

2025-2026 MIDDLE SCHOOL PARENT/STUDENT HANDBOOK



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Port Washington-Saukville School District

2025-26 Calendar

AUGUST 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						
8/19-8/21: New educator training / orientation						
8/25-8/29: Staff welcome back week						

SEPTEMBER 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	21
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				
9/01: No school - Labor Day holiday						
9/02: 1 st day of school: Gr 5 & 9: Gr 10-12 PM only						
9/03: All grades report to school						
9/26: No school - staff professional development						

OCTOBER 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	
10/23: No 4K Classes / Grades K-8 early release						
10/21&10/23: Gr K4-4 parent-teacher conferences						
10/22&10/23: Gr 5-12 parent-teacher conferences						
10/24: No school - staff professional development						

NOVEMBER 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	(7)	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						
11/07: End of 1 st quarter						
11/26-11/28: No school - Thanksgiving break						

DECEMBER 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			
12/01: No school - staff professional development						
12/24-1/02: No school - winter break						

JANUARY 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	(16)	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
12/24-1/02: No school - winter break						
1/14-1/15: HS final exams						
1/16: End of 1 st semester						
1/16: No school - staff professional development						
1/19: No school - MLK Jr day / staff prof dev						

FEBRUARY 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
2/20: No school - staff professional development						

MARCH 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	(20)	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				
3/12: No 4K Classes / Grade K-4 early release						
3/12: Grades K4-4 parent-teacher conference						
3/13: No school - staff professional development						
3/20: End of 3 rd quarter						
3/30-4/06: No school - spring break						

APRIL 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		
3/30-4/06: No school - spring break						

MAY 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						
5/15: No school - staff professional development						
5/25: No school - Memorial Day holiday						
5/31: High School Graduation						

JUNE 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				
6/03-6/04: HS final exams						
6/05: Last school day - No 4K; K-12 early release						
6/08-6/09: Staff professional development						

JULY 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

KEY:	
	No School (All Grade Levels)
	No 4K / Early Release Grades K-12
	No 4K / Early Release Grades K-4 (Parent-Teacher Conferences)
	No 4K / Early Release Grades K-8 (Parent-Teacher Conferences)
	HS Final Exams
	New Educator Training / Orientation
	No School - Staff Professional Development
()	End of Grading Period

Student/Parent Handbook

Welcome to the Port Washington-Saukville School District!

On behalf of the entire faculty and staff, I am pleased to extend a warm welcome to you and your family. We are excited to have you as part of our school community and look forward to a year filled with meaningful learning, growth, and achievement.

At Thomas Jefferson Middle School, we are deeply committed to providing a safe, supportive, and engaging environment where every student can thrive. Our team of dedicated educators and support staff is here to guide and encourage each learner to reach their full potential—academically, socially, and emotionally.

This Student-Parent Handbook has been developed to help you better understand our school policies, procedures, and expectations. It serves as a useful resource throughout the year and reflects our shared commitment to fostering respect, responsibility, and a strong partnership between home and school.

We believe that every student's success is a collaborative effort, and we are here to support you in every step of your educational journey. We encourage open communication and invite families to be actively involved in school life. Working together, we can ensure that your experience in our district is as productive, rewarding, and successful as you wish to make it.

Thank you for choosing Port Washington-Saukville. Let's make it a great year!

Respectfully yours,

Nick DeBaker, *TJMS Principal*

*Board Approval:
Student Handbook adopted on June 16, 2025.*

School & Attendance Information

Thomas Jefferson Middle School

1403 N. Holden Street
Port Washington, WI 53074

Administrative Assistant: (262) 268-6101

Fax: (262) 268-6120

<https://www.pwssd.org/schools/tjms/>

Submitting an Absence Request

Preferred Method for Submitting an Absence Request

On the homepage of the [Infinite Campus Parent Portal](#), you will find a shortcut menu with "Absence Requests" listed as the first option. Click that link and follow the prompts to submit a student absence. This feature can be used for all types of absences, including late arrivals, early dismissals, and future absences. For assistance with submitting an absence request via Infinite Campus please watch the instructional video found [HERE](#).

Secondary Methods for Submitting an Absence Request

If you **did not** use the "Absence Requests" feature in Infinite Campus, please contact the school before 9:00am using **one** of the following methods:

- Email the Attendance Line: nickie.kimball@pwssd.k12.wi.us
- *Call the Attendance Line: (262) 268-6101

**Due to the many responsibilities our school administrative assistants handle during the first few hours of the day, we kindly ask that you only call with attendance requests as a last resort if necessary.*

Attendance Note

If TJMS does not receive an absence request, email, or call and the student is marked unverified, the school messenger system will send an automated call and email out to the student's parent/guardian at 10:25am.

Thomas Jefferson Middle School Contact Information		
Nick DeBaker Principal	(262) 268-6110	nick.debaker@pwssd.k12.wi.us
Jodi Swagel Assistant Principal	(262) 268-6111	jodi.swagel@pwssd.k12.wi.us
Nickie Kimball Administrative Assistant	(262) 268-6101	nickie.kimball@pwssd.k12.wi.us
Scott Parsons Administrative Assistant	(262) 268-6105	scott.parsons@pwssd.k12.wi.us
Leslie Yetzer Administrative Assistant	(262) 268-6106	leslie.yetzer@pwssd.k12.wi.us
Lori Bruno School Psychologist	(262) 268-6109	lori.bruno@pwssd.k12.wi.us
Christin Johnson School Counselor	(262) 268-6126	christin.johnson@pwssd.k12.wi.us
Danielle Brown Smith School Counselor	(262) 268-6128	danielle.brownsmith@pwssd.k12.wi.us
Sara Schneider School Counselor	(262) 268-6127	saraschneider@pwssd.k12.wi.us

District Office Contact Information		
Name/Title	Phone	Email
Dr. Michael McMahon Superintendent	(262) 268-6000	michael.mcmahon@pwssd.k12.wi.us
Morgan Carder Food Service Manager	(262) 268-5541	morgan.carder@pwssd.k12.wi.us
Sara Kreibich Director of Curriculum & Instruction	(262) 268-6061	sara.kreibich@pwssd.k12.wi.us
Abby Bonness District Nurse	(262) 268-6075	abby.bonness@pwssd.k12.wi.us
Mel Nettesheim Director of Finance & Human Resources	(262) 268-6081	mel.nettesheim@pwssd.k12.wi.us
Brian Sutton Director of Student Services	(262) 268-6071	brian.sutton@pwssd.k12.wi.us

TABLE OF CONTENTS

[Foreword](#)
[Mission of the District](#)
[Equal Education Opportunity/Anti-Harassment](#)
[Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Sex](#)
[Sexual Harassment](#)
[Bullying](#)
[Student Hazing](#)
[Section 504/ADA Complaint](#)
[School Day](#)
[Student Rights and Responsibilities](#)
[Student Well-Being](#)
[Injury and Illness](#)

Section I – General Information

[Scheduling and Assignment](#)
[Early Dismissal](#)
[Transfer Out of the School District](#)
[Open Enrollment](#)
[Immunizations](#)
[Student Accidents, Illness, Concussions, and Sudden Cardiac Arrest](#)
[Suicide Prevention](#)
[Emergency Medical Authorization](#)
[Use of Prescribed Medications](#)
[Asthma Inhalers and Epinephrine Auto-Injectors](#)
[Use of Nonprescribed Drug Products](#)
[Head Lice](#)
[Control of Casual-Contact Communicable Diseases](#)
[Direct Contact Communicable Diseases](#)
[Students with Disabilities](#)
[Service Animals and Other Animals on District Property](#)
[Bilingual Students/English Learners](#)
[Student Records](#)
[Student Fees, Fines and Charges](#)
[Student Fund-Raising](#)
[Student Valuables](#)

[Meal Service](#)
[Fire Drills, Tornado Drills, Lockdown Drills](#)
[Emergency Closings and Delays](#)
[Preparedness for Toxic and Asbestos Hazards](#)
[Visitors](#)
[Use of School Equipment and Facilities](#)
[Lost and Found](#)
[Student Sales](#)
[Use of School Telephones](#)
[Use of Cell Phones or Personal Communication Devices](#)
[Weapons](#)
[Advertising Outside Activities](#)
[Video and Audio Surveillance](#)
[Safety and Security](#)
[Student Intellectual Property Rights](#)

Section II – Academics

[Course Offerings](#)
[Academic and Career Planning](#)
[Program or Curriculum Modifications](#)
[Field Trips](#)
[Academic Honesty](#)
[Student Technology Acceptable Use and Safety](#)
[Student Assessment](#)

Section III – Student Activities

[School-Sponsored Publications and Productions](#)

Section IV – Student Conduct

[Attendance](#)
[Student Attendance at School Events](#)
[Student Behavior](#)
[Care of Property](#)
[Prohibited Use or Possession of Intoxicants, Drugs, or Paraphernalia](#)
[Use of Tobacco/Nicotine Prohibited](#)
[Student Code of Classroom Conduct/Removal From Class](#)

[Other Forms of Discipline](#)
[Suspension and Expulsion](#)
[Search and Seizure](#)
[Student Rights of Expression](#)
[Student Dress and Appearance](#)
[Student Suggestions and Complaints](#)
[Student Due Process Rights](#)

Section V – Transportation

[Bus Transportation to School](#)
[Bus Conduct](#)
[Cameras on School Buses](#)
[Penalties for Infractions](#)

This Student/Parent Handbook is based in significant part on policies adopted by the Board and Administrative Guidelines developed by the Superintendent. The Policies and Guidelines are periodically updated in response to changes in the law and other circumstances. Therefore, there may have been changes to the documents reviewed in this Handbook since it was printed. If you have questions or would like more information about a specific issue, contact your school principal.

FOREWORD

This student handbook was developed to answer many of the commonly asked questions that you and your parents may have during the course of a school year. This handbook summarizes many of the official policies and administrative guidelines of the Board and the School District. To the extent that the handbook is ambiguous or conflicts with these policies and guidelines, the policies and guidelines shall control. This handbook is effective immediately and supersedes any prior student handbook.

Because the handbook also contains information about student rights and responsibilities, each student is responsible for knowing its contents. Please take time to become familiar with the following information and keep the handbook available for you and your parents' use. It can be a valuable reference during the school year and a means to avoid confusion and misunderstanding when questions arise. Should you have any questions that are not addressed in this handbook, contact your Principal who you will find listed in the Staff Directory section of the handbook. This handbook supersedes all prior handbooks and other written or oral statements regarding any item in this handbook.

This handbook summarizes many of the official policies and administrative guidelines of the Board and the School District. If any of the policies or administrative guidelines referenced herein is revised after June 30, 2025 the language in the most current policy or administrative guideline prevails. The current policies and guidelines are available on the District's website.

MISSION OF THE DISTRICT

Mission Statement: The mission of the Port Washington-Saukville School District is to educate all children to reach their greatest potential.

Vision Statement: We will continue our quest to move from good to great through a process of continuous improvement based on current research and data by focusing on:

- A. student success for all;
- B. student and staff mental health and well-being;
- C. enhanced student instructional and learning opportunities;
- D. progressive technological instructional support; and
- E. rigorous, relevant, and comprehensive curriculum and instruction, aligned with the learning targets derived from state standards.

Belief Statements - We believe:

- A. children are our priority.
- B. education is responsibility shared by the individual, family, school, and community.
- C. learning is a lifelong process.
- D. innovation and change are essential to help prepare children to be successful in an ever-changing world.
- E. rigor and relevance will increase student success.
- F. positive relationships are essential and expected to help students reach their full potential.
- G. access to quality education is essential for a free and productive society.
- H. people are the most valuable asset.
- I. our children deserve a great education.
- J. success for all students requires multiple pathways for learning.

With the primary focus of the Port Washington-Saukville School District to "educate all children to reach their greatest potential," we believe in the four (4) guiding questions:

- A. What do we want students to learn?
- B. How will we know they learned it?
- C. How will we respond if they haven't learned it?
- D. How will we respond if they already know it?

This work will be accomplished through Professional Learning Communities and carried out through collaborative teams, School Continuous Improvement Plans (SCIP), and the ongoing progress monitoring of this work. An extraordinary learning experience will be provided for all children to reach their greatest potential.

EQUAL EDUCATION OPPORTUNITY/ANTI-HARASSMENT

It is the policy (*Board Policy 2260 – Nondiscrimination and Access to Equal Educational Opportunity*) of the School District to provide an equal education opportunity for all students. The right of a student to be admitted to school and to participate fully in curricular, extra-curricular, student services, recreational or other programs or activities shall not be abridged or impaired based on the traits of sex (including gender status, change of sex, or gender identity), race, color, national origin, religion, creed, ancestry, marital or parental status, sexual orientation or physical, mental, emotional or learning disability, or any other characteristic protected by Federal or State civil rights laws (hereinafter referred to as “Protected Characteristics”) or other protected characteristics as well as place of residence within School District boundaries, or social or economic background.

Students who have been identified as having an impairment or disability under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act or the Americans with Disabilities Act shall be provided with appropriate educational services. Parents who have questions should contact Brian Sutton at (262) 268-6071.

It is also the policy (*Board Policy 5517 – Student Anti-Harassment*) of the School District to maintain an educational environment that is free from all forms of harassment. This commitment applies to all School District operations, programs, and activities. All students, administrators, teachers, staff, and all other school personnel share responsibility for avoiding, discouraging, and reporting any form of harassment. This policy applies to conduct occurring in any manner or setting over which the School District can exercise control, including on school property, or at another location if such conduct occurs during an activity sponsored by the School District.

The School District will not tolerate any form of harassment and will take all necessary and appropriate actions to eliminate it, including suspension or expulsion of students and disciplinary action against any other individual in the School District community. Additionally, appropriate action will be taken to stop and otherwise deal with any third party who engages in harassment against our students.

Any person who believes that the Port Washington-Saukville School District or any staff person has discriminated against them in violation of these policies may file a complaint. A formal complaint can be made in writing to a School District Compliance Officer listed below:

Brian Sutton

Director of Student Services

262-268-6071

100 W. Monroe St.

Brian.Sutton@pwssd.k12.wi.us

Mel Nettesheim

Director of Finance and Human Resources

262-268-6081

100 W. Monroe St.

Mel.Nettesheim@pwssd.k12.wi.us

The complaint procedure is described in *Board Policy 2260 - Nondiscrimination and Access to Equal Educational Opportunity* and *Policy 5517 – Student Anti-Harassment*. The policies are available in the School office and on the School District’s website.

Due to the sensitivity surrounding complaints of harassment, time lines are flexible for initiating the complaint process; however, individuals should make every effort to file a complaint within thirty (30) days after the conduct occurs while the facts are known and potential witnesses are available. Once the complaint process is begun, the investigation will be completed promptly. (What constitutes promptness will depend on the complexity of the issues, the number of incidents or factual elements, the number of witnesses and documents to be consulted, and the availability of witnesses and other evidence.)

If at any time during the investigation process the investigator determines that the complaint is properly defined as Bullying, under *Board Policy 5517.01 - Bullying*, and not harassment under *Board Policy 5517 – Student Anti-Harassment*, because the conduct at issue is not based on a student’s Protected Characteristics, the investigator shall transfer the investigation to the appropriate building principal.

Under no circumstances will the School District threaten or retaliate against anyone who raises or files a complaint.

Our school is committed to an educational environment that is free of harassment of any form. Our school will not tolerate any form of harassment and will take all necessary and appropriate action to eliminate it, including suspension or expulsion of students and disciplinary action against any other individual in the School District community. Additionally, appropriate action will be taken to stop and otherwise deal with any third party who engages in harassment against our students.

Harassment means behavior toward a student or group of students based, in whole or in part on the traits of sex (including gender status, change of sex, or gender identity), race, color, national origin, religion, creed, ancestry, marital or parental status, sexual orientation or physical, mental, emotional or learning disability, or any other characteristic protected by Federal or State civil rights laws (hereinafter referred to as “Protected Characteristics which substantially interferes with the student’s school or academic performance or creates an intimidating, hostile or offensive school environment. Harassment also includes “hate speech” directed against a student—the use of language, behavior, or images/symbols that express prejudice against a particular group or groups on the basis of any protected characteristic(s).

Examples of conduct that may constitute harassment include:

- A. graffiti containing offensive language;
- B. name calling, jokes or rumors;

- C. threatening or intimidating conduct directed at another because of the other's protected characteristic (e.g., sex, race, learning disability);
- D. notes or cartoons;
- E. slurs, negative stereotypes, and hostile acts which are based upon another's protected characteristic;
- F. written or graphic material containing comments or stereotypes which is posted or circulated and which is aimed at degrading individuals or members of protected classes;
- G. a physical act of aggression or assault upon another because of, or in a manner reasonably related to, the individual's protected characteristic; or
- H. other kinds of aggressive conduct such as theft or damage to property, which is motivated by a protected characteristic.

NONDISCRIMINATION ON THE BASIS OF SEX

The Board of the Port Washington-Saukville School District does not discriminate on the basis of sex in its education program or activity and is required by Title IX and its implementing regulations not to discriminate in such a manner. The requirement not to discriminate in its education program or activity extends to admission and employment. The School District's Title IX Coordinator(s) is/are:

Brian Sutton

Director of Student Services

262-268-6071

100 W. Monroe St.

Brian.Sutton@pwssd.k12.wi.us

Mel Nettesheim

Director of Finance and Human Resources

262-268-6081

100 W. Monroe St.

Mel.Nettesheim@pwssd.k12.wi.us

Any inquiries about the application of Title IX and its implementing regulations to the District may be referred to the Title IX Coordinator(s), the Assistant Secretary for the U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights, or both.

The Board has adopted a grievance process that provides for the prompt and equitable resolution of student and employee complaints alleging any action that is prohibited by Title IX and/or its implementing regulations. The grievance process is included in *Board Policy 2266 – Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Sex in Education Programs or Activities*. The grievance process specifically addresses how to report or file a complaint of sex discrimination, how to report or file a formal complaint of Sexual Harassment, and how the School District will respond.

It is a violation of this policy for anyone to knowingly making false statements or knowingly submitting false information during the sex discrimination complaint process, including

intentionally making a false report of sexual harassment, or submitting a false formal complaint. The School District will not tolerate such conduct, which is a violation of the Student Code of Conduct.

Neither the Board nor any other person may intimidate, threaten, coerce, or discriminate against any individual for the purpose of interfering with any right or privilege secured by Title IX, its implementing regulations, or *Board Policy 2266 - Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Sex in Education Programs or Activities*, or because the individual made a report or complaint, testified, assisted, or participated or refused to participate in any manner in an investigation, proceeding, or hearing under this policy. Intimidation, threats, coercion, or discrimination, including charges against an individual for code of conduct violations that do not involve sex discrimination or sexual harassment, but arise out of the same facts or circumstances as a report or complaint of sex discrimination, or a report or formal complaint of sexual harassment, for the purpose of interfering with any right or privilege secured by Title IX, its implementing regulations, or this policy, constitutes retaliation. Retaliation against a person for making a report of sexual harassment, filing a formal complaint, or participating in an investigation, is a serious violation of *Board Policy 2266 - Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Sex in Education Programs or Activities* that can result in the imposition of disciplinary sanctions, consequences, and/or other appropriate remedies.

All students, parents, and their representatives are advised to review *Board Policy 2266 - Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Sex in Education Programs or Activities* for more information and detail regarding the School District's commitment to nondiscrimination on the basis of sex.

SEXUAL HARASSMENT

Sexual harassment is prohibited in our school and at school-sponsored activities in accordance with *Board Policy 5517 – Student Anti-Harassment*. Sexual harassment consists of unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, sexually motivated physical conduct, or other verbal or physical conduct or communication of a sexual nature when:

- A. submission to that conduct or communication is made a term or condition, either explicitly or implicitly, of obtaining an education; or
- B. submission or rejection of that conduct or communication by an individual is used as a factor in decisions affecting that individual's education; or
- C. conduct or communication has the purpose or effect of substantially or unreasonably interfering with an individual's education, or creating an intimidating, hostile or offensive educational environment.

Sexual harassment may include, but is not limited to:

- A. unwelcome verbal harassment or abuse;
- B. unwelcome pressure for sexual activity;
- C. unwelcome, sexually motivated or inappropriate patting, pinching or physical contact, other than necessary restraint of students by teachers, administrators or other school personnel to avoid physical harm to persons or property;
- D. unwelcome sexual behavior or words including demands for sexual favors, accompanied by implied or overt threats concerning an individual's educational status;
- E. unwelcome sexual behavior or words, including demands for sexual favors, accompanied by implied or overt promises of preferential treatment with regard to an individual's educational status; or
- F. unwelcome behavior or words directed at an individual because of their sex or sexual orientation;

Sexual harassment examples include, but are not limited to:

- A. repeatedly asking a person for dates or sexual behavior after the person has indicated no interest;
- B. rating a person's sexuality or attractiveness;
- C. staring or leering at various parts of another person's body;
- D. spreading rumors about a person's sexuality;
- E. letters, notes, telephone calls or materials of a sexual nature;
- F. displaying pictures, calendars, cartoons or other materials with sexual content;
- G. a pattern of conduct, which can be subtle in nature, that has sexual overtones and is intended to create or has the effect of creating discomfort and/or humiliation to another;
or
- H. remarks speculating about a person's sexual activities or sexual history, or remarks about one's own sexual activities or sexual history.

It is also the policy of the School District that a sexual relationship between staff and students is not permissible in any form or under any circumstances, in or out of the school, in that it interferes with the educational process and may involve elements of coercion by reason of the relative status of a staff member to a student. An inappropriate boundary invasion by a School District employee or other adult member of the School District community into a student's personal space and personal life is sexual harassment.

If you wish to report harassment, please contact either of the School District's Title IX Coordinators listed below:

Brian Sutton

Director of Student Services

262-268-6071

100 W. Monroe St.

Brian.Sutton@pwssd.k12.wi.us

Mel Nettesheim

Director of Finance and Human Resources

262-268-6081

100 W. Monroe St.

Mel.Nettesheim@pwssd.k12.wi.us

Any person may report sexual discrimination, including sexual harassment, to the School District's Title IX Coordinator listed above, regardless of whether the person is the alleged victim of the reported conduct. The report may be made in person, by mail, by telephone, or by email. The report may be made at any time, including during non business hours.

A copy of *Board Policy 2266 - Nondiscrimination of the Basis of Sex in Education Programs or Activities*, including the reporting, investigation, and resolution procedures, is available in the school office and on the School District's website. *Board Policy 5517 - Student Anti-Harassment*, as well as *Board Policy 2266*, both contain the complaint procedures and steps for investigating complaints under these policies.

Any person who is unsure about how to submit a complaint of discrimination, harassment, or sexual harassment is encouraged to immediately contact one of the listed Compliance Officers, a Title IX Coordinator, an administrator, or any trusted member of the staff for assistance in filing a complaint.

Retaliation against a person who files a complaint is prohibited by Board policy and Federal law. Any allegation of retaliation should be filed immediately with assurance that it will be taken seriously and fully investigated by the School District.

BULLYING - 5517.01

The Board is committed to providing a safe, positive, productive, and nurturing educational environment for all of its students. The Board encourages the promotion of positive interpersonal relations between members of the school community. Bullying toward a student, whether by other students, staff, or third parties is strictly prohibited and will not be tolerated. This prohibition includes physical, verbal, and psychological abuse. The Board will not tolerate any

gestures, comments, threats, or actions which cause or threaten to cause bodily harm or personal degradation. This policy applies to all activities in the District, including activities on school property, including at any of the school buildings or other property used exclusively or in part, whether leased or owned by the District, for the purpose of school-related functions or events; or while traveling to or from school or to and from school-sponsored functions or events; in transporting vehicles arranged for by School District officials. The policy applies as well during activities that occur off school property if the student or employee is at any school-sponsored, school-approved, or school-related activity or function, such as field trips or athletic events where students are under the supervision of school authorities, or where an employee is engaged in school business, or where there is otherwise a connection to the school such that the conduct at issue affects or is intended to affect the student's educational environment. (see also Policy 3362.01 - Threatening Behavior Toward Staff Members)

Definition

Bullying is deliberate or intentional behavior using words or actions, intended to cause fear, intimidation, or harm. Bullying may be repeated behavior and involves an imbalance of power. The behavior may be motivated by an actual or perceived distinguishing characteristic, such as, but not limited to: age; national origin; race; ethnicity; religion; gender; gender identity; sexual orientation; physical attributes; physical or mental ability or disability; and social, economic, or family status.

Prohibition

Bullying behavior is prohibited in all schools, buildings, property, and educational environments, including any property or vehicle owned, leased, or used by the school district. This includes public transportation regularly used by students to go to and from school. Educational environments include, but are not limited to, every activity under school supervision.

Procedure for Reporting/Retaliation

All school staff members and school officials who observe or become aware of acts of bullying are required to report these acts to a Building Principal. Any other person, including a student who is either a victim of the bullying or is aware of the bullying or any other concerned individual is encouraged to report the conduct to the Director of Student Services.

Reports of bullying may be made verbally or in writing and may be made confidentially. All such reports, whether verbal or in writing, will be taken seriously and a clear account of the incident is to be documented. A written record of the report, including all pertinent details, will be made by the recipient of the report.

The school official receiving a report of bullying shall immediately notify the school district employee assigned to investigate the report. The following school district employees have been identified as the investigator:

Rachel Biertzer, *Port Washington High School Principal*
John Bunyan, *Port Washington High School Assistant Principal*
Nate Hinze, *Port Washington High School Assistant Principal*
Nick DeBaker, *Thomas Jefferson Middle School Principal*
Jodi Swagel, *Thomas Jefferson Middle School Assistant Principal*
Dan Solorzano, *Thomas Jefferson Middle School Assistant Principal*
Elyse Voskuil, *Dunwiddie Elementary School Principal*
Jane Gennerman, *Lincoln Elementary School Principal*
Jae Henderson, *Saukville Elementary School Principal*
Brian Sutton, *PWSSD Director Student Services*

There shall be no retaliation against individuals making such reports. Individuals engaging in retaliatory behavior will be subject to disciplinary action.

Procedure for investigating reports of bullying

The person assigned by the district to conduct an investigation of the bullying report shall, within one school day, interview the person(s) who are the victim(s) of the bullying and collect whatever other information is necessary to determine the facts and the seriousness of the report.

Parents and/or guardians of each pupil involved in the bullying will be notified prior to the conclusion of the investigation. The district shall maintain the confidentiality of the report and any related pupil records to the extent required by law.

Sanctions and supports

If it is determined that students participated in bullying behavior or retaliated against anyone due to the reporting of bullying behavior, the Superintendent may take disciplinary action, including: suspension, expulsion, and/or referral to law enforcement officials for possible legal action as appropriate. Pupil services staff will provide support for the identified victim(s).

Disclosure and Public Reporting

The policy will be distributed annually to all students enrolled in the school district, their parents and/or guardians and employees. It will also be distributed to organizations in the community having cooperative agreements with the schools. The school district will also provide a copy of the policy to any person who requests it.

Records will be maintained on the number and types of reports made, and sanctions imposed for incidents found to be in violation of the bullying policy.

An annual summary report shall be prepared and presented to the school board, which includes trends in bullying behavior and recommendations on how to further reduce bullying behavior. The annual report will be available to the public.

STUDENT HAZING

Hazing activities of any type are inconsistent with the educational process and may in some circumstances be a violation of State law. The Board prohibits all such activities at any time in school facilities, on school property, and at any School District-sponsored activity or event.

Hazing is defined as performing any act or coercing another, including the victim, to perform any act of initiation into any class, group, or organization that causes or creates a risk of causing mental, emotional, or physical harm. Permission, consent, or assumption of risk by an individual subjected to hazing shall not lessen the prohibitions contained in this policy.

If hazing or planned hazing is discovered, the students involved shall be informed by the discoverer of the prohibitions contained in this policy and shall be ordered to end all hazing activities or planned activities immediately. All hazing incidents shall be reported immediately to the Principal or to the Superintendent.

Students who fail to abide by this policy may be subject to disciplinary action and may be held personally liable for civil or criminal penalties. Disciplinary action for students may include, but is not limited to, suspension and/or expulsion. (*Policy 5516 – Student Hazing*)

SECTION 504/ADA COMPLAINT

Any person who believes that the Port Washington-Saukville School District or any staff person has discriminated against them in violation of the *Board Policy 2260.01 – Section 504/ADA Prohibition Against Discrimination Based on Disability* may file a complaint. A formal complaint can be made in writing to a District Compliance Officer listed below:

Brian Sutton

Director of Student Services

262-268-6071

100 W. Monroe St.

Brian.Sutton@pwssd.k12.wi.us

Mel Nettesheim

Director of Finance and Human Resources

262-268-6081

100 W. Monroe St.

Mel.Nettesheim@pwssd.k12.wi.us

SCHOOL DAY

For ALL TJMS students, school begins at 7:30am and ends at 2:44pm. Students are allowed to enter starting at 7:15am. If they are coming from breakfast they need to be let in by the west door by the cafeteria, look for signs. To prevent students from waiting too long outside prior to being

allowed into the building, we ask that students arrive or be dropped off at school no earlier than 7:15am. When arrangements have been made with a teacher or principal, a student will be permitted to enter the building before 7:15 am through the east doors by the main office. The student will need to ring the bell to access the building. At the end of the academic day, students are expected to leave the building immediately upon dismissal. [Drop off & Pick up Map](#)

STUDENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The rules and procedures of the Port Washington-Sauville School District are designed to allow each student to obtain a safe, orderly, and appropriate education. Students can expect their rights to freedom of expression and association and to fair treatment as long as they respect those rights for their fellow students and the staff. Students will be expected to follow teachers' directions and obey all school rules. Disciplinary procedures will comply with the requirements of State and Federal law.

Parents have the right to know how their child is succeeding in school and will be provided information on a regular basis and as needed, when concerns arise. Many times it will be the responsibility of the student to deliver that information. If necessary, U.S. mail or hand delivery may be used to ensure contact. Parents are encouraged to build a two-way link with their child's teachers and support staff by informing the staff of suggestions or concerns that may help their child better accomplish their educational goals.

No student shall be required, as a part of the school program or the School District's curriculum, without prior written consent of the student (if an adult, or an emancipated minor) or, if an unemancipated minor, the minor's parents, to submit to or participate in any survey, analysis, or evaluation that reveals information concerning: political affiliations or beliefs of the student or the student's parents; mental or psychological problems of the student or their family; sex behavior or attitudes; illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating, or demeaning behavior; critical appraisals of other individuals with whom respondents have close family relationships; legally recognized privileged and analogous relationships, such as those of lawyers, physicians, and ministers; religious practices, affiliations, or beliefs of the student or the student's parents; or income (other than that required by law to determine eligibility for participation in a program or for receiving financial assistance under such a program). (*Board Policy 2416 – Student Privacy and Parental Access to Information*)

Students must arrive at school on time, prepared to participate in the educational program. If, for some reason, this is not possible, the student should seek help from the Pupil Services Department at each individual building.

STUDENT WELL-BEING

Student safety is a responsibility of the staff. All staff members are familiar with emergency procedures such as fire, tornado, and emergency intruder drills and accident reporting

procedures. Should a student be aware of any dangerous situation or accident, the student must notify a staff person immediately.

All students must have emergency medical information completed through Infinite Campus.

Students with specific health care needs should submit those needs, in writing and with proper documentation by a physician, to the school office.

INJURY AND ILLNESS

All injuries must be reported to a teacher or to the office staff. If minor, the student will be treated and may return to class. If medical attention is required, the office will follow the School's emergency procedures.

A student who becomes injured or ill during the school day should request permission from the teacher to go to the office. The office staff and parent/guardian will determine whether the student should remain in school or go home. No student will be released from school without proper parental permission. (*Board Policy 5340 – Student Accidents/Illness/Concussion & Sudden Cardiac Arrest*)

SECTION I – GENERAL INFORMATION

SCHEDULING AND ASSIGNMENT

Schedules are provided to each student at the beginning of the school year or upon enrolling. The schedule is based upon the student's needs and available class space. Any changes in a student's schedule should be handled through the counseling office. It is important to note that some courses may be denied because of limited space or the need to complete prerequisite courses. Students are expected to follow their schedules. Any variation should be approved with a pass or schedule change.

EARLY DISMISSAL FROM SCHOOL

On the home page inside the [Infinite Campus parent portal](#), there is a shortcut menu that has 'Absence Requests' as the first option. Click the link and follow the prompts to submit your request for student absences. This can be used for any type of absences including arriving late, leaving early, day of, and future requests.

This Absence Requests tool should be used instead of emailing or calling the school. Watch this three-and-a-half minute video to learn how: [Absence Requests in Infinite Campus](#)

If you do not use the Absence Request:

Parents/Guardians please contact the school before 9am

Attendance Line: 262-268-6101

Attendance Email: Nickie.Kimball@pwssd.k12.wi.us

(Board Policy 5200 - Attendance and Policy 5230 – Release of Students to Authorized Persons)

TRANSFER OUT OF THE DISTRICT

If a student plans to transfer to another school, the parent must notify the front office. Transfer will be authorized only after the student has completed the arrangements, returned all school materials, and paid any fees or fines that are due. Parents are encouraged to contact Brian Sutton for specific details.

OPEN ENROLLMENT

The School District participates in the Wisconsin Public School Open Enrollment Program in accordance with applicable law and the relevant policies and rules of the School District, all as amended from time-to-time. *(Board Policy 5113 – Open Enrollment and Policy 5113.01 – Part-Time Open Enrollment)*

IMMUNIZATIONS

Each student must have the immunizations required by the Wisconsin Department of Health Services or must have an authorized waiver. If a student does not have the necessary vaccinations or waivers, the student may be excluded from school as permitted by law. This is for the safety of all students and staff. Any questions about immunizations or waivers should be directed to the Abby Bonness, School Nurse *(Board Policy 5320 - Immunization)*

STUDENT ACCIDENTS/ILLNESS/CONCUSSION & SUDDEN CARDIAC ARREST

The School District believes that school personnel have certain responsibilities in case of accidents, illness, concussions, or sudden cardiac arrest that occur in school. Said responsibilities extend to the administration of first aid by persons trained to do so, summoning of medical assistance, notification of administration personnel, notification of parents, and the filing of accident reports. *(Board Policy 5340 – Student Accidents/Illness/Concussion & Sudden Cardiac Arrest)*

SUICIDE PREVENTION

The School District values the mental health of every student and has counseling and prevention resources available for any student considering self-harm. Students may seek help from any staff

member. In addition, students are urged to approach any staff member of their choice if they know of another student who is talking about death by suicide. (*Board Policy 5350 – Suicide Prevention, Intervention, and Postvention*)

EMERGENCY MEDICAL AUTHORIZATION

The Board has established *Board Policy 5341 – Emergency Medical Authorization* that requires every student to have an Emergency Medical Authorization Form completed and signed by their parent in order to participate in any activity off school grounds. This includes field trips, spectator trips, athletic and other extracurricular activities, and co-curricular activities.

The school has made the Emergency Medical Authorization Form available to every parent at the time of enrollment. A student's failure to submit the completed form may jeopardize the student's participation in school activities.

USE OF PRESCRIBED MEDICATIONS

In circumstances where a student must take prescribed medication during the School day, the following guidelines of *Board Policy 5330 – Administration of Medication/Emergency Care* are to be observed.

- A. Parents should, with their physician's advice, determine whether the medication schedule can be adjusted to avoid administering medication during school hours.
- B. A [Medication Request and Authorization Form](#) must be filed with the Principal before the student will be allowed to begin taking any medication during school hours. The forms are available in the School office.
- C. All medications to be administered during school hours must be registered with the school office.
- D. Medication that is brought to the school office will be properly secured.
- E. Medication may be conveyed to school directly by the parent.
- F. For each prescribed medication, the container shall have a pharmacist's label with the following information:
 - 1. student's name;
 - 2. practitioner's name;

3. date;
4. pharmacy name and telephone;
5. name of medication;
6. prescribed dosage and frequency; and
7. special handling and storage directions.

G. Medication MAY NOT be sent to school in a student's lunch box, pocket, or other means on or about their person, except for school-approved emergency medications for allergies and/or reactions.

H. Any unused medication unclaimed by the parent will be destroyed by School personnel when a prescription is no longer to be administered or at the end of a school year.

A log for each prescribed medication shall be maintained which will note the personnel giving the medication, the date, and the time of day. This log will be maintained along with the physician's written request and the parent's written release.

ASTHMA INHALERS AND EPINEPHRINE AUTO-INJECTORS

Students, with appropriate written permission from the physician and parent, may possess and use a method dose inhaler or dry powder inhaler to alleviate asthmatic symptoms. (*Board Policy 5330 – Administration of Medication/Emergency Care*)

Students, who suffer from severe allergic reactions may, possess and use an epinephrine auto-injector when the student is required to carry the epinephrine auto-injector to prevent the onset of an allergic reaction, and the appropriate written permission from the medical practitioner and completed Parent Consent form have been submitted to the Principal.

Inhalers and epinephrine can be administered by school officials only in accordance with conditions confirmed by the Principal, consistent with the approved plan adopted by the School District and updated annually, as necessary.

USE OF NONPRESCRIBED DRUG PRODUCTS

Possession, administration, and use of nonprescription drug products shall be in accordance with *Board Policy 5330 – Administration of Medication/Emergency Care*.

Staff and volunteers will not be permitted to dispense non prescribed drug products to any student without written parental consent.

A Nonprescription Drug Product Request and Authorization Form must be filed with the school nurse before the student will be allowed to begin taking any medication during school hours.

For each nonprescription drug product, the container shall be the original manufacturer's package and the package must list in a legible format the ingredients and recommended therapeutic dose.

The parents request to administer a nonprescription drug product shall contain the following information:

- A. student's name;
- B. date;
- C. name of medication;
- D. dosage and frequency;
- E. special handling and storage directions;
- F. authorization for trained and authorized school staff to administer the medication; and
- G. health care practitioner's note authorizing administering medication in a dosage that varies from the label's recommended dosage, if applicable.

Parents may authorize the school to administer a non prescribed drug product using a form which is available at the school office. A physician does not have to authorize such medication.

If a student is found using or possessing a non prescribed drug product without parent authorization, the student will be brought to the school office and the parents will be contacted for authorization. The medication will be confiscated until written authorization is received.

Any student who distributes a medication of any kind to another student or is found to possess a medication other than the one previously authorized is in violation of the school's Code of Conduct and may be disciplined in accordance with the drug-use provision of the Code.

HEAD LICE

If a child in the School District is found to have lice, the child's parent will be contacted to have the child treated and pick up the student at the end of the school day. After treatment with an FDA-approved pediculicide/ovicide, treatment by a qualified healthcare provider, or treatment at a clinic specializing in lice and nit removal, and upon returning to school, the child will be examined

by the school health staff or principal. (*Board Policy 8451 - Pediculosis*)

CONTROL OF CASUAL-CONTACT COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

Because a school has a high concentration of people, it is necessary to take specific measures when the health or safety of the group is at risk. In order to protect the health and safety of the students, School District personnel, and the community at large, the Board shall follow all State statutes and Health Department regulations that pertain to immunization and other means for controlling casual-contact communicable disease spread through normal interaction in the school setting.

In accordance with *Board Policy 8450 – Control of Casual-Contact Communicable Diseases*, a teacher, nurse, or Principal may send home a student who is suspected of having a communicable disease and will notify the parent of such action and the reason(s) it was taken. School officials may be required to notify local health officials if they suspect a student has a covered communicable disease. School officials will comply with notification requirements of the Wisconsin Department of Health Services in addition to notifying the student's parent.

Examples of such diseases include diphtheria, scarlet fever, strep infections, whooping cough, mumps, measles, rubella, and other conditions indicated by the Wisconsin Department of Health Services.

DIRECT CONTACT COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

In the case of direct contact communicable diseases, the school still has the obligation to protect the safety of the staff and students. In these cases, the person in question will have their status reviewed by a panel of resource people to ensure that the rights of the person affected and those in contact with that person are respected. The school will seek to keep students and staff in school unless there is definitive evidence to warrant exclusion. (*Board Policy 8453 – Direct Contact Communicable Diseases*)

Direct contact communicable diseases include sexually transmitted diseases, AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome), ARC-AIDS Related Complex, HIV (Human Immunodeficiency Virus), Hepatitis B, and other diseases that may be specified by the Wisconsin Department of Health Services.

As required by Federal and State law, parents may be required to have their child's blood checked for HIV and HBV, and other blood-borne pathogens when the child has bled at school and students or staff members have been exposed to the blood. Any testing is subject to laws protecting confidentiality.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act provide that no individual will be discriminated against on the basis of a disability (*Board Policy 2260.01 – Section 504/ADA Prohibition Against Discrimination Based on Disability*). This protection applies not just to the student, but to all individuals who have access to the School District's programs and facilities.

A student can access Special Education services through the proper evaluation and placement procedure. Parent involvement in this procedure is generally required. More important, the school encourages parents to be active participants. To inquire about Special Education programs and services, a parent should contact Brian Sutton at 262-268-6071. (*Board Policy 2460 – Programs for Students with Disabilities*)

The School District is committed to identifying, evaluating, and providing a free appropriate public education ("FAPE") to students within its jurisdiction who are disabled within the definition of Section 504, regardless of the nature or severity of their disabilities.

SERVICE ANIMALS AND OTHER ANIMALS ON DISTRICT PROPERTY

Students, parents, and other members of the public may be accompanied at school by a service animal in accordance with Federal and State law and *Board Policy 8390 - Animals on District Property*.

Other animals permitted in schools and elsewhere on School District property shall be limited to those necessary to support specific curriculum-related projects and activities as approved by the principal.

An emotional support animal is not granted the same access to school buildings and classrooms, as service animals. The School District is not required to grant students' requests that they be permitted to bring an emotional support animal to classes or on school grounds for any purpose.

Therapy dogs which meet the certification and documentation requirements in *Board Policy 8390 – Animals on District Property* may be allowed limited access to the schools to perform their educational purpose as determined by the principal.

BILINGUAL STUDENTS/ENGLISH LEARNERS

The School District recognizes that there may be students enrolled whose primary language is not English. The School District provides appropriate identification and transition services for bilingual students and English Learners (ELs). The purpose of these services is to develop English language

skills that will enable the students to function successfully and complete the School District's required curriculum. (*Board Policy 2260.02 – Services for Bilingual Students/English Learners*)

To inquire about programs and services for bilingual students and/or English Learners, a parent should contact Brian Sutton at 262-268-6071.

STUDENT RECORDS

The origination and maintenance of appropriate student records are essential to the effective operation of the School District and meeting the educational interests of students. The rights and responsibilities of students, parents and the School District with respect to student records are governed by State and Federal law (*Board Policy 8330 – Student Records*). Many student records are kept by teachers, counselors, and administrative staff. There are two (2) basic kinds of student records - directory data and confidential records.

Directory data can be given to any person or organization when requested, unless the parents of the student object in writing to the disclosure as required under school policy and State and Federal law. Directory data is specified in *Board Policy 8330 – Student Records* and includes a student's name, photograph, participation in officially recognized activities and sports, weight and height of members of athletic teams, degrees and awards received. data also includes a student ID number, user ID, or other unique personal identifier used by the student when accessing or communicating in a School District's electronic systems, if, standing alone, it cannot be used to access student education records, (i.e. a pin number, password, or other factor is also needed).

If parents and eligible students do not submit such written notification to the School District, directory data may be utilized by the Superintendent in District-wide publications, on the cable television educational access channel, or on the School District's website. The directory data used will be properly verified and approved by the Superintendent.

Student records are generally considered confidential under State and Federal law and may not be released to third parties unless the student's parent(s) consent in writing. However, there are exceptions to confidentiality, and requests for records within these exceptions may be granted without a parent's written consent. If you have questions about the confidentiality of student records and/or the release of student records to third-parties, please contact the school Principal or consult the *Board Policy 8330 - Student Records*.

Parents and students are reminded of: 1) their rights to inspect, review and obtain copies of students records; 2) their rights to request the amendment of the student's school records if they believe the records are inaccurate or misleading; 3) their rights to consent to the disclosure of the student's school records, except to the extent State and Federal law authorizes disclosure without consent; 4) the categories of student record information which have been designated as directory data and their right to deny the release of such information; and 5) their right to file a complaint with the Family Policy Compliance Office of the U.S. Department of Education.

Consistent with the Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA), no student shall be required, as a part of the school program or the School District's curriculum, without prior written consent of the student (if an adult, or an emancipated minor) or, if an unemancipated minor, the student's parents, to submit to or participate in any survey, analysis, or evaluation that reveals information concerning:

- A. political affiliations or beliefs of the student or their parents;
- B. mental or psychological problems of the student or their family;
- C. sex behavior or attitudes;
- D. illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating or demeaning behavior;
- E. critical appraisals of other individuals with whom respondents have close family relationships;
- F. legally recognized privileged and analogous relationships, such as those of lawyers, physicians, and ministers;
- G. religious practices, affiliations, or beliefs of the student or their parents; or
- H. income (other than that required by law to determine eligibility for participation in a program or for receiving financial assistance under such a program).

Consistent with the PPRA and Board policy, parents may inspect any materials used in conjunction with any such survey, analysis, or evaluation. Please contact the school Principal to inspect such materials.

Further, parents have the right to inspect, upon request, a survey or evaluation created by a third party before the survey/evaluation is administered or distributed by the school to the student. The parent will have access to the survey/evaluation within a reasonable period of time after the request is received by the building principal.

The Family Policy Compliance Office in the U.S. Department of Education administers both Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA). Parents and/or eligible students who believe their rights have been violated may file a complaint with:

Family Policy Compliance Office

U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue, SW 20202-4605
Washington, D.C.
www.ed.gov/offices/OM/fpco

Informal inquiries may be sent to the Family Policy Compliance Office via the following email addresses:

FERPA@ED.Gov and PPRA@ED.Gov

STUDENT FEES, FINES, AND CHARGES

Fees will be charged for the following non curricular activities and programs:

We ask that school fees are paid in full on a yearly basis. Pay online through [Infinite Campus](#) OR pay in person using this [TJMS Fee Form](#).

Fees or charges are determined by the cost of materials, freight/handling fees, and add-on fees for loss or damage to school property (*Board Policy 6152 – Student Fees, Fines, and Charges*). The school and staff do not make a profit.

Fees may be waived in situations where there is financial hardship. (*Board Policy 6152.01 – Waiver of School Fees or Fines*)

Students using school property and equipment can be fined for excessive wear and abuse. The fine will be used to pay for the damage, not to make a profit.

Late fines for Library Media Center materials can be avoided when students return checked-out materials promptly. Their use may be needed by others.

Students who fail to pay fines, fees, or charges may be denied participation in graduation ceremonies. (*Board Policy 5460 – Graduation Requirements*)

STUDENT FUND-RAISING

Students participating in school-sponsored groups and activities will be allowed to solicit funds from other students, staff members, and members of the community in accordance with school guidelines. (*Board Policy 5830 – Student Fund-Raising*)

The following general rules will apply to all fund-raisers:

- A. Students involved in the fund-raiser are not to interfere with students participating in other activities in order to solicit funds.
- B. For fundraisers by student clubs and organizations that involve the sale to students of food items and/or beverages that will be consumed on campus, the food and/or beverages items to be sold must comply with the current USDA Dietary Guidelines for Americans and

the Smart Snack Rules. Each student organization shall be permitted two (2) fundraising exceptions per school year where foods and beverages that are not allowable under the Smart Snack Rules can be sold. If approved, fundraisers that involve the sale, to students, of food items or beverages to be consumed on School District property shall not compete directly with the sale of reimbursable meals.

- C. A student will not be allowed to participate in a fund-raising activity for a group in which the student is not a member without the approval of the student's teacher or counselor.
- D. No student may participate in fundraising activities off school property without proper supervision by approved staff or other adults.
- E. House-to-house canvassing by any student is not allowed for any fundraising activity.
- F. If the fundraising activity will involve students under age twelve (12) such students' parents must provide written permission for the student to participate in the fundraising activity. Any student under nine (9) years of age, or each group containing one (1) or more students under nine (9) years of age, must be physically accompanied by a parent or a person at least sixteen (16) years of age.
- G. Any fund-raisers that require students to exert themselves physically beyond their normal pattern of activity, such as "runs for", will be monitored by a staff member in order to prevent students from overextending themselves to the point of potential harm.
- H. No student may participate in a fund-raising activity conducted by a parent group, booster club, or community organization on school property without the approval of the Principal.
- I. Fundraising by students on behalf of school-related organizations whose funds are not managed by the School District may be permitted on school grounds by the Superintendent.

STUDENT VALUABLES

Students are encouraged not to bring items of value to school. Items such as jewelry, expensive clothing, electronic equipment, and the like, are tempting targets for theft and extortion. The school cannot be responsible for their safe-keeping and will not be liable for loss or damage to personal valuables.

MEAL SERVICE

Food and Drinks

Food is only to be eaten in the cafeteria. Candy and snacks require teacher authorization and are to be confined to that classroom only. Water bottles are permitted for students to drink water. The building vending machine is not available during school hours. Energy drinks, coffee, and soda are not allowed. In the event that a student does have an allergy, snacks or treats may be limited for safety reasons.

Breakfast / Lunch

Breakfast items are available from 7:00 AM - 7:25 AM in the cafeteria. Entry for breakfast is the west cafeteria door (patio). A nutritionally balanced lunch is prepared each day for students with a choice of white or chocolate milk. Ala Carte items will also be for sale. Payments can be made to student lunch accounts in the cafeteria before the school day or online. [Pricing and Free/Reduced Application](#)

The school participates in the National School Lunch Program and makes lunches available to students for a fee. (*Board Policy 8500 – Food Services*) Ala carte items are available. Students may also bring their own lunch to school to be eaten in the school's cafeteria.

Applications for the school's Free and Reduced-Priced Meal program are distributed to all students. (*Board Policy 8531 – Free and Reduced-Price Meals*) Extra applications can be obtained in the School office.

The following nondiscrimination statement applies to all programs administered by the School District that are funded in whole or in part by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA):

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, this institution is prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, sex (including gender identity and sexual orientation), disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity.

Program information may be made available in languages other than English. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication to obtain program information (e.g. Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language), should contact the responsible State or local agency that administers the program or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339.

To file a program discrimination complaint, a Complainant should complete a Form AD-3027, USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form which can be obtained online at: <https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/ad-3027.pdf>, from any USDA office, by calling (866) 632-9992, or by writing a letter addressed to USDA. The letter must contain the complainant's name, address, telephone number, and a written description of the alleged

discriminatory action in sufficient detail to inform the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights (ASCR) about the nature and date of an alleged civil rights violation. The completed AD-3027 form or letter must be submitted to USDA by:

1. **Mail:**
U.S. Department of Agriculture
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; or
2. **Fax:**
(833) 256-1665 or (202) 690-7442; or
3. **E-mail:**
Program.Intake@usda.gov.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

FIRE DRILLS, TORNADO DRILLS, LOCKDOWN DRILLS

The school has a comprehensive School Safety Plan (*Board Policy 8420 – School Safety*) that includes specifications for fire drills, tornado drills, and lockdown drills.

The school complies with all fire safety laws and will conduct fire drills in accordance with State law. Specific instructions on how to proceed will be provided to students by their teachers, who are responsible for safe, prompt, and orderly evacuation of the building.

Tornado drills will be conducted during the tornado season using the procedures provided by the State.

Lock down drills in which the students are restricted to the interior of the school building and the building secured may occur during the school year.

EMERGENCY CLOSINGS AND DELAYS

If the school must be closed or the opening delayed because of inclement weather or other conditions, the school will use the following notification process:

In the event of an emergency school closing, parents will be notified via text and email through Infinite Campus. If a closure is announced in advance of a weather event, email will serve as the primary method of communication. Additionally, all closings will be posted on the district website and shared with local news outlets.

Parents and students are responsible for knowing about emergency closings and delays. (*Board Policy 8220 – School Day/School Closure*)

PREPAREDNESS FOR TOXIC AND ASBESTOS HAZARDS

The School is concerned for the safety of students and attempts to comply with all Federal and State Laws and Regulations to protect students from hazards that may result from industrial accidents beyond the control of school officials or from the presence of asbestos materials used in previous construction. A copy of the School District's Toxic Hazard Policy and asbestos management plan will be made available for inspection at the School District office upon request. (*Board Policy 8431 - Preparedness for Toxic Hazards and Policy 8431.01 – Asbestos Management*)

VISITORS

To secure a safe learning environment for our students and staff, we ask that all visitors and guests park in the visitor lot on the east side of the building nearest the flagpole off of Holden St. Please proceed to the Main Office doors and activate the doorbell/intercom to notify the office staff you have arrived and need assistance. Staff will unlock the door for you to enter the first set of doors. You will be required to use your driver's license to check in at the main school office using our Raptor safety station whenever you are visiting to conduct school business. Please note that we do not allow friends and/or relatives to spend the day at school with a TJMS student. Thank you for your understanding.

- **VISITOR LOT** (Holden St.) The visitors lot is not to be used for drop off or pick up before or after school.

Visitors, particularly parents, are welcome at the School. In order to properly monitor the safety of students and staff, each visitor must report to the office upon entering the school to register through our Raptor System with a photo identification and obtain a pass. Any visitor found in the building without a pass shall be reported to the Principal and/or law enforcement.

If a person wishes to confer with a member of the staff, they should call for an appointment prior to coming to the school, in order to prevent any loss of instructional time. Visitor access to classrooms and instructional activities are subject to reasonable restrictions and limits. Please consult with the Principal regarding these restrictions. Students may not bring visitors to school without first obtaining written permission from the Principal. (*Board Policy 7440 – Facility Security and Policy 9150 – School Visitors*)

In accordance with 120.13(35), Wis. Stats., the Superintendent has the authority to establish conditions for entering or remaining in a School District building, prohibit the entry of any person to a school of this School District, or to require a visitor to leave when there is reason to believe the presence of such person would be or is detrimental to the good order of the school. If such an individual refuses to leave the school grounds or creates a disturbance, administrators are

authorized to request from the local law enforcement agency whatever assistance is required to remove the individual.

USE OF SCHOOL EQUIPMENT AND FACILITIES

Students must receive the permission of the teacher before using any equipment or materials in the classroom and the permission of the Principal to use any other school equipment or facility. Students will be held responsible for the proper use and safekeeping of any equipment or facility they are allowed to use.

LOST AND FOUND

The lost and found area is located outside the main office.. Students who have lost items should check there and may retrieve their items if they give a proper description. Unclaimed items will be given to charity at the close of each semester.

STUDENT SALES

No student is permitted to sell any item or service in school without the approval of the Principal. Violation of this rule may lead to disciplinary action.

USE OF SCHOOL TELEPHONES

We understand that at times a student may need to contact home. When this is the case, they will be permitted to use a school phone. Our primary use of the school phone is for emergency purposes. Students may not use their cell phones during the school day.

USE OF CELL PHONES OR PERSONAL COMMUNICATION DEVICES PERSONAL COMMUNICATION DEVICES

Students in grades K-8 are not allowed to use or access personal communication devices (PCDs), such as cell phones, during the instructional day unless permitted by a teacher or administrator for educational purposes. PCDs must remain out of sight and powered off when not approved for learning. Use of PCDs to record, photograph, or transmit audio/video is strictly prohibited without consent, including during field trips or in areas with an expectation of privacy (e.g., locker rooms, restrooms). Any inappropriate or unauthorized use—such as cheating, harassment, sexting, or accessing blocked content—will result in disciplinary action, possible confiscation of the device, and, if necessary, involvement of law enforcement. Students are responsible for their devices, and the school is not liable for loss or damage. Parents should contact students during the school day through the school office.

WEAPONS

The Board prohibits students from possessing, storing, making, or using a weapon in any setting that is under the control and supervision of the District for the purpose of school activities approved and authorized by the District including, but not limited to, property leased, owned, or contracted for by the District, a school-sponsored event, or in a District vehicle, to the extent permitted by law without the permission of the Superintendent.

The term "weapon" means any object which, in the manner in which it is used, is intended to be used, or is represented, is capable of inflicting serious bodily harm or property damage, as well as endangering the health and safety of persons. Weapons include, but are not limited to, firearms (including, but not limited to, firearms as defined in 18 U.S.C. 921(a)(3)), guns of any type whatsoever, including air and gas-powered guns (whether loaded or unloaded), knives (subject to the exceptions below), razors with unguarded blades, clubs, electric weapons (as defined in 941.295(1c)(a), Wis. Stats.), metallic knuckles, martial arts weapons, chemical agents, ammunition, and explosives.

The Superintendent is authorized to establish instructional programs on weapons and reporting and dealing with violations of this policy.

The Superintendent will refer any student who violates this policy to the student's parents and may also make a referral to law enforcement. The student may also be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including expulsion. (see Policy 5610 - Suspension and Expulsion)

Policy exceptions include:

- A. weapons under the control of law enforcement personnel while on duty, or qualified former law enforcement officers, off duty law enforcement officers, or out-of-state law enforcement officers;
- B. items pre-approved by a principal, as part of a class or individual presentation under adult supervision, including, but not limited to Hunters' Education courses, if used for the purpose and in the manner approved (working firearms and live ammunition will never be approved);
- C. theatrical props used in appropriate settings; and
- D. a knife lawfully used for food consumption or preparation, or a knife used for a lawful purpose within the scope of the student's class work.

Any student who has reason to believe that a person has or will violate this policy shall report to the Superintendent or the supervisor of the activity immediately. The report should include as much detail as possible concerning the person(s) involved, the weapon, the location of the person(s), and how this information was obtained.

No student is to confront the person possessing the weapon, but a staff member has the option of confronting the person if the staff member believes the risk of injury to self or others is minimal or if immediate action is necessary to prevent injury to any person.

This policy will be published annually in all District student and staff handbooks. Publication is not a precondition to enforcement of this policy.

ADVERTISING OUTSIDE ACTIVITIES

No announcements or posting of outside activities will be permitted without the approval of the Principal. A minimum of twenty-four (24) hours advance notice is required to ensure that the Principal has the opportunity to review the announcement or posting. *(Board Policy 9700 – Relations with Non-School Affiliated Groups)*

VIDEO AND AUDIO SURVEILLANCE

The Board has authorized the use of video and audio surveillance and electronic monitoring equipment at various school sites throughout the school, including school buses. Any person who takes action to block, move, or alter the location and/or viewing angle of a video camera shall be subject to disciplinary action. *(Board Policy 7440.01 – Video Surveillance and Electronic Monitoring)*

SAFETY AND SECURITY

The safety of our students requires the following precautions that are conducted in accordance with *Board Policy 7440 – Facility Security* and the School Safety Plan:

- A. All visitors must enter through the designated visitor entrance and report to the School office when they arrive at School.
- B. All visitors are given and required to wear a visitor pass while they are in the building.
- C. The staff is expected to question people in the building whom they do not recognize and who are not wearing a visitor pass, and to question people who are "hanging around" the building after hours.
- D. Students and staff are expected to immediately report to a teacher or administrator any suspicious behavior or situation that makes them uncomfortable.
- E. All outside doors, except the main entrance, are locked during the School day.

- F. All School District employees are to wear photo-identification badges while on School District property.

STUDENT INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS

Students who develop ideas, concepts, or materials which may carry with them intellectual property characteristics may pursue protection of those rights on their own. No School District staff may take steps to claim intellectual property rights relative to any work product created by student(s), except as expressly approved by the School Superintendent and agreed to by participating students prior to the commencement of any projects. The School District does not determine the protectable nature of any particular work. (*Board Policy 5870 – Student Production of Goods and Services*)

SECTION II – ACADEMICS

COURSE OFFERINGS

Middle School Elective Course Offerings can be accessed on the [School Website](#).

ACADEMIC AND CAREER PLANNING

Academic and career planning services, including individualized support and access to software tools and staff assistance, is provided to students in grades 6 to 12. The mission of academic and career planning is to provide a comprehensive plan, which will be developed and maintained by a student, that includes the student's academic, career, personal, and social goals and the means by which the student will achieve those goals both before and after high school graduation. (*Board Policy 2411 – School Counseling and Academic and Career Planning*)

PROGRAM OR CURRICULUM MODIFICATIONS

The Board recognizes that the regular school program may not be appropriate for all students. Student and parent requests for a program or curriculum modification may be submitted, in writing, in accordance with *Board Policy 2451 – Program or Curriculum Modifications*. School counselors are available with further information regarding program or curriculum modifications.

FIELD TRIPS

Field trips are academic activities that are held off school grounds. There are also other trips that are part of the school's co-curricular and extracurricular program. No student may participate in any school-sponsored trip without parental consent. (*Board Policy 2340 – District-Sponsored Trips*)

Attendance rules, the Student Code of Conduct, and the Search and Seizure policy apply to all field trips.

ACADEMIC HONESTY

Honesty and integrity are expected at all times. Students are prohibited from presenting someone else's work as their own, using artificial intelligence platforms in place of one's own work, providing unauthorized assistance to another student, and cheating in all its forms.

All school work submitted for the purpose of meeting course requirements must be the individual student's original work. Also, no student may intentionally limit or impede the academic performance or intellectual pursuits of other students.

Students who engage in cheating or academic dishonesty will be subject to disciplinary consequences. (*Board Policy 5505 – Academic Honesty*)

STUDENT TECHNOLOGY ACCEPTABLE USE AND SAFETY

Students are encouraged to use the school's technology resources for educational purposes. Use of such resources is a privilege, not a right. Students must conduct themselves in a responsible, efficient, ethical, and legal manner. Users are required to refrain from actions that are illegal (such as libel, slander, vandalism, harassment, theft, plagiarism, inappropriate access, and the like) or unkind (such as personal attacks, invasion of privacy, injurious comment, and the like).

Unauthorized or inappropriate use, including any violation of the School District's policies and administrative guidelines, may result in cancellation of the privilege, disciplinary action consistent with the School's rules, and civil or criminal liability. Smooth operation of the School's network relies upon users adhering to the School District's policies and administrative guidelines. Prior to accessing the Internet at School, students are required to confirm their agreement to abide by the terms and conditions of the Student Technology Acceptable Use and Safety Agreement each year.

Violation of the Student Technology Acceptable Use and Safety Agreement may result in disciplinary consequences up to and including expulsion from the School District, civil liability and/or referral to law enforcement.

The School District reserves the right to monitor, inspect, copy, review and store at any time and without prior notice any and all usage of the computer network and Internet access and any and all information transmitted or received in connection with such usage. All such information files shall be and remain the property of the School District and no user shall have any expectation of privacy regarding such materials.

Use of School District technology resources to engage in “cyberbullying” is prohibited. “Cyberbullying” involves the use of information and communication technologies to support deliberate, repeated, and hostile behavior by an individual or group, which is intended to harm others.”

Cyberbullying includes, but is not limited to the following:

1. posting slurs or rumors or other disparaging remarks about a student or school staff member on a web site or on weblog;
2. sending e-mail or instant messages that are mean or threatening, or so numerous as to drive up the victim's cell phone bill;
3. using a camera phone to take and send embarrassing and/or sexually explicit photographs/recordings of students or school staff;
4. posting misleading or fake photographs of students or school staff members on web sites.

To the extent permitted by the First Amendment, instances of cyberbullying off school grounds that disrupt the school environment or interfere with the learning process will be considered violations of the Student Code of Conduct. (*Board Policy 7540.03 – Student Technology Acceptable Use and Safety*)

Students must comply with Policy 7540.03 - Student Technology Acceptable Use and Safety and Policy 5136 - Personal Communication Devices when using District technology resources to access and/or use District-approved social media platforms/sites.

STUDENT ASSESSMENT

To measure student progress, students will be tested in accordance with State standards and School District policy. (*Board Policy 2623 – Student Assessment*)

Additional group tests are given to students to monitor progress and determine educational mastery levels. These tests are used to help the staff determine instructional needs.

Classroom tests will be used to assess student progress and assign course grades. These are selected or prepared by teachers to assess how well the students have achieved specific objectives.

Vocational and interest surveys may be given to identify particular areas of student interest or talent. These are often given by the school counseling staff.

Depending on the type of testing, specific information and/or parent consent may need to be obtained. The assessment program will not violate the rights of consent and privacy of a student participating in any form of evaluation.

SECTION III – STUDENT ACTIVITIES

ATHLETICS, ACTIVITIES, and CLUBS OFFERED

We offer a variety of athletics, activities, and clubs to our students for their involvement and enjoyment. More information may be found on our website for [Activities/Clubs](#) and [Athletics](#).

Athletic Requirements for Participation

1. WIAA physical card on file
 - a physical is required every other year
 - an alternate year card is required for years a physical is not required
2. Student handbook form on file - completed annually
3. Concussion form on file - completed annually
4. Paid activity fee prior to participation. (\$60 per school year/\$120 maximum per family)

All students are permitted to participate in the activities of their choosing, as long as they meet the eligibility requirements. (*Board Policy 2430 – District-Sponsored Clubs and Activities*)

[Athletic Code of Conduct](#)

[Forms/Information](#)

Athletic Transportation

Students must use the transportation that TJ provides to and from extracurricular contests/competitions. If a parent/guardian will be picking their child up from the contest/competition please see the coach/advisor at the event to sign off that you are taking your child. Students are expected to follow all bus driver and coach/advisor rules.

SCHOOL SPONSORED PUBLICATIONS AND PRODUCTIONS

The Board sponsors student publications and productions as a means by which students learn, under adult direction/supervision, the rights and responsibilities inherent when engaging in the

public expression of ideas and information in our democratic society. (*Board Policy 5722 – School-Sponsored Publications and Productions*)

SECTION IV – STUDENT CONDUCT

ATTENDANCE

The School District requires all students to attend school regularly in accordance with the laws of Wisconsin and *Board Policy 5200 - Attendance*. The school's educational program is predicated upon the presence of the student and requires continuity of instruction and classroom participation. The regular contact of students with one another in the classroom and their participation in a well-planned instructional activity under the guidance of a competent teacher are vital to this purpose.

Compulsory Student Attendance

All children between six (6) and eighteen (18) years of age shall attend school regularly during the full period and hours, religious holidays excepted, that the school is in session. All students must attend until the end of the term, quarter, or semester of the school year in which the child becomes eighteen (18) years of age unless they fall under an exception outlined in the *Board Policy 5200 - Attendance*. A child who is enrolled in five (5) year-old kindergarten shall attend school regularly, religious holidays excepted, during the full period and hours that kindergarten is in session until the end of the school term.

Excuse for Absence

A parent of a student who is absent shall provide **either** a written or oral notification stating the reason for and the time period of the absence. This statement must be submitted prior to the absence if the absence is foreseeable. If the absence is not foreseeable, the statement must be provided prior to the student's readmission to school. The statement shall be submitted to the school office and filed in the student's school record. The School District reserves the right to verify statements and investigate absences from school.

Release of Students to Authorized Persons

If only one (1) parent is permitted to make educational decisions or to approve absences of the student by Court order, the responsible parent shall provide the school with a copy of the Court order. Absent such notice, the school will presume that the student may be released into the care of either parent.

No student who has a medical disability which may be incapacitating may be released without a person to accompany the student.

No student shall be released to anyone who is not authorized by a parent with authority to do so.

Excused Absences

A student shall be excused from school for the following reasons:

Physical or Mental Condition

The student is temporarily not in proper physical or mental condition to attend a school program. If the absence exceeds 10 days, the inability of the student to attend school due to a physical or mental condition must be certified in writing by a licensed physician, dentist, chiropractor, optometrist or psychologist or Christian Science practitioner living and residing in Wisconsin, who is listed in the Christian Science Journal. The time period for which the certification is valid may not exceed thirty (30) days.

Obtaining Religious Instruction

Students may wish to obtain religious instruction outside the school during the required school period. The time period or periods of absence shall be determined by the Principal. Such absences must be at least 60 minutes but not more than 180 minutes per week. Requests for absence under this paragraph shall be denied if the student fails to attend religious instruction after requesting to be absent from regular school. The supervisor of such religious instruction shall report monthly, to the principal of the school regularly attended, the names of the students who attended such weekly religious instruction. See *Board Policy 5223 – Absences for Religious Instruction* for further details.

Permission of Parent or Guardian

The student may be excused by their parent or guardian before the absence for any or no reason. A student may not be excused for more than ten (10) days under this paragraph and must complete any course work missed during the absence.

Parents are encouraged not to take their child out of school for vacations. When a family vacation must be scheduled during the school year, the parents should discuss the matter with the Principal and the student's teacher(s) to make necessary arrangements.

Religious Holiday

The student wishes to observe a religious holiday consistent with the student's creed or belief.

Suspension or Expulsion

The student has been suspended or expelled.

Virtual Access

The student is unable to access virtual instruction programming due to a temporary disruption in the student's access to necessary technological systems (i.e. internet outage, computer failure, software malfunction, etc.) as communicated by the student's parent.

Truancy

A student will be considered truant if he or she is absent part or all of one or more days from school during which the School Attendance Officer, Principal, or a teacher has not been notified of the legal cause of such absence by the parent or guardian of the absent student. A student will also be considered truant if the student has been absent intermittently for the purpose of defeating the intent of the Wisconsin Compulsory Attendance statute. (118.15, Wis. Stats.)

When a student is truant, the School Attendance Officer shall ensure that all applicable provisions of the School District's Truancy Plan are carried out.

Unexcused Absences

Unexcused absences demonstrate a deliberate disregard for the educational program and are considered a serious matter. The Principal will determine on a case-by-case basis the appropriate methods to deal with unexcused absences.

Administrative action to address unexcused absences shall be in accord with due process as defined in *Board Policy 5611 – Due Process Rights*, the Student Code of Conduct, and other applicable Board Policies.

Late Arrival and Early Dismissal

It is necessary that a student be in attendance throughout the school day in order to benefit fully from the educational program of the District.

The Board recognizes, however, that from time-to-time compelling circumstances require that a student be late to school or dismissed before the end of the school day.

As an agent for the education of the children of this School District, the Board shall require that the school be notified in advance of such absences by written (including email) or personal (phone or face-to-face) request of the student's parent, who shall state the reason for the tardiness or early dismissal. Justifiable reasons shall be determined by the Principal.

No student who has a medical disability which may be incapacitating may be released without a person to accompany the student.

No student shall be released to anyone who is not authorized such custody by the parents.

Habitual Truancy

A student is considered a habitual truant if the student is absent from school without an acceptable excuse for part or all of five (5) or more days on which school is held during a school semester.

When a student initially becomes a habitual truant, the School Attendance Officer shall ensure that all applicable provisions of the School District's Truancy Plan are carried out.

Parent/Guardian Responsibilities

It is the responsibility of the student's parent or guardian to ensure that their child attends school regularly. Parents are expected to provide an excuse for all absences.

Student Responsibilities.

Students are required to attend all classes and other school activities on their daily schedule, unless they have been excused from school.

Students Leaving School During the School Day

No staff member shall permit or cause any student to leave school prior to the regular hour of dismissal except with the knowledge and approval of the Principal and with the knowledge and approval of the student's parents.

No student will be released to any government agency without proper warrant or written parental permission except in the event of an emergency as determined by the Principal.

Make-Up Course Work and Examinations

Students who are absent from school, whether the absence was excused or unexcused, shall be permitted to make-up coursework and examinations missed during the absence when they return to school. It is the student's responsibility to contact their teachers to determine what coursework and examinations must be made-up. Teachers shall have the discretion to assign substitute coursework and examinations. Teachers shall also have the discretion to specify where and when examinations and coursework shall be completed, including outside regular school hours. The time for completing the work shall be commensurate with the length of the absence unless extended by the principal based upon extenuating circumstances.

Unexcused Absences

Credit in a course or subject shall not be denied solely because of a student's unexcused absence from school. A student whose absence from school was unexcused shall be permitted to make-up course work and quarterly, semester or grading period examinations missed during the absence if the student is at risk of receiving no credit in a course or subject if the work is not made up.

Subject to the immediately preceding two paragraphs, credit may, but is not required to be given for the completion of make-up work. Further, credit for make-up work may be given only after the student has satisfied consequences imposed for unexcused absences. The extent to which make-up credit is given shall be determined on a case-by-case basis by the Principal and the respective teachers.

If make-up work is allowed, it is the student's responsibility to contact their teachers to determine what coursework and examinations must be made-up. Teachers shall have the discretion to assign substitute coursework and examinations. Teachers shall also have the discretion to specify where and when examinations and course work shall be completed, including outside regular school hours. The time for completing the work shall be commensurate with the length of the absence, unless extended by the Principal based upon extenuating circumstances.

STUDENT ATTENDANCE AT SCHOOL EVENTS

The school encourages students to attend as many school events held after school as possible, as long as such attendance does not interfere with the student's school work and home activities. Enthusiastic spectators help to build School spirit and encourage those students who are participating in the event. (*Board Policy 5855 – Student Attendance at School Events*)

However, in order to ensure that students attending evening events as nonparticipants are properly safe-guarded, it is strongly advised that students be accompanied by a parent or adult chaperone when they attend the event.

STUDENT BEHAVIOR

A major component of the educational program is to prepare students to become responsible workers and citizens by learning how to conduct themselves properly and in accordance with established standards.

Expected Behaviors

Each student shall be expected to: abide by Federal, State, and local laws as well as the rules of the school; respect the civil rights of others; act courteously to adults and fellow students; be prompt to school and attentive in class; work cooperatively with others when involved in accomplishing a common goal regardless of the other's ability, sex, sexual orientation, race, or ethnic background;

complete assigned tasks on time and as directed; help maintain a school environment that is safe, friendly, and productive; act at all times in a manner that reflects pride in self, family, and the school.

CARE OF PROPERTY

Students are responsible for the care of their own personal property. The school will not be responsible for the loss of personal property. Valuables such as jewelry or irreplaceable items should not be brought to school. The school may confiscate such items and return them to the student's parents.

The Board authorizes the imposition of fines for the loss, damage, or destruction of School District-owned, borrowed or leased equipment, computing devices, school records, apparatus, musical instruments, library materials, textbooks, and for damage to School District buildings or facilities. Therefore, if a student damages or loses school property, the student or their parents will be required to pay for the replacement or damage. If the damage or loss was intentional, the student will also be subject to discipline according to the Code of Conduct, and may be referred to law enforcement. (*Board Policy 5513 – Care of District Property*)

PROHIBITED USE OR POSSESSION OF INTOXICANTS, DRUGS, OR PARAPHERNALIA

The administration and staff recognize that the misuse of drugs is a serious problem with legal, physical, and social implications for the entire school community. As the educational institution of this community, our school strives to prevent drug abuse and help drug abusers by educational, rather than punitive, means.

For purposes of this policy, "drugs" shall mean:

- A. all dangerous controlled substances as so designated and prohibited by Wisconsin statute;
- B. all derivatives of hemp, including Delta-8-THC, Delta-9-THC, Delta-10-THC, Delta-11-THC, THC-O, and all other forms that cause psychosis; in all forms of delivery (i.e. inhalation, ingestion, injection, etc.) except those permitted by the school in accordance with *Board Policy 5330 - Administration of Medications/Emergency Care*;
- C. all chemicals which release toxic vapors;
- D. all alcoholic beverages;
- E. any prescription or patent drug, except those for which permission to use in school has been granted pursuant to Board policy;

- F. "look-alikes;
- G. essential oils and oil like products that may be mistaken for a drug;
- H. anabolic steroids;
- I. any other illegal substances so designated and prohibited by law.

The use, possession, concealment, or distribution of any drug, drug look-alike, and any drug-paraphernalia at any time on school property or at any school-related event is prohibited. Disciplinary sanctions, up to and including expulsion and referral for prosecution, will be imposed on students who violate the school's drug abuse guidelines. *(Board Policy 5530 – Student Use or Possession of Intoxicants, Drugs, or Paraphernalia)*

USE OF TOBACCO/NICOTINE IS PROHIBITED

The Board is committed to providing students, staff, and visitors with a tobacco and smoke-free environment. The negative health effects of tobacco and nicotine use for both users and non-users, particularly in connection with second hand smoke, are well-established. In addition, students less than eighteen (18) years of age are generally prohibited by law from purchasing or possessing cigarettes and other tobacco products.

It shall be a violation of School District policy for any student of the School District to possess, use, consume, display, promote, or sell any tobacco products, tobacco industry brand, tobacco-related devices, imitation tobacco products, or electronic smoking or vaping devices, regardless of content, at any time on school property or at off-campus, school-sponsored events. *(Board Policy 5512 – Use of Tobacco and Nicotine by Students)*

The use of other products containing nicotine, such as nicotine patches and nicotine gum is also prohibited except when a student provides documentation from a licensed medical practitioner that the student's use of non-tobacco nicotine products is being medically supervised for the cessation of a nicotine addiction and the student complies with *Board Policy 5330 - Administration of Medication/Emergency Care*.

STUDENT CODE OF CLASSROOM CONDUCT

The school is committed to maintaining an orderly and safe academic atmosphere. Teachers are expected to create a positive learning environment and to maintain proper order in the classroom. Students are expected to behave in the classroom in a manner that allows teachers to effectively carry out their lessons and allows students to participate in classroom learning activities. Students are also expected to abide by all rules of behavior established by the school and their classroom teachers.

Such rules of behavior include a prohibition on knowingly making false statements or knowingly submitting false information during a sex discrimination complaint process, including intentionally making a false report of sexual harassment, or submitting a false formal complaint. Providing false information is a violation of the Student Code of Conduct.

To ensure adherence to these expectations and principles, the Board has adopted a Code of Classroom Conduct, which applies to all students. (*Board Policy 5500 – Student Code of Classroom Conduct*)

Grounds for Removal of a Student from Class

Disturbances that interrupt the learning process cannot be permitted by any teacher. A teacher may temporarily remove a student from the teacher's class if the student violates the Code of Classroom Conduct. Additionally, the student may be removed from the class for a longer period of time at the discretion of the Principal. A student removed from class may also be placed in an alternative education setting.

Removal of a student from class for violating the Code of Classroom Conduct or placement of the student in an alternative educational setting does not prohibit the school from further disciplining the student for the conduct that caused removal or placement including, but not limited to, suspending or expelling the student.

It is neither possible nor necessary to specify every type of improper or inappropriate behavior for which a teacher may remove a student from class. Provided below, however, are examples of reasons a student may be removed from class. A teacher may remove a student from class for conduct or behavior that:

- A. would result in suspension or expulsion under the Board's policies and procedures;
- B. violates the behavioral rules and expectations of the school;
- C. is dangerous, disruptive or unruly. Such behavior includes, but is not limited to, the following:
 - 1. possession or use of a weapon or look-alike or other item that might cause bodily harm to persons in the classroom;
 - 2. being under the influence of alcohol or controlled substances or otherwise violating the District alcohol and drug policy;
 - 3. behavior that interferes with a person's work or school performance or creates an intimidating, hostile, harassing, or offensive classroom environment;

4. arguing, taunting, baiting, inciting or encouraging an argument or disruption or group posturing to provoke altercations or confrontations;
 5. disruption or intimidation caused by gang or group symbols or gestures, or gang or group posturing to provoke altercations or confrontations;
 6. pushing, striking, or other inappropriate physical contact with a student or staff member;
 7. interfering with the orderly operation of the classroom by using, threatening to use or counseling others to use violence, force, coercion, threats, intimidation, fear, or disruptive means;
 8. using dress or appearance in a manner that presents a danger to health or safety, causes interference with work, or creates classroom disorder;
 9. restricting another person's freedom to properly utilize classroom facilities or equipment;
 10. repeated classroom interruptions, confronting staff argumentatively, making loud noises, or refusing to follow directions;
 11. throwing objects in the classroom;
 12. repeated disruptions or violations of classroom rules, or excessive or disruptive talking;
 13. behavior that causes the teacher or other students fear of physical or psychological harm;
 14. willful damage to or theft of school property or the property of others; or
 15. repeated use of profanity.
- D. interferes with the ability of the teacher to teach effectively. Such conduct includes, but is not limited to, the following:
1. repeated reporting to class without bringing necessary materials to participate in class activities; or
 2. possession of personal property by school rules or otherwise disruptive to the teaching and learning of others.

- E. shows disrespect or defiance of the teacher, exhibited in words, gestures or other behavior; or
- F. is inconsistent with class decorum and the ability of others to learn. Such behavior includes, but is not limited to, sleeping in class, blatant inattention, or other overt or passive refusal or inability to engage in class activities.

Procedure for Student Removal From Class

When a student is removed from class, the teacher shall send or escort the student to the Principal and inform the Principal of the reason for the student's removal from class. The teacher shall provide the Principal with a written explanation of the reasons for the removal of the student within twenty-four (24) hours of the student's removal from class.

The Principal will generally give the student an opportunity to briefly explain the situation. The Principal shall then determine the appropriate educational placement for the student.

Student Placement

The Principal shall place the student, who has been removed from a class by a teacher, in one of the following alternative educational settings:

- A. an alternative education program approved by the Board under State law;
- B. another instructional setting, time-out, in-school suspension, or out-of-school suspension; or
- C. the class from which the student was removed if, after weighing the interests of the student, the other students in the class, and the teacher, the Principal determines that readmission to the class is the best or only alternative.

Parent/Guardian Notification Procedures

The Principal shall provide the parent or guardian of a student removed from class-with written notice of the removal and the reason(s) for the removal. The notification shall be made as soon as practicable, but no later than two (2) school days after the student's removal from class. The notice shall also include the reasons for the student's removal and the placement made by the Principal. If the removal from class and change of educational placement involves a student with a disability, the parent notification shall be made consistent with State and Federal laws and regulations applicable to disabled students.

If the student removed from a class is subject to disciplinary action up to and including suspension or expulsion for the particular classroom conduct and/or other disciplinary incidents the parent shall also be notified of the disciplinary action in accordance with legal and policy requirements.

Students with Disabilities

A student with a disability under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, and 115.758, Wis. Stats., may be removed from class and placed in an alternative educational setting only to the extent authorized under the laws.

Definitions

"Student" means any student enrolled in the District, an exchange student, or a student visitor to the District's schools.

"Teacher" means a person holding a license or permit issued by the State Superintendent whose employment by a school district requires that the teacher hold that license or permit.

"Class" or "classroom" means any class, meeting or activity which students attend, or in which they participate while in school under the control or direction of the School District. This definition of "class" includes, without limitation, regular classes, special classes, resource room sessions, labs, library time, counseling groups, assemblies, study halls, lunch, or recess. "Class" also includes regularly scheduled School District-sponsored extracurricular activities, either during or outside of school hours. Such activities include, by example and without limitation, School District sponsored field trips, after-school clubs, and sporting activities.

OTHER FORMS OF DISCIPLINE

It is important to remember that the school's rules apply at school, on school property, at school-sponsored events, and on school transportation. In some cases, a student can be suspended from school transportation for infractions of school bus rules.

Ultimately, it is the Principal's responsibility to keep things orderly. In all cases, the school shall attempt to make discipline prompt and equitable and to have the punishment match the severity of the incident.

SUSPENSION AND EXPULSION

Board Policy 5610 – Suspension and Expulsion authorizes the use of suspension and/or expulsion as follows:

A. Suspension

1. Duration and Grounds for Suspension

The Principal or a person designated by the Principal may suspend a student for up

to five (5) school days or, if a notice of expulsion hearing has been sent, for up to fifteen (15) consecutive school days or ten (10) consecutive school days if the student is eligible for special education services under Chapter 115, Wis. Stats., if the suspension is reasonably justified and based upon any of the following misconduct:

- a. noncompliance with school or Board rules;
- b. knowingly conveying any threat or false information concerning an attempt or alleged attempt being made or to be made to destroy any school property by means of explosives;
- c. conduct by the student while at school or while under the supervision of a school authority that endangers the property, health or safety of others;
- d. conduct while not at school or while not under the supervision of a school authority that endangers the property, health or safety of others at school or under the supervision of a school authority.
- e. conduct while not at school or while not under the supervision of a school authority that endangers the property, health or safety of any employee or Board member of the School District in which the student is enrolled.
- f. under paragraphs, c, d, and e above, conduct that endangers a person or property includes making a threat to the health or safety of a person or making a threat to damage property.

The Superintendent, or any Principal or teacher designated by the Superintendent shall suspend a student if the student possessed a firearm while at school or while under the supervision of a school authority.

The suspension period applies to “school days.” Thus, a suspension period does not include weekend days or vacation days.

2. Suspension Procedure

Prior to being suspended, on the day of the alleged infraction or as soon thereafter as is practicable, the student will be advised orally or in writing of the reason for the proposed suspension and given an opportunity to explain their conduct.

The Principal, within their discretion, may also inform the student’s parents or guardian of the reason for the proposed suspension prior to suspending the student.

3. Notice of Suspension

The parent or guardian of a suspended minor student shall be given prompt written notice of the suspension and the reason for the suspension by mail and by sending a copy of the notice home with the student. Oral notice may also be given to the student's parent or guardian; however, it will be confirmed in writing.

4. Sending a Student Home on the day of the Suspension

Generally, the student should remain in school on the day of the suspension until school is dismissed for the day. Except as provided below, if the situation requires that the student be removed from the premises before school is dismissed, the Principal shall attempt to contact the student's parent or guardian to request that the parent/guardian pick up the student. If the parent/guardian is unable to pick up the student, the student should remain under the school's supervision until school is dismissed, or in the event law enforcement is involved, under law enforcement supervision.

5. Opportunity to Complete School Work

A suspended student shall not be denied the opportunity to take any quarterly, semester or grading period examinations or to complete coursework missed during the suspension period. Such work shall be completed pursuant to the procedures established by the Board.

6. Reference to the Suspension in the Student's Record

The student's suspension from school shall be entered in the student's record as required by the rules adopted by the Board concerning the content of student records.

The suspended student or the student's parent or guardian may, within five (5) school days following the commencement of the suspension, have a conference with an, who shall be someone other than a Principal, administrator or teacher in the suspended student's school, to discuss removing reference to the suspension from the student's records.

The administrator shall make a finding within fifteen (15) days of the conference.

7. Co-Curricular or Extra-Curricular Participation

A student's participation in co-curricular or extracurricular activities during a suspension shall be determined on a case-by-case basis.

B. Expulsion

1. Grounds for Expulsion

- a. repeatedly refused or neglected to obey the rules established by the School District;
- b. knowingly conveyed or caused to be conveyed any threat or false information concerning an attempt or alleged attempt being made or to be made to destroy any school property by means of explosives;
- c. engaged in conduct while at school or while under the supervision of a school authority that endangered the property, health or safety of others;
- d. engaged in conduct while not at school or while not under the supervision of a school authority that endangered the property, health or safety of others at school or under the supervision of a school authority or endangered the property, health or safety of any employee or Board member of the School District in which the student is enrolled; or
- e. was at least sixteen (16) years old and had repeatedly engaged in conduct while at school or while under the supervision of a school authority that disrupted the ability of school authorities to maintain order or an educational atmosphere at school or at an activity supervised by a school authority and that such conduct did not otherwise constitute grounds for expulsion.

Under this section, conduct that endangers a person or property includes threatening the health or safety of a person or threatening to damage property.

2. Expulsion for Bringing a Firearm to School

The Board shall expel a student from school for not less than one (1) year whenever it finds that the student brought a firearm to school or, while at school or while under the supervision of a school authority, possessed a firearm, unless the Board finds that the punishment should be reduced based upon the circumstances of the incident. Any such finding by the Board shall be in writing.

3. Expulsion Hearing

Prior to expelling a student, the Board shall provide the student with a hearing. Prior written notice of the expulsion hearing must be sent separately both to the student and their parent(s) or guardian(s) if the student is a minor; otherwise just to the student. The notice will comply with the requirements of State law.

The student, or the student's parent if the student is a minor, has the right to request a closed hearing or the Board may choose to close the hearing. The student and, if the student is a minor, the student's parent or guardian may be represented at the hearing by counsel.

4. Expulsion Order

The Board shall reduce its decision to writing in the form of a written order. If expulsion is ordered, the order must state the length of time that the student is to be expelled. The order should also state specific findings of fact and conclusions of law in support of the decision.

5. Student Records

The student's expulsion from school shall be entered in the student's record as required by the rules adopted by the Board concerning the content of student records.

Discipline of Disabled Students

Students with disabilities will be entitled to the rights and procedures afforded by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

SEARCH AND SEIZURE

Search of a student and their possessions, including vehicles, may be conducted at any time the student is under the jurisdiction of the Board, if there is a reasonable suspicion that the student is in violation of law or school rules. A search may also be conducted to protect the safety of others or as otherwise permitted by law.

Desks and lockers are public property and school authorities may make reasonable regulations regarding their use. The School District retains ownership and possessory control of student desks and lockers and the same may be searched at random by school personnel at any time. A showing of reasonable cause or suspicion is not a necessary precondition to a search under this paragraph. Students shall not have an expectation of privacy in lockers, desks, or other school property as to prevent examination by a school official.

All computers located in classrooms, labs, and offices of the School District are the School District's property and are to be used by students, where appropriate, for educational purposes. The School District retains the right to access and review all electronic, computer files, databases, and any other electronic transmissions contained in or used in conjunction with the School District's computer system, network, and electronic mail. Students should have no expectation that any information contained on such systems is confidential or private.

Review of such information may be done by the School District with or without the student's knowledge or permission. The use of passwords does not guarantee confidentiality, and the School District retains the right to access information in spite of a password. A student's refusal to permit such access may be grounds for disciplinary action.

No strip searches will be conducted by any employee of the School District, but may be conducted by law enforcement officials, if deemed necessary.

The Principal may arrange for a breath test for blood-alcohol to be conducted on a student whenever a staff member or chaperone has individualized reasonable suspicion to believe the student has consumed or is under the influence of an alcoholic beverage while on school premises or while participating in a school-sponsored activity. If the student refuses to take the test, the Principal will inform the student that refusal to participate implies admission of guilt leading to disciplinary action consistent with this handbook.

Anything that is found in the course of a search that may be evidence of a violation of school rules or the law may be taken and held or turned over to the police. The school reserves the right not to return items which have been confiscated. *(Board Policy 5771 - Search and Seizure)*

STUDENT RIGHTS OF EXPRESSION

Our school recognizes the right of students to express themselves. With the right of expression comes the responsibility to do it appropriately. Students may distribute or display, at appropriate times, non-sponsored, noncommercial written material and petitions; buttons, badges, or other insignia; clothing, insignia, and banners; and audio and video materials. All items must meet the following school guidelines:

A. A material cannot be displayed if it:

1. is obscene to minors, libelous, indecent, or vulgar;
2. advertises any product or service not permitted to minors by law;
3. intends to be insulting or harassing;
4. intends to incite fighting or presents a likelihood of disrupting school or a school event; or
5. presents a clear and present likelihood that, either because of its content or manner of distribution or display, it causes or is likely to cause a material and substantial disruption of school or school activities, a violation of school regulations, or the commission of an unlawful act.

- B. Materials may not be displayed or distributed during class periods, or during passing times between classes. Permission may be granted for display or distribution during lunch periods and after school in designated locations, as long as exits are not blocked and there is proper access and egress to the building.

Students who are unsure whether or not materials they wish to display meet school guidelines may present them to the Principal twenty-four (24) hours prior to display.

Distribution or display by any student of prohibited non-school-sponsored material or in violation of the school's approval process will be halted, and the student(s) involved will be subject to disciplinary action.

STUDENT DRESS AND APPEARANCE

The school recognizes that each student's mode of dress and appearance is a manifestation of personal style and individual preference. The school will not interfere with the right of students and their parents to make decisions regarding their appearance, except when their choices interfere with the educational program of the schools.

The school has established grooming guidelines as are necessary to promote discipline, maintain order, secure the safety of students, and provide a healthy environment conducive to academic purposes.

Accordingly, the school prohibits student dress or appearance practices that:

- A. present a hazard to the health or safety of the student or to others in the school, including by way of communicating threats of harm or depictions of harmful conduct directed at others;
- B. interfere with school work, create disorder, or disrupt the educational program, including dress that promotes or depicts illegal activity, such as illegal drug use, underage alcohol consumption, or similar activities;
- C. cause excessive wear or damage to school property;
- D. prevent the student from achieving their own educational objectives because of blocked vision or restricted movement.

Such guidelines shall also apply to the dress requirements for members of the athletic teams, bands, and other school groups when representing the school at a public event. A uniform or specific dress requirement may be enforced for students when representing the school.

In enforcing the dress code, the following procedures shall be used:

- A. the principal shall serve as the initial arbiter of student dress and grooming in their building;
- B. before taking action to enforce dress code requirements, including by requiring that a student remove, cover, or otherwise conceal the item or depiction at issue, the principal shall determine whether the item constitutes protected speech in so far as the item independently makes a statement of a discernable nature to the observer by depiction, words, or combination of the two that does not require separate explanation.

Expressive dress may not be protected speech if it involves:

- A. Obscenity
- B. Language or depictions intended to incite violence or foment hatred of others

Dress that is otherwise protected speech may still be prohibited if it is likely to cause a substantial disruption to the educational environment. This may include dress that includes the use of vulgarity, discriminatory language including racial or ethnic slurs, negative stereotypes, violence, or other communication when the clear intent is to invoke strong reactions in observers so as to impair the ability of teachers and/or students to engage in educational pursuit.

No protected speech may be prohibited on the basis of disagreement by school officials with the specific point of view expressed if the topic is otherwise permitted (e.g. permitting depictions of support for one political party, but prohibiting depictions of support for the other).

Students who violate the foregoing rules will not be admitted to class and may be subject to additional consequences.

If the clothing cannot be removed or concealed, the student may be sent home after contact is made with the student's parent/guardian. (*Board Policy 5511 – Dress and Grooming*)

STUDENT SUGGESTIONS AND COMPLAINTS

The school is here for the benefit of the students. The staff is here to assist a student in becoming a responsible adult. If a student has suggestions that could improve the school, the student should feel free to offer them. Written suggestions may be presented directly to the Principal.

When concerns or grievances arise, the best way to resolve the issue is through communication. No student will be harassed by any staff member or need fear reprisal for the proper expression of a legitimate concern. As with suggestions, concerns and grievances may be directed to the Principal. (*Board Policy 5710 – Student Complaints*)

STUDENT DUE PROCESS RIGHTS

The Board recognizes the importance of safeguarding a student's constitutional rights, particularly when subject to the District's disciplinary procedures.

To better ensure appropriate due-process is provided a student, the Board establishes the following guidelines:

A. Students subject to suspension:

The suspended student, and if a minor, the parent of the suspended minor student shall be given prompt notice of the suspension and the reason for the suspension. The student or the student's parents may within five (5) school days following the beginning of the suspension, have a conference with an Administrator. This conference will serve as the opportunity for the student to respond to the charges against the student. If the Administrator finds that the student was suspended unfairly or unjustly or that the student suffered undue consequences as the result of suspension, the student's record shall be expunged.

B. Students subject to expulsion:

Prior to expelling a student, the Board must hold a hearing. A student and their parents must be given written notice of the intention to expel and the reasons therefore, at least five (5) days prior to the date of the hearing. The hearing is the opportunity for the student and their parents to appear with a representative or legal counsel before the Board to answer the charges. The Board will keep written minutes of the hearing. The hearing will be closed. The student and/or their parents may appeal the expulsion consistent with 120.13, Wis. Stats.

SECTION V - TRANSPORTATION

BUS TRANSPORTATION TO SCHOOL

Bus transportation is provided for all eligible students. The bus schedule and route is available by contacting Johnson Bus at (262) 284-5330.

Students will ride only assigned school buses and will board and depart from the bus at assigned bus stops. Students will not be permitted to ride unassigned buses for any reason other than an emergency, except as approved by the Principal.

A change in a student's regular assigned bus stop may be granted for a special need, if a note from a parent is submitted to the Principal stating the reason for the request and the duration of the change, and the Principal approves. (*Board Policy 8600 - Transportation*)

BUS CONDUCT

Students who are riding to and from school on transportation provided by the school are required to follow some basic safety rules. This applies to school-owned buses as well as any contracted transportation that may be provided.

The driver is responsible for student safety and may assign seating or direct the student in any reasonable manner to maintain that safety.

It is the parents' responsibility to inform the bus driver when their child will not be boarding the bus. The bus will not wait.

The driver will not discharge students at places other than their regular stop at home or at school unless the driver has proper authorization from school officials.

CAMERAS ON SCHOOL BUSES

The Board has authorized the installation of cameras on school buses for purposes of monitoring student behavior.

If a student is reported to have misbehaved on a bus and their actions were recorded on the bus camera, the recording will be submitted to the Principal and may be used as evidence of the misbehavior. Since these recordings are considered part of a student's record, they can be viewed only in accordance with State and Federal law. (*Board Policy 8600 - Transportation*)

PENALTIES FOR INFRACTIONS

A student who engages in misconduct on a bus shall be subject to discipline and may be deprived of the privilege of riding on the bus.

**Port Washington-Saukville School District
Board of Education**

Sara McCutcheon <i>President</i>	(262) 377-5889	sara.mccutcheon@pwssd.k12.wi.us
Stephanie Trigsted <i>Vice President</i>	(920) 912-6755	stephanie.trigsted@pwssd.k12.wi.us
Kierstin Cira <i>Board Clerk</i>	(414) 477-0781	kierstin.cira@pwssd.k12.wi.us
Justin Myers <i>Board Treasurer</i>	(360) 901-0604	justin.myers@pwssd.k12.wi.us
Yvonne Klotz <i>Board Member</i>	(262) 685-6533	yvonne.klotz@pwssd.k12.wi.us
Karen Krainz <i>Board Member</i>	(708) 601-0171	karen.krainz@pwssd.k12.wi.us
Nicole Nelson <i>Board Member</i>	(262) 853-9083	nicole.nelson@pwssd.k12.wi.us
Elisa Pionek <i>Board Member</i>	(262) 483-7751	elisa.pionek@pwssd.k12.wi.us
Brian Stevens <i>Board Member</i>	(262) 323-1433	brian.stevens@pwssd.k12.wi.us