a silent bystander

- **Fairness**

Play by the rules • Take turns and share • Be open-minded — listen to others • Don't take advantage of others • Don't blame others carelessly • Treat all people fairly

- **Caring**

Be kind • Be compassionate and show you care • Express gratitude • Forgive others • Help people in need

- **Citizenship**

Do your share to make your school and community better • Cooperate • Get involved in community affairs • Stay informed — vote • Be a good neighbor • Obey laws and rules • Respect authority • Protect the environment • Volunteer

Visitors

All visitors, including parents and siblings, are required to enter through the front door of the building, ring the buzzer, and proceed immediately to the main office. Visitors should identify themselves and inform office personnel of their reason for being at school.

Parent(s)/guardian(s) bringing items for their child(ren) are to bring these items to the office. Office personnel will see that these items are delivered. It is absolutely essential that visitors do not disturb the classrooms.

On your first visit to any of our schools each school year, a staff person in the main office will ask you to present your driver's license or state identification to be entered into the school's visitor management system. The system will perform a short background check. If you are bringing a relative to school, please inform him/her to bring the proper identification for admission. Visitors must sign in, identifying their name, the date and time of arrival, and the classroom or location they are visiting. Approved visitors must display the visitor's badge in a clearly visible location before entering the student areas of the school. Visitors are required to proceed immediately to their location in a quiet manner. All visitors must return to the main office and sign out before leaving the school.

Visitors are expected to abide by all school rules during their time on school property. A visitor who fails to conduct himself/herself in a manner that is appropriate will be asked to leave and may be subject to criminal penalties for trespassing and/or disruptive behavior.

Student Records

School student records are confidential, and information from them shall not be released other than as provided by law. Any record that contains personal identifiable information or other information that would link the document to an individual student is a school student record if maintained by the District, except records that are maintained by a school staff member for his or her exclusive use, are destroyed no later than the student's graduation or permanent withdrawal, and are not released or disclosed to any other person except a temporary substitute teacher. The District keeps records of its students in two (2) files, a permanent record file and a temporary record file. The destruction schedule is as follows: five (5) years from a student's transfer, withdrawal, or graduation from the District, the student's temporary records will be destroyed in the month of July, and sixty (60) years from a student's transfer, withdrawal, or graduation from the District, the student's permanent records will be destroyed in the month of July.

Both the Family Educational Right and Privacy Act (FERPA) and the Illinois School Student Records Act (ISSRA) protect the privacy of student education records and provide parents with the right to inspect, copy, and challenge material contained within their children's education records.

1. The right to inspect and review the student's education records within 15 school days of the day the District receives a request for access. When copies of student records are requested, the District will comply within 15 school days per ISSRA regulations.
2. The right to request the amendment of the student's education records that the parent/guardian or eligible student believes are inaccurate or misleading.
3. The right to consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in the parent/guardian or eligible student's education records, except to the extent that FERPA or ISSRA authorizes disclosure without consent.
4. The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the District to comply with the requirements of FERPA.
5. The right to file a complaint with the Illinois State Board of Education concerning alleged failure by the District to comply with the requirements of ISSRA.

Complete copies of the Board policy concerning alleged confidentiality can be obtained by contacting the Superintendent's office.

Student Record Challenges

The parent(s)/guardian(s) or student may challenge the accuracy, relevancy, or propriety of school records, except that no challenge may be made to 1) grades or 2) references to expulsions/suspensions when the records are being forwarded to another school. The parent(s)/guardian(s) may request a hearing. The Superintendent shall be responsible for establishing appropriate procedures in accordance with FERPA, ISSRA and their respective rules and regulations.

Parent(s)/guardian(s) may prepare a written statement of reasonable length describing their position regarding a disputed record. The school will include a copy of the statement in the student's record. The District will notify the parent(s)/guardian(s) or eligible student of the decision to amend or not to amend the student's record.

Directory Information of Student Records

Directory information may be released to the general public, unless the parent(s)/guardian(s) requests that any or all such information not be released on his/her child. The term "directory information" includes the following: student's name, parents' names, address, date and place of birth, gender, grade level, major field of study, participation in officially recognized activities and sports, weight and height of members of athletic teams, dates of attendance, degrees and awards received, and other information in relation to school-sponsored activities, organizations, and athletics.

Animals on School Property

In order to assure student health and safety, animals are not allowed on school property, except in the case of a service animal accompanying a student or other individual with a documented disability. This rule may be temporarily waived by the building principal in the case of an educational opportunity for students, provided that: (a) the animal is appropriately housed, humanely cared for, and properly handled, and (b) students will not be exposed to a dangerous animal or an unhealthy environment.

Food Brought to School

Due to health concerns, parent(s)/guardian(s) are only permitted to bring in food items for their own child. Food items for mass distribution to students are not allowed.

Emergency School Closings

In the event of an emergency school closing the District will initiate the SchoolMessenger notification system. This system itself will simultaneously transmit a recorded message informing you of a school closing. Please be mindful that there is a 5-second delay when answering the phone before receiving the recorded message.

Parents will also receive an email notifying them of the school closing. This information can also be located on the District website, as well as the following television and radio stations: Channel 2 CBS, Channel 32 FOX, Channel 5 NBC, Channel 7 ABC, Channel 9 WGN, and AM stations WGN 720 and WBBM 780.

In addition to a phone or email, if you have signed up for the District's text messaging service, you will receive a text message in regards to the school closing.

Video & Audio Monitoring Systems

A video and/or audio monitoring system may be in use on school buses and a video monitoring system may be in use in public areas of the school building. These systems have been put in place to protect students, staff, visitors, and school property. If a discipline problem is captured on audiotape or videotape, these recordings may be used as the basis for imposing student discipline. If criminal actions are recorded, a copy of the tape may be provided to law enforcement personnel.

II. ATTENDANCE

Student Attendance and Absences

Illinois law requires that whoever has custody or control of any child between six (by September 1st) and seventeen years of age shall assure that the child attends school in the district in which he or she resides, during the entire time school is in session.

Types of Absences

There are two types of absences: excused and unexcused. Excused absences include: illness, observance of a religious holiday, death in the immediate family, family emergency, situations beyond the control of the student, circumstances that cause reasonable concern to the parent/guardian for the student's safety or health, or other reason as approved by the principal. All other absences are considered unexcused. Pre-arranged excused absences must be approved by the principal.

The school may require documentation explaining the reason for the student's absence.

In the event of any absence, the student's parent/guardian is required to call the school before 8:00 am to explain the reason for the absence. If an absence has not been reported by 10:00 am, the school is required by state law to make a reasonable effort to contact the absent students' parent or guardian to provide notification that the child is not in school. If the parent or guardian cannot be contacted, the student will be required to submit a signed note from the parent or guardian explaining the reason for the absence. Failure to do so shall result in an unexcused absence. Upon request of the parent or guardian, the reason for an absence will be kept confidential.

If a student is absent for four or more consecutive school days due to illness, or a pattern of absenteeism develops, a signed physician's note/form outlining the illness and approving the student's return to school should be presented to the school office. Failure to provide a physician's note following four consecutive days of absence may result in the days being documented as unexcused or truant. However, if an absence has been discussed with the school office, in person, or by phone, and is less than four consecutive school days, a written excuse is not necessary.

Absences and School Activities

Students must be in attendance at least 50% of the school day to participate in practice sessions, contests, or attend special events after school.

Truancy

Student attendance is critical to the learning process. Truancy is therefore a serious issue and will be dealt with in a serious manner by the school and the District.

Students who miss 5% or more of the prior 180 regular school days without valid cause (a recognized excuse) are considered chronic truants. Students who are chronic truants will be offered support services and resources aimed at correcting the truancy issue.

If chronic truancy persists after support services and other resources are made available, the school and the District will take further action, including:

- Referral to the truancy officer
- Reporting to officials under the Juvenile Court Act
- Referral to the State's Attorney
- Appropriate school discipline

A parent or guardian who knowingly and willfully permits a child to be truant is in violation of State law.

III. CODE OF CONDUCT

School Dress Code / Student Appearance

Students are expected to wear clothing in a neat, clean, and well-fitting manner while on school property and/or in attendance at school sponsored activities. Students are to use discretion in

their dress and are not permitted to wear apparel that causes a substantial disruption to the school environment.

- Student dress (including accessories) may not advertise, promote, or picture alcoholic beverages, illegal drugs, drug paraphernalia, violent behavior, or other inappropriate images.
- Student dress (including accessories) may not display lewd, vulgar, obscene, or offensive language or symbols, including gang symbols.
- Hats, coats, bandannas, sweat bands, and sun glasses may not be worn in the building during the school day.
- Hair styles, dress, and accessories that pose a safety hazard are not permitted in science labs or during physical education.
- Clothing with holes, rips, tears, and clothing that is otherwise poorly fitting, showing shoulder, chest or mid-section skin and/or undergarments may not be worn at school.
- The length of shorts or skirts must be appropriate for the school environment.
- Appropriate footwear must be worn at all times.
- If there is any doubt about dress and appearance, the building principal will make the final decision.
- A student whose dress causes a substantial disruption to the orderly process of school functions or endangers the health or safety of the student, other students, staff or others will be required to remove the dress causing disruption and may be subject to discipline. Appropriate clothing will be provided by the school.

The dress code is in effect at all school related functions, with the exception of special school events that have been pre-approved by the building principal.

Student Discipline

Prohibited Student Conduct

Students may be disciplined for misconduct, including, but not limited, to the following:

1. Using, possessing, distributing, purchasing, or selling tobacco materials, including electronic cigarettes or e-cigarettes.
2. Using, possessing, distributing, purchasing, or selling alcoholic beverages.
3. Using, possessing, distributing, purchasing, or selling:
 - a. Any illegal drug, controlled substance, or cannabis (including marijuana, medical marijuana, and hashish).
 - b. Any anabolic steroid or performance-enhancing substance not administered under a physician's care and supervision.
 - c. Any prescription drug when not prescribed for the student by a licensed health care provider or when not used in the manner prescribed.
 - d. Any inhalant, regardless of whether it contains an illegal drug or controlled substance: (a) that a student believes is, or represents to be capable of, causing intoxication, hallucination, excitement, or dulling of the brain or nervous system; or (b) about which the student engaged in behavior that would lead a reasonable person to believe that the student intended the inhalant to cause intoxication, hallucination, excitement, or dulling of the brain or nervous system.

- e. "Look-alike" or counterfeit drugs, including a substance not containing an illegal drug or controlled substance, but one: (a) that a student believes to be, or represents to be, an illegal drug or controlled substance; or (b) about which a student engaged in behavior that would lead a reasonable person to believe that the student expressly or impliedly represented to be an illegal drug or controlled substance.
- f. Drug paraphernalia, including devices that are or can be used to: (a) ingest, inhale, or inject cannabis or controlled substances into the body; and (b) grow, process, store, or conceal cannabis or controlled substances.

Students who are under the influence of any prohibited substance are not permitted to attend school or school functions and are treated as though they have the prohibited substance, as applicable, in their possession.

- 4. Using, possessing, controlling, or transferring a firearm or "look alike," knife, brass knuckles or other knuckle weapon regardless of its composition, a billy club, or any other object if used or attempted to be used to cause bodily harm.
- 5. Using a cellular telephone, smartphone, video recording device, paging device, personal digital assistant (PDA), or similar electronic device in any manner that disrupts the educational environment or violates the rights of others. All cell phones, smartphones and similar electronic devices must be kept powered-off and out-of-sight during the regular school day unless: (a) the supervising teacher grants permission; (b) use of the device is provided in a student's individualized education program (IEP); or (c) it is needed in an emergency that threatens the safety of students, staff, or other individuals.
- 6. Using or possessing a laser pointer unless under a staff member's direct supervision and in the context of instruction.
- 7. Disobeying rules of student conduct or directives from staff members or school officials.
- 8. Engaging in academic dishonesty, including cheating, intentionally plagiarizing, wrongfully giving or receiving help during an academic examination, and wrongfully obtaining test copies or scores.
- 9. Bullying, hazing, or any kind of aggressive behavior that does physical or psychological harm to a staff person or another student or encouraging other students to engage in such behavior. Prohibited conduct specifically includes, without limitation, any use of violence, intimidation, force, noise, coercion, threats, stalking, harassment, sexual harassment, public humiliation, theft or destruction of property, retaliation, hazing, bullying, bullying through the transmission of information from a school computer, a school computer network, or other similar electronic school equipment, or other comparable conduct.
- 10. Causing or attempting to cause damage to stealing or attempting to steal, school property or another person's personal property.
- 11. Being involved in a gang or engaging in gang-like activities, including displaying gang symbols or paraphernalia.
- 12. Violating any criminal law, including but not limited to, assault, battery, arson, theft, gambling, eavesdropping, and hazing.
- 13. Engaging in any activity, on or off campus, that interferes with, disrupts, or adversely affects the school environment, school operations, or an educational function, including but not limited to, conduct that may reasonably be considered to: (a) be a threat or an

attempted intimidation of a staff member; or (b) endanger the health or safety of students, staff, or school property.

14. Sending, receiving, or possessing sexually explicit or otherwise inappropriate pictures or images, including activity commonly known as “sexting.” Prohibited conduct specifically includes, without limitation, creating, sending, sharing, viewing, receiving, or possessing an indecent visual depiction of oneself or another person through the use of a computer, electronic communication device, smartphone, or cellular phone.
15. Public displays of affection with romantic intent.
16. Using, purchasing, selling or possessing any performance-enhancing substance on the Illinois Association of High School Association’s most current banned substance list, unless administered in accordance with a prescription.

For purposes of these rules, the term “possession” includes having control, custody, or care, currently or in the past, of an object or substance, including situations in which the item is: (a) on the student’s person; (b) contained in another item belonging to, or under the control of, the student, such as in the student’s clothing, backpack; (c) in a school’s student locker, desk, or other school property; (d) at any location on school property or at a school-sponsored event; or (e) in the case of drugs and alcohol, substances ingested by the person.

The grounds for disciplinary action also apply whenever the student’s conduct is reasonably related to school or school activities, including but not limited to:

1. On, or within sight of, school grounds before, during, or after school hours or at any time;
2. Off school grounds at a school-sponsored activity or event, or any activity or event that bears a reasonable relationship to school;
3. Traveling to or from school or a school activity, function, or event; or
4. Anywhere, if the conduct interferes with, disrupts, or adversely affects the school environment, school operations, or an educational function, including but not limited to, conduct that may reasonably be considered to: (a) be a threat or an attempted intimidation of a staff member; or (b) endanger the health or safety of students, staff, or school property.

Disciplinary Measures

Disciplinary measures may include:

- Temporary removal from the classroom.
- Disciplinary conference with verbal or written warning.
- Notifying parent(s)/guardian(s).
- Withholding of privileges.
- Lunch or after-school detention.
- After-school detention or Saturday detention.
- Participation in Positive Alternative to School Suspension Program (PASS).

- Suspension from school and all school activities for up to 10 school days. A suspended student is prohibited from being on school grounds.
- Suspension of bus riding privileges.
- Expulsion from school and all school-sponsored activities and events for a definite time period not to exceed 2 calendar years. An expelled student is prohibited from being on school grounds.
- Notifying juvenile authorities or other law enforcement whenever the conduct involves illegal drugs (controlled substances), “look-alikes,” alcohol, or weapons.

Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment

Bullying is contrary to Illinois law and the policy of the District. Bullying is repeated verbal, physical, social, or psychological behavior that is harmful and involves the misuse of power by an individual or group towards one or more persons.

Bullying, intimidation, and harassment diminish a student’s ability to learn and a school’s ability to educate. Preventing students from engaging in these disruptive behaviors and providing all students equal access to a safe, non-hostile learning environment are important school goals.

Bullying on the basis of actual or perceived race, color, national origin, immigration status, military status, unfavorable discharge status from the military service, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender-related identity or expression, ancestry, age, religion, physical or mental disability, order of protection status, status of being homeless, or actual or potential marital or parental status, including pregnancy, association with a person or group with one or more of the aforementioned actual or perceived characteristics, or any other distinguishing characteristic is prohibited in each of the following situations:

1. During any school-sponsored education program or activity.
2. While in school, on school property, on school buses or other school vehicles, at designated school bus stops waiting for the school bus, or at school-sponsored or school-sanctioned events or activities.
3. Through the transmission of information from a school computer, a school computer network, or other similar electronic school equipment.
4. Through the transmission of information from a computer that is accessed at a non-school related location, activity, function, or program or from the use of technology or an electronic device that is not owned, leased, or used by the District or school if the bullying causes a substantial disruption to the educational process or orderly operation of a school.

Bullying includes, but not limited, to cyber-bullying (bullying through the use of technology or any electronic communication) and means any severe or pervasive physical or verbal act or conduct, including communications made in writing or electronically, directed toward a student or students that has or can be reasonably predicted to have the effect of one or more of the following:

1. Placing the student or students in reasonable fear of harm to the student’s or students’ person or property;
2. Causing a substantially detrimental effect on the student’s or students’ physical or mental health;
3. Substantially interfering with the student’s or students’ academic performance; or

4. Substantially interfering with the student's or students' ability to participate in or benefit from the services, activities, or privileges provided by a school.

Cyber-bullying includes the creation of a webpage or weblog in which the creator assumes the identity of another person or knowing impersonation of another person as the author of posted content or messages if the creation or impersonation creates any of the effects enumerated in the definition of bullying. Cyber-bullying also includes the distribution by electronic means of a communication to more than one person or the posting of material on an electronic medium that may be accessed by one or more persons if the distribution or posting creates any of the effects enumerated in the definition of bullying.

Examples of prohibited conduct include, without limitation, name-calling, using derogatory slurs, stalking, sexual harassment, sexual violence, causing psychological harm, threatening or causing physical harm, threatened or actual destruction of property, theft, public humiliation, retaliation for asserting or alleging an act of bullying, or wearing or possessing items depicting or implying hatred or prejudice of one of the characteristics stated above.

Students are encouraged to immediately report bullying. A report may be made orally or in writing to the District complaint manager or any staff member with whom the student is comfortable speaking. Anyone, including staff members and parent(s)/guardian(s), who has information about actual or threatened bullying is encouraged to report it to the District complaint manager or any staff member. Anonymous reports are also accepted by phone call or in writing utilizing the online form available on the District's website.

A reprisal or retaliation against any person who reports an act of bullying is prohibited. A student's act of reprisal or retaliation will be treated as bullying for purposes of determining any consequences or other appropriate remedial actions.

A student will not be punished for reporting bullying or supplying information, even if the school's investigation concludes that no bullying occurred. However, knowingly making a false accusation or providing knowingly false information will be treated as bullying for purposes of determining any consequences or other appropriate remedial actions.

Search and Seizure

In order to maintain order safety and security in the schools, school authorities are authorized to conduct reasonable searches of school property and equipment, as well as of students and their personal effects. School authorities include school liaison police officers.

School Property and Equipment, as well as Personal Effects Left on School Property by Students

School authorities may inspect and search school property and equipment owned or controlled by the school (such as, lockers, desks, and parking lots), as well as personal effects left on school property by a student, without notice to or the consent of the student. Students have no reasonable expectation of privacy in these places or areas, or in their personal effects left there.

The building principal may request the assistance of law enforcement officials to conduct inspections and searches of lockers, desks, parking lots, and other school property and equipment for illegal drugs, weapons, or other illegal or dangerous substances or materials, including searches conducted through the use of specially trained dogs.

Students

School authorities may search a student and/or the student's personal effects in the student's possession (such as, purses, wallets, knapsacks, book bags, lunch boxes, etc.) when there is a reasonable ground for suspecting that the search will produce evidence the particular student has violated or is violating either the law or the school or the District's student rules and policies. The search will be conducted in a manner that is reasonably related to its objective of the search and not excessively intrusive in light of the student's age and sex, and the nature of the infraction.

School officials may conduct an investigation or require a student to cooperate in an investigation if there is specific information about activity on the student's account on a social networking website that violates the school's disciplinary rules or the District policy. In the course of the investigation, the student may be required to share the content that is reported in order for the school to make a factual determination.

Seizure of Property

If a search produces evidence that the student has violated or is violating either the law or the school or the District's policies or rules, evidence may be seized and impounded by school authorities, and disciplinary action may be taken. When appropriate, evidence may be transferred to law enforcement authorities.

Student Use of Electronic Devices

The use of electronic devices and other technology at school is a privilege, not a right. Students are prohibited from using electronic devices, except as provided herein. An electronic device includes, but is not limited to, the following: cell phone, smart phone, audio or video recording device, mobile device, laptop computer, or other similar electronic device. Pocket pagers and other paging devices are not allowed on school property at any time, except with the express permission of the building principal.

During instructional time, which includes class periods and passing periods, electronic devices must be kept powered-off and out-of-sight unless: (a) permission is granted by an administrator, teacher or school staff member; (b) use of the device is provided in a student's individualized education program (IEP); or (c) it is needed in an emergency that threatens the safety of students, staff, or other individuals.

Students are allowed to use electronic devices during non-instructional time, which is defined as before and after school.

Electronic devices may never be used in any manner that disrupts the educational environment, violates student conduct rules, or violates the rights of others. This includes, but is not limited to, the following: (1) using the device to take photographs in locker rooms or bathrooms; (2) cheating; and (3) creating, sending, sharing, viewing, receiving, or possessing an indecent visual depiction or non-consensual dissemination of private sexual images (i.e., sexting).

If this regulation is violated, the device will be confiscated by administration and only returned to parent(s)/guardian(s). The school and the District are not responsible for the loss, theft or damage to any electronic device brought to school.

School officials may require a student to cooperate in an investigation if there is specific information about activity on the student's account on a social networking website that violates the school's disciplinary rules or the District's policy. In the course of the investigation, the student may be required to share the content that is reported in order for the school to make a factual determination.

Access to Student Social Networking Passwords & Websites

School officials may not request or require a student or his or her parent(s)/guardian(s) to provide a password or other related account information in order to gain access to the student's account or profile on a social networking website. School officials may conduct an investigation or require a student to cooperate in an investigation if there is specific information about activity on the student's account on a social networking website that violates a school disciplinary rule or procedure. In the course of an investigation, the student may be required to share the content that is reported in order to allow school officials to make a factual determination. Every effort will be made to include the parent(s)/guardian(s) in an investigation.

Equal Opportunity and Sex Equity

Equal educational and extracurricular opportunities shall be available for all students without regard to color, race, nationality, religion, sex, sexual orientation, ancestry, age, physical or mental disability, gender identity, status as homeless, immigration status, order of protection status, or actual or potential marital or parental status, including pregnancy.

No student shall, based on sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, be denied equal access to programs, activities, services, or benefits or be limited in the exercise of any right, privilege, advantage, or denied equal access to educational and extracurricular programs and activities.

Any student or parent(s)/guardian(s) with a sex equity or equal opportunity concern should contact the school administration or the office of the Superintendent.

Sexual Harassment & Teen Dating Violence Prohibited

Sexual Harassment Prohibited

Sexual harassment of students is prohibited. A person engages in sexual harassment whenever he or she makes sexual advances, requests sexual favors, and/or engages in other verbal or physical conduct, including sexual violence, of a sexual or sex-based nature, imposed on the basis of sex, that:

1. Denies or limits the provision of educational aid, benefits, services, or treatment; or that makes such conduct a condition of a student's academic status; or
2. Has the purpose or effect of:
 - a. Substantially interfering with a student's educational environment;
 - b. Creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive educational environment;
 - c. Depriving a student of educational aid, benefits, services, or treatment; or

- d. Making submission to or rejection of such conduct the basis for academic decisions affecting a student.

The terms *intimidating*, *hostile*, and *offensive* include conduct that has the effect of humiliation, embarrassment, or discomfort. Examples of sexual harassment include touching, crude jokes or pictures, discussions of sexual experiences, teasing related to sexual characteristics, and spreading rumors related to a person's alleged sexual activities. The term *sexual violence* includes a number of different acts. Examples of sexual violence include, but are not limited to, rape, sexual assault, sexual battery, sexual abuse, and sexual coercion.

Teen Dating Violence Prohibited

Engaging in teen dating violence that takes place at school, on school property, at school-sponsored activities, or in vehicles used for school-provided transportation is prohibited. For purposes of this policy, the term *teen dating violence* occurs whenever a student who is 13 to 19 years of age uses or threatens to use physical, mental, or emotional abuse to control an individual in the dating relationship; or uses or threatens to use sexual violence in the dating relationship.

Making a Complaint

Students are encouraged to report claims or incidents of sexual harassment, teen dating violence, or any other prohibited conduct to the nondiscrimination coordinator, building principal, assistant building principal, or the District complaint manager. A student may choose to report to a person of the student's same sex. Complaints will be kept confidential to the extent possible given the need to investigate. Students who make good faith complaints will not be disciplined.

Any person making a knowingly false accusation regarding prohibited conduct will likewise be subject to discipline.

Erin's Law

The District curriculum includes the state-mandated Erin's Law, which was adopted in January 2013. The Health Education program will include age-appropriate sexual abuse, assault awareness, and prevention education for Pre-K through 8th grade students.

It is estimated that one in four girls and one in six boys are sexually abused by the time they are eighteen years old. Data also indicates that about 90 percent of the abusers are known to the child and include relatives, neighbors, babysitters, and family acquaintances.

Erin's Law requires that health classes educate students on safe touches and unsafe touches; safe secrets and unsafe secrets; and how to "get away and tell a trusted adult today." This program will teach children to recognize child sexual abuse and will equip them with skills to reduce their vulnerability, as well as to encourage them to report abuse. The curriculum is developmentally appropriate per grade level.

To read Erin's Law, please visit: <http://www.isbe.state.il.us/reports/erins-law-final0512.pdf>.

IV. ACADEMICS

Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment Plan

Research has shown that a district's overall level of academic performance will be enhanced by adherence to a tightly aligned, articulated curriculum that promotes continuity and a developmentally appropriate acquisition of skills and knowledge from grade to grade and from school to school. With this expectation, the District's PK-8 curriculum is based on a core set of learning outcomes that are clearly articulated and aligned to the Illinois State Learning Standards in each subject area of study.

Curriculum Guiding Practices

- The design of the curriculum, both taught and assessed, establishes the framework and expectations that guide educational decision-making at all academic levels.
- Only a tightly aligned, well-written, and thoroughly assessed curriculum will ensure all students succeed, negating the effects of any biases among students including but not limited to gender, socio-economic status, and/or cultural background.
- Curriculum development is a collaborative process facilitated by the District's Curriculum Steering Committee.
- The curriculum is based on a core set of non-negotiable, relevant, and rigorous student expectations that guide decisions about teaching and learning, and which are aligned both vertically (PK-8) and horizontally (within an instructional level).
- Curriculum is developed to ensure that students from teacher to teacher and school to school have the opportunity to learn the same core of significant learning outcomes at a particular grade level.
- The curriculum is accessible and manageable.
- The curriculum is assessed regularly at all levels: district, grade level, classroom, and individual student.

Instructional Guiding Practices

The design and implementation of teaching/learning processes hold the greatest potential for improving student achievement.

- Pre-tests, formative assessments throughout units of instruction, and summative assessments as the culmination of units of instruction are fundamental and critical components of the curriculum.
- Teachers are encouraged to use flexibility and creativity in how they deliver instruction, while adhering to the non-negotiable curricular expectations.
- Re-teaching and assessment re-takes are an essential part of instruction that promotes learning and motivation.
- Instructional resources and programs such as textbooks, software, and other materials are selected by the District's Curriculum Steering Committee based upon their alignment with the curriculum.
- Professional development is designed and implemented to prepare staff members to teach the curriculum.
- Students are responsible for their learning. The District will offer differentiated ways for students to master the learning; however, ultimately, the students are responsible.

Assessment Guiding Practices

Classroom assessment is one of the most important tools teachers can use to understand the needs of their students. When executed properly and on an ongoing basis, classroom assessment should shape student learning, give teachers valuable insights, and serve as a catalyst for curricular improvements. District assessment practices should:

- Identify student strengths and weaknesses;
- Inform students' learning;
- Identify gaps in student learning;
- Measure student achievement;
- Inform teachers' design and redesign of instruction to promote differentiated instruction across a continuum of performance levels;
- Inform the District's improvement of curriculum alignment and programmatic decisions; and
- Communicate progress to parents to support learning at home.

Grading and Promotion

Grading System

Grades are used to communicate the level and quality of student's performance to parents.

The grading system in Grades K-2 is as follows:

1	Secure
2	Developing
3	Needs Attention
NA	Not Assessed

The grading system in Grades 3-8 is based on the following:

A	90%-100%
B	80%-89%
C	70%-79%
D	60%-69%
F	59% or lower

Promotion

Promotion to the successive grade level is dependent upon the student's grades and actual achievement level. Unsatisfactory work in two or more major subject areas will require additional work from the student before promotion is granted. Additional work may include making up assignments, tutoring, and/or remediation work.

Parent Conferences

Conference days are set aside in November to provide the opportunity to enhance the home-school partnership. Parents are encouraged to take advantage of this opportunity to meet with

teachers and discuss their child's progress. Additional conferences may be scheduled as-needed by contacting the teacher.

Report Cards

Communication between home and school is a central element necessary to insure a positive school experience for every child. In grades K-2, hard copy report cards are provided to parent(s)/guardian(s) at the end of each quarter. In grades 3-8, student progress can be accessed online throughout each quarter of instruction. Report cards are provided online and in a hard copy format at the end of each quarter.

Field Trips

Field trips are a privilege for students. Students must abide by all school policies during transportation and during field-trip activities, and shall treat all field trip locations as though they are school grounds. Failure to abide by school rules and/or location rules during a field trip may subject the student to discipline.

All students who wish to attend a field trip must receive written permission from a parent or guardian with authority to give permission. Students may be prohibited from attending field trips for any of the following reasons:

- Failure to receive appropriate permission from parent/guardian or teacher;
- Failure to complete appropriate coursework;
- Behavioral or safety concerns;
- Denial of permission from administration;
- Other reasons as determined by the school.

The District does not refund field trip fees, as transportation must be scheduled ahead of time and any admissions or other related fees must be pre-paid.

Internet Acceptable Use

All use of the electronic network use must be consistent with the school's goal of promoting educational excellence by facilitating resource sharing, innovation, and communication. These rules do not attempt to state all required or proscribed behavior by users. However, some specific examples are provided. **The failure of any user to follow these rules will result in the loss of privileges, disciplinary action, and/or appropriate legal action.**

Acceptable Use

Access to the electronic network must be: (a) for the purpose of education or research, and be consistent with the District's educational objectives, or (b) for legitimate business use.

Privileges

The use of the electronic network is a privilege, not a right, and inappropriate use will result in a cancellation of those privileges. The system administrator or building principal will make all decisions regarding whether or not a user has violated these procedures and may deny, revoke, or suspend access at any time. His or her decision is final.

Unacceptable Use

The user is responsible for his or her actions and activities involving the network. Some examples of unacceptable uses are:

- a. Using the network for any illegal activity, including violation of copyright or other contracts, or transmitting any material in violation of any State or federal law;
- b. Unauthorized downloading of software, regardless of whether it is copyrighted or de-virused;
- c. Downloading of copyrighted material for other than personal use;
- d. Using the network for private financial or commercial gain;
- e. Wastefully using resources, such as file space and bandwidth;
- f. Hacking or gaining unauthorized access to files, resources, or entities;
- g. Invading the privacy of individuals, that includes the unauthorized disclosure, dissemination, and use of information about anyone that is of a personal nature, including a photograph;
- h. Using another user's account or password without District approval;
- i. Posting material authored or created by another without his/her consent;
- j. Posting anonymous messages;
- k. Using the network for commercial or private advertising;
- l. Accessing, submitting, posting, publishing, or displaying any defamatory, inaccurate, abusive, obscene, profane, sexually oriented, threatening, racially offensive, harassing, or illegal material; and
- m. Using the network while access privileges are suspended or revoked.

Network Etiquette

The user is expected to abide by the generally accepted rules of network etiquette. These include, but are not limited to, the following:

- a. Be polite. Do not become abusive in messages to others.
- b. Use appropriate language. Do not swear, or use vulgarities or any other inappropriate language.
- c. Do not reveal personal information, including the addresses or telephone numbers, of students or colleagues.
- d. Recognize that email is not private. People who operate the system have access to all email. Messages relating to or in support of illegal activities may be reported to the authorities.
- e. Do not use the network in any way that would disrupt its use by other users.
- f. Consider all communications and information accessible via the network to be private property.

No Warranties

The District makes no warranties of any kind, whether expressed or implied, for the service it is providing. The District will not be responsible for any damages the user suffers. This includes loss of data resulting from delays, non-deliveries, missed-deliveries, or service interruptions caused by its negligence or the user's errors or omissions. Use of any information obtained via

the Internet is at the user's own risk. The District specifically denies any responsibility for the accuracy or quality of information obtained through its services.

Indemnification

The user agrees to indemnify the District for any losses, costs, or damages, including reasonable attorney fees, incurred by the District relating to, or arising out of, any violation of these procedures.

Security

Network security is a high priority. If the user can identify a security problem on the Internet, the user must notify the system administrator or building principal. Do not demonstrate the problem to other users. Keep your account and password confidential. Do not use another individual's account without written permission from that individual. Attempts to log-on to the Internet as a system administrator will result in cancellation of user privileges. Any user identified as a security risk may be denied access to the network.

Vandalism

Vandalism will result in cancellation of privileges and other disciplinary action. Vandalism is defined as any malicious attempt to harm or destroy data of another user, the Internet, or any other network. This includes, but is not limited to, the uploading or creation of computer viruses.

Telephone Charges

The District assumes no responsibility for any unauthorized charges or fees, including telephone charges, long-distance charges, per-minute surcharges, and/or equipment or line costs.

Copyright Web Publishing Rules

Copyright law and District policy prohibit the re-publishing of text or graphics found on the web or on the District websites or file servers without explicit written permission.

- a. For each re-publication (on a website or file server) of a graphic or a text file that was produced externally, there must be a notice at the bottom of the page crediting the original producer and noting how and when permission was granted. If possible, the notice should also include the web address of the original source.
- b. Students engaged in producing web pages must provide library media specialists with email or hard copy permissions before the web pages are published. Printed evidence of the status of "public domain" documents must be provided.
- c. The absence of a copyright notice may not be interpreted as permission to copy the materials. Only the copyright owner may provide the permission. The manager of the website displaying the material may not be considered a source of permission.

Use of Email

The District's email system, and its constituent software, hardware, and data files, are owned and controlled by the District. The District provides email to aid students as an education tool.

- a. The District reserves the right to access and disclose the contents of any account on its system, without prior notice or permission from the account's user. Unauthorized access by any student to another account is strictly prohibited.
- b. Each person should use the same degree of care in drafting an email message as would be put into a written memorandum or document. Nothing should be transmitted in an email message that would be inappropriate in a letter or memorandum.
- c. Electronic messages transmitted via the District's Internet gateway carry with them an identification of the user's Internet *domain*. This domain is a registered name and identifies the author as being with the District. Great care should be taken, therefore, in the composition of such messages and how such messages might reflect on the name and reputation of the District. Users will be held personally responsible for the content of any and all email messages transmitted to external recipients.
- d. Any message received from an unknown sender via the Internet should either be immediately deleted or forwarded to the system administrator. Downloading any file attached to any Internet-based message is prohibited unless the user is certain of that message's authenticity and the nature of the file so transmitted.
- e. Use of the District's email system constitutes consent to these regulations.

Sex Education Instruction

Students will not be required to take or participate in any class or course in comprehensive sex education if his or her parent or guardian submits a written objection. Nothing in this Section prohibits instruction in sanitation, hygiene, or traditional courses in biology.

Parent(s)/guardian(s) may examine the instructional materials to be used in any District sex education class or course.

Teacher Qualifications

Parent(s)/guardian(s) may request information about the qualifications of their child's teachers and paraprofessionals, including:

- Whether the teacher has met State licensure requirements;
- Whether the teacher is teaching under an emergency permit or other provisional status by which State licensing criteria have been waived;
- The teacher's college major;
- Whether the teacher has any advanced degrees and, if so, the subject of the degrees;
- Whether any instructional aides or paraprofessionals provide services to your child and, if so, their qualifications.

V. EXTRACURRICULAR

Extracurricular Athletic Activities Code of Conduct

The following is the Code of Conduct that will apply to all extra-curricular activities. Sponsors and coaches, with the approval of the principal, may include additional expectations for a specific activity when deemed appropriate:

- Maintain passing grades in all subject areas;
- Display pride in self, the team/group, the sponsor, and your school;
- Recognize that all discipline policies apply to extracurricular programs, as well as regular school programs;
- Practice good citizenship when representing your school, both on and off campus;
- Accept responsibility for providing proper care of equipment, facilities, and uniforms used in conjunction with the extra-curricular activity;
- Pay for the replacement of any lost or damaged equipment while issued for individual use;
- Display good sportsmanship and respect others during and following competitions;
- Follow the Code of Behavior for bus conduct;
- Practice teamwork;
- Arrive promptly and prepared for each event;
- Accept constructive criticism and/or direction from school officials judging your performance;
- Always attempt to do your best.

Violating the Code of Conduct may result in suspension and/or removal from the extra-curricular activity. A student may lose the privilege to participate in an extra-curricular sport activity if their behavior is unacceptable during the school day and/or extra-curricular activity. A student who is serving an after-school detention, Saturday detention, Positive Alternative to School Suspension (PASS), or an out of school suspension will not be permitted to participate in any practices or games for the day(s) of the issued consequence. A student may also be subject to additional disciplinary actions.

Requirements for Participation in Extracurricular Athletic Activities

A student must have the following fully executed documents on file in the school office before being allowed to participate in any extracurricular athletic activity.

1. A current certificate of physical fitness issued by a licensed physician, an advanced practice nurse or physician assistant.
2. A permission slip to participate in the specific sport or activity signed by the student's parent/guardian.

IESA

Eligibility for most athletics is also governed by the rules of the Illinois Elementary School Association and, if applicable, these rules will apply in addition to this Extracurricular Athletic Code. In the case of a conflict between IESA and this Extracurricular Athletic Code, the most stringent rule will be enforced.

Absence from School on Day of Sport or Activity

A student must be in attendance at least 50% of the school day to participate in practice sessions, contests, or attend special events after school.

VI. HEALTH AND MEDICAL

Required Health Examinations and Immunizations

All students are required to present appropriate proof that the student received a health examination and the immunizations against, and screenings for, preventable communicable diseases within one year prior to:

1. Entering kindergarten
2. Entering the sixth and ninth grades; and
3. Enrolling in an Illinois school for the first time, regardless of the student's grade.

The required health examinations must include a diabetes screening (diabetes testing is not required) and a statement from a physician assuring "risk-assessed" or screened for lead poisoning.

Failure to comply with the above requirements by October 15 of the current school year will result in the student's exclusion from school until the required health forms are presented to the school, subject to certain exceptions. New students who register mid-term shall have 30 days following registration to comply with the health examination and immunization regulations. If a medical reason prevents a student from receiving a required immunization by October 15, the student must present, by October 15, an immunization schedule and a statement of the medical reasons causing the delay. The schedule and statement of medical reasons must be signed by an appropriate medical professional.

Eye Examination

All students entering kindergarten or the school for the first time must present proof before October 15 of the current school year of an eye examination performed within one year prior to entry of kindergarten or the school. Failure to present proof by October 15 allows the school to hold the student's report card until the student presents: (1) proof of a completed eye examination, or (2) presents proof that an eye examination will take place within 60 days after October 15.

Dental Examination

All children entering kindergarten and the second and sixth grades must present proof of having been examined by a licensed dentist before May 15 of the current school year. Failure to present proof allows the school to hold the child's report card until the student presents: (1) proof of a completed dental examination, or (2) presents proof that a dental examination will take place within 60 days after May 15.

Exemptions

A student will be exempted from the above requirements for:

1. Religious or medical grounds if the student's parent/guardian presents to the superintendent ***Certificate of Religious Exemption Form*** explaining the exemption, signed the child's physician and parent(s)/guardian(s);
2. Health examination or immunization requirements on medical grounds if a physician provides written verification;
3. Eye examination requirement if the student's parent(s)/guardian(s) shows an undue burden or lack of access to a physician licensed to practice medicine in all of its branches who provides eye examinations or a licensed optometrist; or
4. Dental examination requirement if the student's parent/guardian shows an undue burden or a lack of access to a dentist.

Care of Students Requiring a Health Care Plan

If your child requires assistance with managing a health condition (e.g., diabetes, allergies, seizures, or asthma) while at school and school functions, a health care plan must be submitted to the building principal. Parent(s)/guardian(s) are responsible for and must:

- a. Inform the school in a timely manner of any change which needs to be made to the health care plan on file with the school for their child.
- b. Inform the school in a timely manner of any changes to their emergency contact numbers or contact numbers of health care providers.
- c. Sign the health care plan.
- d. Grant consent for and authorize designated District representatives to communicate directly with the health care provider whose instructions are included in the health care plan.

For further information, please contact the building principal.

Student Medication

Taking medication during school hours or during school-related activities is prohibited unless it is necessary for a student's health and well-being. When a student's licensed health care provider and parent(s)/guardian(s) believe that it is necessary for the student to take a medication during school hours or school-related activities, the parent(s)/guardian(s) must request that the school dispense the medication to the child or allow the child to self-medicate, by completing a ***School Medication Authorization Form***.

No District employee is allowed to administer to any student, or supervise a student's self-administration of, any prescription or non-prescription medication until a completed and signed ***School Medication Authorization Form*** is submitted by the student's parent(s)/guardian(s). No

student is allowed to possess or consume any prescription or non-prescription medication on school grounds or at a school-related function other than as provided for in this procedure.

Self-Administration of Medication

Parent(s)/guardian(s) must submit a *School Medication Authorization Form* in order for a student to self-administer prescribed medication. In accordance with Illinois law, the District shall incur no liability, except for willful and wanton conduct, as a result of any injury arising from a student's self-administration of medication or the storage of any medication by school personnel. Parent(s)/guardian(s) must indemnify and hold harmless the District and its employees and agents, against any claims, except a claim based on willful and wanton conduct, arising out of a student's self-administration of medication or the storage of any medication by school personnel.

Communicable Diseases

The school will observe recommendations of the Illinois Department of Public Health regarding communicable diseases.

1. Parent(s)/guardian(s) are required to notify the school nurse if they suspect their child has a communicable disease.
2. In certain cases, students with a communicable disease may be excluded from school or sent home from school following notification of the parent or guardian.
3. The school will provide written instructions to the parent and guardian regarding appropriate treatment for the communicable disease.
4. A student excluded because of a communicable disease will be permitted to return to school only when the parent(s)/guardian(s) bring to the school a letter from the student's doctor stating that the student is no longer contagious or at risk of spreading the communicable disease.

Head Lice

The school will observe recommendations of the Illinois Department of Public Health regarding head lice.

1. Parent(s)/guardian(s) are required to notify the school nurse if they suspect their child has head lice.
2. Infested students will be sent home following notification of the parent or guardian.
3. The school will provide written instructions to parent or guardian regarding appropriate treatment for the infestation.
4. A student excluded because of head lice will be permitted to return to school only when the parent or guardian brings the student to school to be checked by the school nurse or building principal and the child is determined to be free of live lice. Infested children are prohibited from riding the bus to school to be checked for head lice.

Student Athlete Concussions and Head Injuries

A student athlete who exhibits signs, symptoms, or behaviors consistent with a concussion in a practice or game will be removed from participation or competition at that time. A student athlete who has been removed from an interscholastic contest for a possible concussion or head injury may not return to that contest unless cleared to do so by a physician licensed to practice

medicine in all its branches in Illinois or a certified athletic trainer. If not cleared to return to that contest, a student athlete may not return to play or practice until the student athlete has provided his or her school with written clearance from a physician licensed to practice medicine in all its branches in Illinois or a certified athletic trainer working in conjunction with a physician licensed to practice medicine in all its branches in Illinois.

VII. STUDENT SERVICES

Accommodating Individuals with Disabilities

Individuals with disabilities will be provided an opportunity to participate in all school-sponsored services, programs, and/or activities. Individuals with disabilities should notify the Superintendent or building principal if they have a disability that will require special assistance or services and, if so, what services are required. This notification should occur as far in advance as possible of the school-sponsored function, program, or meeting.

Education of Children with Disabilities

It is the intent of the District to ensure that students who are disabled within the definition of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 or the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act are identified, evaluated, and provided with appropriate educational services.

The District's schools provide a free, appropriate public education in the least restrictive environment and necessary related services to all children with disabilities enrolled in the schools. The term "children with disabilities" means children between ages 3 and the day before their 22nd birthday for whom it is determined that special education services are needed. It is the intent of the District to ensure that students with disabilities are identified, evaluated, and provided with appropriate educational services.

A copy of the publication "Explanation of Procedural Safeguards Available to Parents of Students with Disabilities" may be obtained from the District office.

Discipline of Students with Disabilities

The District will comply with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and the Illinois State Board of Education's *Special Education* rules when disciplining students with disabilities. Behavioral interventions will be used with students with disabilities to promote and strengthen desirable behaviors and reduce identified inappropriate behaviors. No special education student shall be expelled if the student's particular act of gross disobedience or misconduct is a manifestation of his or her disability as determined through a manifestation determination. Any special education student whose gross disobedience or misconduct is not a manifestation of his or her disability may be expelled pursuant to the expulsion procedures.

Homeless Child's Right to Education

When a child loses permanent housing and becomes a homeless person as defined at law, or when a homeless child changes his or her temporary living arrangements, the parent or guardian of the homeless child has the option of either:

- 1) continuing the child's education in the school of origin for as long as the child remains homeless or, if the child becomes permanently housed, until the end of the academic year during which the housing is acquired; or
- 2) enrolling the child in any school that non-homeless students who live in the attendance area in which the child or youth is actually living are eligible to attend.

English Learners

The school offers opportunities for English Learners to develop high levels of academic attainment in English and to meet the same academic content and student academic achievement standards that all children are expected to attain.

Parent(s)/guardian(s) of English Learners will be: (1) given opportunity to provide input to the program, and (2) provide notification regarding their child's placement in and information about the District's English Learners programs.

For questions related to this program or to express input in the school's English Learners program, contact your school's principal.

VIII. TRANSPORTATION

Bus Transportation

Students residing at a distance of 1.5 miles or more from their attendance center receive free bus service. Free transportation is also available to students who live in Illinois Department of Transportation approved hazardous walking areas.

The District may provide transportation for other students living within the 1.5 miles of their attendance center and may make a charge for such transportation.

The bus fee (where applicable) shall be paid in advance at registration. No students, except those whose fees are paid, will be allowed the use of the bus service.

The Board of Education is not obligated to alter a bus route for any student living within 1.5 miles of the route. The bus will make its regular stops only where it is safe to do so.

Students must ride their designated buses only.

IX. MANDATED INFORMATION

Fines, Fees, and Charges: Waiver of Student Fees

The District establishes fees and charges to fund certain school activities. Students whose parent(s)/guardian(s) are unable to afford student fees may receive a fee waiver. A fee waiver does not exempt a student from charges for lost and/or damaged books, locks, materials, supplies, and/or equipment.

Applications for fee waivers may be submitted by a parent(s)/guardian(s). An application form is available at each school or online at www.fsd157c.org should be submitted to the District office.

The District office will notify the parent(s)/guardian(s) promptly as to whether the fee waiver request has been granted or denied.

Questions regarding the fee waiver request process should be addressed to the Assistant Superintendent's office at 815-469-5922.

Free or Reduced Lunch Program

Free or reduced price meals are available for qualifying students. Information is available at the District office, 10482 W. Nebraska Street, 815-469-5922. Forms are available on the District's website www.fsd157c.org.

Safety Drill Procedures and Conduct

Safety drills will occur at times established by the school board. Students are required to be silent and shall comply with the directives of school officials during emergency drills. There will be a minimum of three (3) evacuation drills, a minimum of one (1) severe weather (shelter-in-place) drill, a minimum of one (1) law enforcement drill, and a minimum of one (1) bus evacuation drill each school year. There may be other drills at the direction of the administration. Drills may not be preceded by a warning to the students.

Pesticide Application Notice

The District maintains a registry of parent(s)/guardian(s) of students who have registered to receive written or telephone notification prior to the application of pesticides to school grounds.

To be added to the list, please contact:
Curt Saindon, Assistant Superintendent
10482 W. Nebraska Street
815-806-4006
csaindon@fsd157c.org

Notification will be given before application of the pesticide. Prior notice is not required if there is imminent threat to health or property.

Mandated Reporters of Suspected Child Abuse or Neglect

All school personnel, including teachers and administrators, are required by law to immediately report any and all suspected cases of child abuse or neglect to the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services.

2016-2017 District Handbook Committee

Grand Prairie Elementary School Representatives:

Sean Rhoads – Administrator

Robert Seibert – Staff Member

Brooke Drzewiecki – Parent

Chelsea Intermediate School Representatives:

Rachel Newcomb – Administrator

Matthew Dykema – Staff Member

Sue Greenawalt – Parent

Hickory Creek Middle School Representatives:

Christine Slechter – Administrator

Trisha Vega – Staff Member

Cathy Flaherty – Parent

District Representatives:

Dr. Maura Zinni – Superintendent

Char Ruhbeck – Executive Secretary to the Superintendent
and the Board of Education