

**JONATHAN ALDER JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL
STUDENT/PARENT HANDBOOK**

School Year 2022-2023

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NOTE: This Student/Parent Handbook is based in significant part on policies adopted by the Board of Education and Administrative Guidelines developed by the Superintendent. Those Board Policies and Administrative Guidelines are incorporated by reference into the provisions of this Handbook. This handbook replaces all prior handbooks and other written material on the same subjects. This handbook does not equate to an irrevocable contractual commitment to the student, but only reflects the current status of the Board’s policies and the School’s rules. The Policies and Administrative 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 in 2021. If you have questions or would like more information about a specific issue or document, contact your school principal or access the document on the District's website: www.alder.k12.oh.us and find the specific policy or administrative guideline in the Table of Contents for that section.

Student/Parent Handbook
for Jonathan Alder Junior High School

Welcome to Jonathan Alder Junior High School! We thank you for the opportunity to educate your student and provide a learning environment that is conducive to learning. Parents are encouraged to take a few minutes to review and discuss the information in this handbook with their school-age children. Teachers will also review elements of this Handbook with students at the beginning of the school year.

Thank you for taking the time to become familiar with the important information in this handbook. If you have any questions, please contact the principal.

*Sincerely,
Ryan Malany
Principal*

Junior High School Front Office
Phone: 614-873-4635

Name:	Title:	Extension:
Mr. Ryan Malany	Principal	8435
Mr. Scott Moyer	Assistant Principal	8436
Mrs. Kati Lupia	School Counselor	8359
Mr. Scott Moyer	Athletic Director	8436
Mrs. Lesa Maloon	Secretary	8221
Dr. James Miller	Superintendent	614-873-5621

Adopted by the Board of Education on June 27, 2022
Student Code of Conduct (including Student Discipline Code) adopted by the Board of Education on June 27, 2022.

FOREWORD

This Student Handbook was developed to answer many of the commonly asked questions that you and your parents may have during the school year and to provide specific information about certain Board policies and procedures. Please take time to become familiar with the important information contained in this Handbook and keep the Handbook available for frequent reference by you and your parents. If you have any questions that are not addressed in this Handbook, you are encouraged to talk to your teachers or the building principal. This Handbook replaces all prior handbooks and other written material on the same subjects. This Handbook does not equate to an irrevocable contractual commitment to the student, but only reflects the current status of the Board's policies and the School's rules as set for the 2022-2023 school year. If any of the policies or administrative guidelines referenced herein are revised, the language in the most current policy or administrative guideline prevails. Copies of current Board policies and administrative guidelines are available from the building principal and on the District's web site.

EQUAL EDUCATION OPPORTUNITY

This District provides an equal educational opportunity for all students. Any person who believes that s/he has been discriminated against on the basis of his/her race, color, disability, religion, gender, or national origin while at school or a school activity should immediately contact the School District's Compliance Officer(s):

Becky Krall
Director of Student Services
614-873-8617
krallbe@japioneers.org

Complaints will be investigated in accordance with the procedures described on page 53 of this Handbook. Any student making a complaint or participating in a school investigation will be protected from retaliation. The Compliance Officer(s) can provide additional information concerning equal access to educational opportunity.

SCHOOL DAY

Operational hours for Jonathan Alder Junior High School are from 7:20am to 2:50pm. Classes begin at 7:35am and end at 2:20pm.

Students should plan to arrive at school approximately fifteen minutes before class begins. Any student arriving before must go directly to the lobby or gym and remain there until the first bell. Any student arriving after the tardy bell must sign in at the office. Students are to leave the building by 2:25 unless participating in a supervised after school activity.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

The School's rules and procedures are designed to allow students to be educated in a safe and orderly environment. All students are expected to follow staff members' directions and to obey all school rules.

Students must arrive at school on time, prepared to learn and participate. If, for some reason, this is not possible, the student should seek help from the school counselor.

In order to keep parents informed of their child's academic performance, Canvas, an online learning management system, will be utilized to provide grades for each individual. Parents and students may access this tool which will provide information on a regular basis. When concerns arise, parents or students are encouraged to contact teachers to clarify any questions that may exist. If the situation is not resolved, please contact the principal. Other forms of communication may be used to report academic or other issues. Some of these methods include but are not limited to: email, phone calls, text, facsimile, hand delivery, etc. Many times it will be the responsibility of the student to deliver the information. Parents have the option of receiving communication from the School via email and/or facsimile by filling out the appropriate form available in the school's administrative office. 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 his/her educational goals.

STUDENT WELL BEING

Student safety is the responsibility of both students and staff. Staff members are familiar with emergency procedures such as evacuation procedures, fire and tornado drills, safety drills in the event of a terrorist or other violent attack, and accident reporting procedures. If a student is aware of any dangerous situation or accident, s/he must notify a staff person immediately.

State law requires that all students have an emergency medical authorization completed and signed by a parent or guardian on file in the School office.

Students with specific health care needs should deliver written notice about such needs, along with physician documentation, to the School office.

SECTION I - GENERAL INFORMATION

ENROLLING IN THE SCHOOL

In general, State law requires students to enroll in the school district in which their parent or legal guardian reside unless enrolling under the District's open enrollment policy.

New students under the age of 18 must be enrolled by their parent or legal guardian. When enrolling, parents must provide copies of the following:

- A. a birth certificate or similar document
- B. court papers allocating parental rights and responsibilities, or custody (if appropriate)
- C. proof of residency
- D. proof of immunizations

Under certain circumstances, temporary enrollment may be permitted. In such cases, parents will be notified about documentation required to establish permanent enrollment.

Students enrolling from another school must have an official transcript from their previous school in order to have credits transferred. The Jonathan Alder school counselors will assist in obtaining the transcript, if not presented at the time of enrollment.

Homeless students who meet the Federal definition of homeless may enroll and will be under the District Liaison Homeless Children with regard to enrollment procedures.

New students 18 years of age or older are not required to be accompanied by a parent when enrolling. When residing with a parent, these students are encouraged to include the parents in the enrollment process. When conducting themselves in school, adult students have the responsibilities of both student and parent.

In addition, if a new student resides in the District with a grandparent and is the subject of a:
(1) power of attorney designating the grandparent as the attorney-in-fact; or
(2) a caretaker authorization affidavit executed by the grandparent that provides the grandparent with authority over the care, physical custody, and control of the child, including the ability to enroll the child in school, consent in all school related matters, and discuss with the District the child's educational progress, the student's grandparent may enroll the child in school on a tuition-free basis. However, in addition to the above referenced documents that are typically required for enrollment, the grandparent must provide the District with a duly executed and notarized copy of a power of attorney or caretaker authorization affidavit.

A student suspended or expelled by another public school in Ohio may be temporarily denied admission to the District's schools during the period of suspension or expulsion even if that student would otherwise be entitled to attend school in the District. Likewise, a student expelled or otherwise removed for disciplinary purposes from a public school in another state and the period of expulsion or removal has not expired may be temporarily denied admission to the District's schools during the period of expulsion or removal or until the expiration of the period of expulsion or removal which the student would have received in the District had the student

committed the offense while enrolled in the District. Prior to denying admission, however, the Superintendent shall offer the student an opportunity for a hearing to review the circumstances of the suspension or expulsion and any other factors the Superintendent determines to be relevant.

If a student has been recently discharged or released from the custody of the Department of Youth Services (DYS) and is seeking admittance or re-admittance into the District, the student will not be admitted until the following records, which are required to be released by DHS to the Superintendent, have been received:

- A. an updated copy of the student's transcript;
- B. a report of the student's behavior while in DHS custody;
- C. the student's current IEP, if one has been developed for the child; and
- D. a summary of the instructional record of the child's behavior.

Foreign students and foreign-exchange students (from recognized and approved student programs) are eligible for admission on the same basis as other nonresident students.

SCHEDULING AND ASSIGNMENT

Schedules are provided to each student at the beginning of the school year or upon enrollment. A number of factors are taken into consideration when scheduling students and final decisions will be made by the administration. Schedules are based on the student's needs and available class space. Any changes in a student's schedule should be handled through the school counseling department. Students may be denied course enrollment due to lack of available space or the need for the student to meet established criteria. Students are expected to follow their schedules. Any variation must be approved with a pass or schedule change.

EARLY DISMISSAL

No student may leave school prior to dismissal time without a parent or guardian either submitting a signed written request or coming to the School Office personally to request the release. No student will be released to a person other than a custodial parent(s) or guardian without a written permission note signed by the custodial parent(s) or guardian.

WITHDRAWAL/TRANSFER FROM SCHOOL

No student under the age of eighteen (18) is allowed to withdraw from school without the written consent of his/her parents and in compliance with State law. A student who otherwise withdraws from school shall be reported to the juvenile judge of the county and to the Bureau of Motor Vehicles for suspension of their driver's license, if s/he is under the age of 18. Parents must notify the Principal about plans to transfer their child to another school. School records, including disciplinary records of suspension and expulsion, will be transferred to the new school within 14 days of the parents' notice or request.

IMMUNIZATIONS

Students must be current with all immunizations required by law, including but not limited to poliomyelitis, measles, diphtheria, rubella, pertussis, tetanus, and mumps, or have an authorized exemption from State immunization requirements. Kindergarten students must be immunized against Hepatitis B and chicken pox. For the safety of all students, the school principal may remove a student from school or establish a deadline for meeting State requirements if a student does not have the necessary immunizations or authorized exemption. In the event of a chicken pox epidemic, the Superintendent may temporarily deny admission to a student otherwise exempted from the chicken pox immunization requirement. Any questions about immunizations or exemptions should be directed to the school nurse.

EMERGENCY MEDICAL AUTHORIZATION

A complete Emergency Medical Authorization Form must be on file with the School in order for a student to participate in any activity off school grounds, including field trips, spectator trips, athletic and other extracurricular activities, and co-curricular activities. The Emergency Medical Authorization form is provided at the time of enrollment and at the beginning of each school year.

USE OF MEDICATIONS

Students who must take prescribed medication during the school day, must comply with the following guidelines:

A. Parents should, determine with the counsel of their child's prescriber whether the medication schedule can be adjusted to avoid administering medication during school hours.

B. The appropriate form must be filed with the respective building principal before the student will be allowed to begin taking any medication during school hours or to use an inhaler to self-administer asthma medication. Such forms must be filed annually and as necessary for any change in the medication.

C. All medications must be registered with the Principal's Office and must be delivered to school in the original containers in which they were dispensed by the prescribing physician or licensed pharmacist, labeled with the date, the student's name, and the exact dosage to be administered.

D. Medication that is brought to the office will be properly secured. Except as noted below, medication must be delivered to the Principal's Office by the student's parent or guardian or by another responsible adult at the parent or guardian's request. Except as noted below, students may not bring medication to school. Students may carry emergency medications for allergies and/or reactions, or asthma inhalers during school hours provided the student has written permission from a parent or physician and has submitted the proper forms. In the case of epinephrine auto-injectors ("epi pens"), in addition to written permission and submission of proper forms, the parent or student must provide a back up dose to the school nurse. Students are strictly prohibited from transferring emergency medication, epi pens, or inhalers to any other student for their use or possession.

Medication may be conveyed to school directly by the parent or transported by transportation personnel (bus driver and/or bus aide) at parental request. This should be arranged in advance.

If, for supportable reasons, the Principal wishes to discontinue the privilege of a student self-administering a medication, except for the possession and use of asthma inhalers, the parent(s) shall be notified of the decision in sufficient time for an alternative means of administration to be established.

E. 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.

F. The parents shall have sole responsibility to instruct their child to take the medication at the scheduled time.

G. The principal will maintain a log noting the personnel designated to administer

medication, as well as the date and the time of day that administration is required. This log will be maintained along with the prescriber's written request and the parent's written release.

Nonprescribed (Over-the-Counter) Medications

No staff member will dispense non-prescribed, over-the-counter (OTC) medication to any student without prior parent authorization. Parents may authorize administration of a non-prescribed medication on forms that are available from the Principal's Office. Physician authorization is not required in such cases.

If a student is found using or possessing a non-prescribed medication without parent authorization, the student will be brought to the School office while the student's parents are contacted for authorization. The medication will be confiscated until written authorization is received.

Any student who distributes medication of any kind or who is found in possession of unauthorized medication is in violation of the School's Code of Conduct and will be disciplined in accordance with the drug-use provision of the Code.

Students shall be permitted to possess and self-administer over-the counter topical sunscreen products while on school property or at a school-sponsored event.

A student may possess and use a metered dose inhaler or a dry powder inhaler to alleviate asthmatic symptoms or before exercise to prevent the onset of asthmatic symptoms, at school or at any activity, event, or program sponsored by or in which the student's school is a participant if the appropriate form is completed and on file in the Principal's Office.

A student who is authorized to possess and use a metered dose or dry powder inhaler may not transfer possession of any inhaler or other medication to any other student.

INJURY AND ILLNESS

All injuries must be reported to a teacher or the office. If the injuries are 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 and attempt to make contact with the student's parents.

A student who becomes ill during the school day should request permission to go to the office. An appropriate adult in the office will determine whether the student should remain in school or go home. No student will be released from school without proper parental permission.

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. The School's professional staff may remove or isolate a student who has been ill or has been exposed to a communicable disease or highly-transient pest, such as lice. Specific communicable diseases include diphtheria, scarlet fever, strep infections, whooping cough, mumps, measles, rubella, and other conditions indicated by the Local and State Health Departments.

Any removal will be limited to the contagious period as specified in the School's administrative guidelines.

CONTROL OF NONCASUAL CONTACT COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

The School District has an obligation to protect staff and students from non-casual-contact communicable diseases. When a non-casual-contact communicable disease is suspected, the student's health will be reviewed by a panel of resource people, including the County Health Department. The School will protect the privacy of the person affected and those in contact with the affected person. Students and staff will be permitted to remain in school unless there is definitive evidence to warrant exclusion. Non-casual-contact communicable diseases include sexually transmitted diseases, AIDS, ARCAIDS Related Complex, HIV, Hepatitis B, and other diseases that may be specified by the State Board of Health. As required by Federal law, parents will be requested to have their child's blood checked for HIV and HBV when the child bleeds at school and students or staff members are exposed to the blood. Any testing is subject to laws protecting confidentiality.

CONTROL OF BLOODBORNE PATHOGENS

The School District seeks to provide a safe educational environment for students and take appropriate measures to protect those students who may be exposed to blood-borne pathogens in the school environment and/or during their participation in school-related activities. While the risks of students being exposed to blood-borne pathogens may be low, students must assume that all body fluids are potentially infectious and must take precaution to follow universal procedures in order to reduce such risks and minimize and/or prevent the potential for accidental infection. Students may be exposed to blood-borne pathogens in situations, including, but not limited to the following:

Engaging in activities with other students in the school environment (e.g., physical education class) where physical injuries or other actions that can cause bleeding or exposure to saliva and other body fluids may occur.

Working with equipment in the school environment that can cause cuts or similar injuries that produce bleeding.

Participating in extracurricular activities (i.e., athletic activities) where physical injuries or other actions that can cause bleeding may occur.

Whenever a student has contact with blood or other potentially infectious material, s/he must immediately notify his/her teacher, who will contact the school nurse, a secretary or an administrator and assist the student in completing the requisite documents (e.g., Form 8453.02 F1 Exposure Report).

The parents of a student who is exposed will be contacted immediately regarding the exposure and encouraged to have the student's blood tested for Hepatitis B and HIV either by his/her physician or an appropriate medical health service. The student's parents are encouraged to consult with the student's physician concerning any necessary post-exposure treatment.

The student's parent will also be asked to provide a copy of the test results and any post-exposure treatment for maintenance in the student's educational record in accordance with the Federal and State laws concerning confidentiality.

The parents of the student who caused the exposure will also be contacted immediately and advised to have the student's blood tested for Hepatitis B and HIV virus either in cooperation with his/her physician or an appropriate medical health service.

The student's parents will be asked to provide a copy of the test results for maintenance in the student's educational record in accordance with Federal and State laws concerning confidentiality.

The student's parents will be encouraged to allow the District to release their child's name to the exposed student's parents, in the event serious health issues are presented as a result of the exposure.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

The American's with Disabilities Act (A.D.A.) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act (Section 504) prohibit discrimination against persons with a disability in any program receiving Federal financial assistance. This protection applies not just to students, but to all individuals who have access to the District's programs and facilities.

The laws define a person with a disability as anyone who:

- A. Has a mental or physical impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities;
- B. Has a record of such an impairment; or
- C. Is regarded as having such an impairment.

The District has specific responsibilities under these two laws, which include identifying, reviewing and, if the child is determined to be eligible, affording access to appropriate educational accommodation.

Additionally, in accordance with State and Federal mandates, the District seeks out, assesses and appropriately services students with disabilities. Staff members use a comprehensive child study process to systematically screen, assess and, if appropriate, place students in special education and related services. Students are entitled to a free appropriate public education in the "least restrictive environment."

A student can access special education and related services through the proper evaluation procedures. Parent involvement in this procedure is important and required by Federal (IDEIA, A.D.A. Section 504) and State law. Contact Becky Krall at 614-873-8617 to inquire about evaluation procedures, programs, and services.

HOMELESS STUDENTS

Homeless students will be provided with a free and appropriate public education in the same manner as other students served by the District. Homeless students are eligible to receive transportation services, participate in education programs for students with disabilities or limited English proficiency, participate in gifted and talented programs, and receive meals under school nutrition programs. Homeless students will not be denied enrollment based on lack of proof of residency. For additional information contact the liaison for Homeless Students at 614-873-4642.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH IN FOSTER CARE

Students who meet the Federal definition of "in foster care", including those who are awaiting foster care placement, will be provided a free appropriate public education (FAPE) in the same manner as all other students of the District. For additional information see Policy 5111.03.

PROTECTION AND PRIVACY OF STUDENT RECORDS

The School District maintains many student records including both directory information and confidential information.

Directory information includes: See Board of Education Policy 8330

Directory information can be provided upon request to any individual, other than a forprofit organization, even without the written consent of a parent. Parents may refuse to allow the Board to disclose any or all “directory information” upon written notification to the Board. For further information about the items included within the category of directory information and instructions on how to prohibit its release you may consult the Board’s annual *Family Education Rights and Privacy Act* (FERPA) notice which can be found online at www.alder.k12.oh.us under Board of Education Policies.

Other than directory information, access to all other student records is protected by FERPA and Ohio law. Except in limited circumstances as specifically defined in State and Federal law, the School District is prohibited from releasing confidential education records to any outside individual or organization without the prior written consent of the parents, or the adult student, as well as those individuals who have matriculated and entered a postsecondary educational institution at any age. The Board will provide access or release directory information to armed forces recruiters unless the parent or student request that prior written consent be obtained. See Form 8330 F13.

Confidential records include test scores, psychological reports, behavioral data, disciplinary records, and communications with family and outside service providers.

Students and parents have the right to review and receive copies of all educational records. Costs for copies of records may be charged to the parent. To review student records please provide a written notice identifying requested student records to the building principal. You will be given an appointment with the appropriate person to answer any questions and to review the requested student records.

Parents and adult students have the right to amend a student record when they believe that any of the information contained in the record is inaccurate, misleading or violates the student’s privacy. A parent or adult student must request the amendment of a student record in writing and if the request is denied, the parent or adult student will be informed of his/her right to a hearing on the matter.

Consistent with the Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA), no student shall be required, as a part of the school program or the District’s curriculum, without prior written consent of the student (if an adult, or an emancipated minor) or, if an unemancipated minor, his/her 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 the student's parents;
- B. mental or psychological problems of the student or the student's family;
- C. sex behavior or attitudes;
- D. illegal, antisocial, 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 his/her 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 building principal with requests 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 principal.

The Superintendent will notify parents of students in the District, at least annually at the beginning of the school year, of the specific or approximate dates during the school year when the following activities are scheduled or expected to be scheduled:

- A. activities involving the collection, disclosure, or use of personal information collected from students for the purpose of marketing or for selling that information or otherwise providing that information to others for that purpose); and
- B. the administration of any survey by a third party that contains one or more of the items described in A through H above.

The Family Policy Compliance Office in the U.S. Department of Education administers both FERPA and 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/fpc

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 AND FINES

Students will be provided necessary textbooks for courses of instruction without cost. In accordance with State law, Jonathan Alder Junior High School charges specific fees for selected activities and materials.

The yearly school fees are posted at the building's website.

Charges may also be imposed for loss, damage or destruction of school apparatus, equipment, musical instruments, library materials, textbooks and for damage to school buildings or property. Students using school property and equipment can be fined for excessive wear and abuse of the property and equipment.

Fees may be waived in situations where there is financial hardship.

Students can avoid late fines by promptly returning borrowed materials.

Failure to pay fines, fees, or charges may result in the withholding of grades and credits.

STUDENT FUNDRAISING

Students participating in school-sponsored groups and activities may solicit funds from other students, staff members, and members of the community in accordance with school guidelines. The following general rules apply to all fundraisers:

Crowdfunding activities are governed by Policy and Administrative Guideline 6605.

Students involved in the fund-raiser must not interfere with students participating in other activities when soliciting funds.

Students may not participate in a fund-raising activity for a group in which they are not members without the approval of the students' counselor.

Students may not participate in fund-raising activities off school property without proper supervision by approved staff or other adults.

Students may not engage in house-to-house canvassing for any fund raising activity.

Students may not 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.

Students may not sell any item or service in school without the prior approval of the Principal.

Violation of this policy may lead to disciplinary action.

STUDENT VALUABLES

Students should not 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 is not liable for any loss or damage to personal valuables.

STUDENT LOCKERS

Each student will be assigned a locker. No student is to change this assignment without approval from the office. Students are responsible for the care of their locker and will be charged for damages. Students are not to deface or permanently attach items to their locker. As the school retains ownership and control of lockers assigned to students, school officials may open locked or unlocked student lockers for justifiable reasons. Students need to promptly report any problem with your locker to the office. Please do this in writing, including your name, locker number, and the nature of the problem. Students are asked not to decorate their lockers with any items that may mar the finish of the locker on the inside or the outside. Only magnets should be used to hang mirrors and other items. Items with self-adhesives should not be used.

MEAL SERVICE

The School participates in the National School Lunch Program and makes lunches available to students at costs detailed on the Food Service website.

- Ala carte items are available. Students may also bring their own lunch to school to be eaten in the School's cafeteria.
- No student may leave school premises during the lunch period without specific written permission from the Principal.
- No student may utilize food delivery services without prior permission from administration

Applications for the School's Free and Reduced-Priced Meal program are distributed to all students. If a student does not receive an application form and believes s/he is eligible, contact contact our Food Service Director via the Food Service website.

SAFETY AND SECURITY

- A. All visitors must report to the office when they arrive at school.
- B. All visitors are given and required to wear a building pass while they are in the building.
- C. Staff are expected to question people in the building whom they do not recognize and who are not wearing a building 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. As many unneeded outside doors as possible are locked during the school day.
- F. Portions of the building that will not be needed after the regular school days are closed off.
- E. All District employees are to wear photo-identification badges while in District schools and offices or on District property.

FIRE, TORNADO, AND SAFETY DRILLS

The School complies with all fire safety laws and will conduct fire drills in accordance with State law. The School conducts tornado drills during the tornado season following procedures prescribed by the State. The alarm system for tornadoes consists of going on the overhead speakers and announcing what is occurring. Teachers will provide specific instructions on how to proceed in the case of fire or tornado and will oversee the safe, prompt, and orderly evacuation of the building in such cases.

Safety drills will be conducted per State law specifications. Teachers will provide specific instruction on the appropriate procedures to follow in situations where students must be secured in the building rather than evacuated. These situations can include a terrorist threat, a person in possession of a deadly weapon on school property, or other acts of violence.

EMERGENCY CLOSING AND DELAYS

If the school must be closed or the opening delayed because of inclement weather or other conditions, the School will notify the following radio and television stations:

- Radio - 610 AM & 920 AM
- TV - Channels 4, 6, 10 & 28
- Families registered for "One Call" will receive notification via phone / text
- Information concerning school closings or delays can also be found on the School's web page at www.alder.k12.oh.us

Parents and students are responsible for knowing about emergency closings and delays.

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 *Preparedness for Toxic Hazard and Asbestos Hazard Policy* and asbestos management plan is available for inspection at the Board offices upon request.

VISITORS

Visitors, particularly parents, are welcome at the School. Visitors must report to the office upon entering the School to sign in and obtain a pass. Any visitor found in the building without signing in or having a pass shall be reported to the administration. If a person wishes to confer with a member of the staff, s/he should call for an appointment prior to coming to the School in order to schedule a mutually convenient meeting time.

Students may not bring visitors to school without prior written permission from the administration.

USE OF THE LIBRARY

The library is available to students throughout the school day. Passes may be obtained from a student's teacher or from the librarian. Books may be checked out for a period of time specified. To check out any other materials, contact the librarian.

In order to avoid late fees, all materials checked out of the library must be returned to the within the prescribed time determined during check-out.

USE OF SCHOOL EQUIPMENT AND FACILITIES

Students must receive teacher permission before using any equipment or materials in the classroom. Students must seek permission from the Principal prior to using any other school equipment or facility. Students are responsible for the proper use and protection of any equipment or facility they are permitted to use.

LOST AND FOUND

The lost and found area is in the cafeteria. Students who have lost items, other than clothing, should check the office first and may retrieve their items if they give a proper description. Unclaimed items will be removed throughout the school year.

USE OF TELEPHONES/ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Students may use the landline office telephones with permission. The use of a cell phone is prohibited during school hours unless a teacher or administrator grants permission. Students may have their phone at school but must remain in their locker unless given specific permission to utilize it for a specific activity or time period. Additionally, if a teacher or administrator asks a student to; turn off their phone/device, hand over their phone/device, or to not use the phone/device, the student must comply. Failure to comply is considered disrespect and insubordination.

Classroom phones are to be used by staff members with limited allowance for student use with teacher permission. However, these phones may be used by anyone in an emergency situation.

Office telephones may not be used for personal calls. Except in an emergency, students will not be called to the office to receive a telephone call.

Students are not to use telephones to call parents to receive permission to leave school. Office personnel will initiate all calls on behalf of a student seeking permission to leave school.

USE OF WIRELESS COMMUNICATION DEVICES

Students may possess wireless communication devices (WCDs) in school, on school property, during after school activities (e.g. extra-curricular activities), and at school-related functions. WCDs are permitted to be used only when instructed by an educator.

A "wireless communication device" is a device that emits an audible signal, vibrates, displays a message, or otherwise summons or delivers a communication to the possessor. The following devices are examples of WCDs: cellular and wireless telephones, Smartphones, WiFi-enabled or broadband access devices, laptops, and other devices that allow a person to record and/or transmit, on either a real time or delayed basis, sound, video or still images, text, or other information. Students may use WCDs while riding to and from school on a school bus or other vehicle provided by the Board, or on a school bus or Board-provided vehicle during school-sponsored activities, at the discretion of the bus driver, classroom teacher, and/or

sponsor/advisor/coach. Distracting behavior that creates an unsafe environment will not be tolerated.

Also, during after school activities when directed by the administrator or sponsor, WCDs shall be powered completely off (not just placed into vibrate or silent mode).

The requirement that WCDs must be powered completely off will not apply when the student obtains prior approval from the building principal or is using the WCD for an educational or instructional purpose (e.g. taking notes, recording a class lecture, writing papers) with the teacher's permission and supervision.

Students are prohibited from using WCDs to capture, record or transmit the words (i.e. audio) and/or images (i.e., pictures/video) of any student, staff member or other person in the school or while attending a school-related activity, without express prior notice and explicit consent for the capture, recording or transmission of such words or images. Using a WCD to take or transmit audio and/or pictures/video of an individual without his/her consent is considered an invasion of privacy and is not permitted, unless authorized by the building principal.

The use of WCDs that contain built-in cameras (i.e. devices that take still or motion pictures, whether in a digital or other format) is prohibited in locker rooms and bathrooms.

No expectation of confidentiality will exist in the use of WCDs on school premises/property.

Students are prohibited from using a WCD in any way that might reasonably create in the mind of another person an impression of being threatened, humiliated, harassed, embarrassed or intimidated. See Policy 5517.01 – Bullying and Other Forms of Aggressive Behavior. In particular, students are prohibited from using their WCDs to: (1) transmit material that is threatening, obscene, disruptive, or sexually explicit or that can be construed as harassment or disparagement of others based upon their race, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, age, disability, religion, or political beliefs; and (2) send, share, view or possess pictures, text messages, e-mails or other materials of a sexual nature (i.e., sexting) in electronic or any other form. Violation of these prohibitions shall result in disciplinary action. Furthermore, such actions will be reported to local law enforcement and child services as required by law.

Students are also prohibited from using a WCD to capture and/or transmit test information or any other information in a manner constituting fraud, theft, cheating, or academic dishonesty. Likewise, students are prohibited from using their WCDs to receive such information.

Possession of a WCD by a student is a privilege that may be forfeited by any student who fails to abide by the terms of this policy, or otherwise engages in misuse of this privilege.

Violations of this policy may result in disciplinary action and/or confiscation of the WCD. The building principal may also refer the matter to law enforcement if the violation involves an illegal activity (e.g. child pornography). Any search will be conducted in accordance with Policy [5771](#) – Search and Seizure. If multiple offenses occur, a student may lose his/her privilege to bring a WCD to school for a designated length of time or on a permanent basis.

Students are personally and solely responsible for the care and security of their WCDs. The Board assumes no responsibility for theft, loss, damage, or vandalism to WCDs brought onto its property, or the unauthorized use of such devices.

Parents/Guardians are advised that the best way to get in touch with their child during the school day is by calling the school office.

Students may use school phones to contact parents/guardians during the school day with the Principal's approval.

Note: "Sexting" is prohibited at any time on school property or at school functions. Sexting is the electronic transmission of sexual messages or pictures, usually through cell phone text messaging. Such conduct not only is potentially dangerous for the involved students, but can lead to unwanted exposure of the messages and images to others, and could result in criminal violations related to the transmission or possession of child pornography. Such conduct will be subject to discipline and possible confiscation of the WCD.

ADVERTISING OUTSIDE ACTIVITIES

Students may not post announcements or advertisements for outside activities without receiving prior approval from the Principal. The Principal will attempt to respond to a request for approval within 1 school day of its receipt.

Students may not use or post notices of school songs, colors, mascots, symbols, building layouts, or school history without prior approval from the Principal.

Locations for postings will be designated by the Principal.

POSTING SIGNS/BANNERS IN HALLWAYS

Students are not permitted to display signs, banners, etc. without authorization from an advisor or the principal. Nothing should be put on the inside or outside of lockers without prior permission.

SECTION II - ACADEMICS

COURSE OFFERINGS

Current course offerings are available by contacting the school office.

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 minor student may participate in any school-sponsored trip without parental consent and a current emergency medical form on file in the office. Medications normally administered at school will be administered while on field trips. The Student Code of Conduct applies to all field trips.

Attendance rules apply to all field trips. Additionally, students with significant attendance or discipline violations may not be permitted to attend trips at the discretion of the building administrators. In these cases, parents will be notified prior to the excursion.

While the District encourages students to participate in field trips, alternative assignments will be provided for any student whose parent does not give permission for the student to attend.

Students who violate school rules may lose the privilege to go on field trips and may be subject to disciplinary action according to the situation.

GRADES

Jonathan Alder Junior High School has a standard grading procedure, as well as additional notations that indicate work in progress or incomplete work. Grades indicate the extent to which the student has acquired and demonstrated the necessary learning. In general, students are assigned grades based upon test results, homework, projects, and classroom participation. Each teacher may place a different emphasis on these areas when determining a grade and will so inform the students at the beginning of the course. If a student is not sure how his/her grade will be determined, s/he should ask the teacher.

The School applies the following grading system:

90 to 100 = A = Excellent achievement
80 to 89 = B = Good achievement
70 to 79 = C = Satisfactory achievement
60 to 69 = D = Minimum Acceptable achievement
F = Failure
I = Incomplete
P = Acceptable achievement

Grading Periods

Students grades, indicating their grades for each course of study for that portion of the academic term, will be posted on Canvas at the end of each nine week period. Physical grade cards may not be distributed.

When a student appears to be at risk of failure, reasonable efforts will be made to notify the parents so they can talk with the teacher about what actions can be taken to improve poor grades.

PROMOTION, ACCELERATION, AND RETENTION

Promotion

A student will be promoted to the succeeding grade level when s/he has:

- A. completed the course and State-mandated requirements at the presently assigned grade;
- B. achieved the instructional objectives set for the present grade;
- C. demonstrated sufficient proficiency to permit him/her to move ahead in the educational program of the next grade;
- D. demonstrated the degree of social, emotional, and physical maturation necessary for successful learning experience in the next grade.

BOE Policy 5410

Acceleration

A student may be accelerated (either by whole grade or by subject area) when his/her performance and measured ability significantly exceeds that of his/her grade level peers. Students can be nominated for acceleration by teachers, administrators, parents, and the student him/herself. Decisions regarding acceleration are detailed in Board of Education policy.

BOE Policy 5408.

Retention

A student may be retained at his/her current grade level when s/he has failed to achieve the instructional objectives set forth at the current grade level that are requisite for success at the succeeding grade level.

A student may be retained at his/her current grade level based on the following criteria:

- A. failure to demonstrate proficiency in a class necessary for graduation
- B. failure to achieve the instructional objectives at the current grade level that are requisite for success at the next grade level
- C. scoring at the below basic level on any State-mandated assessment test

A student will be retained if s/he is truant (absent without excuse) for more than ten percent (10%) of the required attendance days of the current school year AND has failed two (2) or more of the required curriculum subject areas in the current grade. Even if s/he falls in the preceding category, a student may be promoted if the Principal and the teachers of the classes that the student failed agree that the student is academically prepared to be promoted.

BOE Policy 5410

COLLEGE CREDIT PLUS PROGRAM

Any student in grades 7 through 12 may enroll in a postsecondary program provided s/he meets the requirements established by law and by the participating college or university. A student may be denied high school credit for any portions of or for the entire class if taken during a period of expulsion. Student participation requires written consent of the Superintendent and, for students under 18, written consent of the parents or attendance in counseling services offered with this educational option. Any interested student should contact the guidance department to obtain the necessary information.

BOE Policy 2271

RECOGNITION OF STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

Students who display significant achievements during the course of the year are recognized for their accomplishments. Areas that may merit recognition include, but are not limited to, academics, athletics, performing arts, citizenship, and volunteerism. Recognition for such activities is initiated by the staff and coordinated by the guidance department, secretaries, and administration.

HOMEWORK

Homework may be assigned. Student grades will reflect the completion of all work, including outside assignments. Homework is also part of the student's preparation for the assessment tests and graduation.

COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY AND NETWORKS

The District provides Internet services to its students. The District's Internet system has a limited educational purpose, and has not been established as a public access service or a public forum. Student use of the District's computers, network and Internet services/connection ("Network") are governed by the following principles and guidelines, and the Student Code of Conduct. Users have a limited privacy expectation in the content of their personal files and records of their online activity while on the Network.

Parents and students are advised that the Board may not be able to technologically limit access through the Board's Internet connection to only those services that have been authorized for the purpose of instruction, study and research related to the curriculum.

Because it serves as a gateway to any publicly available file server in the world, the Internet opens classrooms and students to electronic information resources that have not been screened by educators for use by students of various ages. The District utilizes a Technology Protection Measure, which is a specific technology that will protect against (e.g., filter or block) access to visual displays/depictions that are obscene, pornographic, and materials that are harmful to minors, as defined by the Children's Internet Protection Act. At the discretion of the Board or the Superintendent, the Technology Protection Measure may be configured to protect against access to other material considered inappropriate for students to access. The District further utilizes software and/or hardware to monitor online activity of students to restrict access to child pornography and other material that is obscene, objectionable, inappropriate and/or harmful to minors. Nevertheless, parents/guardians are advised that a determined user may be able to gain access to services on the Internet that are not authorized for educational purposes. In fact, it is impossible to guarantee students will not gain access through the Internet to information and communications that they and/or their parents/guardians may find inappropriate, offensive, objectionable or controversial. Parents/Guardians assume risks by consenting to allow their child to participate in the use of the Internet. Parents/Guardians of minors are responsible for setting and conveying the standards that their children should follow when using the Internet. The District supports and respects each family's right to decide whether to apply for independent student access to the Internet.

Students are encouraged to use the "Network" for educational purposes. Use of the Network is a privilege, not a right. When using the Network, students must conduct themselves in a responsible, efficient, ethical, and legal manner. Students are responsible for good behavior on the District's computers/network and the Internet just as they are in classrooms, school hallways, and other school premises and school sponsored events. Communications on the Internet are often public in nature. General school rules for behavior and communication apply. Unauthorized or inappropriate use of the Network, including any violation of these rules, may result in cancellation of the privilege, disciplinary action consistent with the Student Code of Conduct, and/or civil or criminal liability. Prior to accessing the Network, students must sign the Student Network and Internet Acceptable Use and Safety Agreement. Parent permission is required for minors. Parents are encouraged to discuss their values with their children so that students can make decisions regarding their use of the Network that is in accord with their personal and family values, in addition to the Board's standards.

Students must complete a mandatory training session/program regarding the appropriate use of technology and online safety and security as specified in BOE Policy 7540.03 – Student Network and Internet Acceptable Use and Safety before being permitted to access the Network and/or being assigned an email address.

Smooth operation of the Network relies upon users adhering to the following guidelines. The guidelines outlined below are not exhaustive but are provided so that users are aware of their general responsibilities.

- A. Students are responsible for their behavior and communication on the Network.
- B. Students may only access the Network by using their assigned Network

account. Use of another person's account/address/password is prohibited. Students may not allow other users to utilize their account/address/password. Students may not go beyond their authorized access.

- C. Students may not intentionally seek information on, obtain copies of, or modify files, data or passwords belonging to other users, or misrepresent other users on the Network.
- D. Students may not use the Network to engage in "hacking" or other illegal activities (e.g., software pirating; intellectual property violations; engaging in slander, libel, or harassment; threatening the life or safety of another; stalking; transmission of obscene materials or child pornography; fraud; sale of illegal substances and goods).
- E. Transmission of any material in violation of any State or Federal law or regulation, or Board policy is prohibited.
- F. Any use of the Network for commercial purposes (e.g., purchasing or offering for sale personal products or services by students), advertising, or political lobbying is prohibited.
- G. Use of the Network to engage in cyber-bullying is prohibited. "Cyber-bullying" involves the use of information and communication technologies such as email, cell phone and pager text messages, instant messaging (IM), defamatory personal Web sites or MySpace accounts, and defamatory online personal polling Web sites, to support deliberate, repeated, and hostile behavior by an individual or group, that is intended to harm others." For further information on cyber-bullying, visit <http://www.cyberbullying.ca>

Cyber-bullying 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 email 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 photographs/recordings of students or school staff members or post these images on video sharing sites such as You Tube;
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 cyber-bullying off school grounds that disrupt the school environment or interfere with the learning process will be considered violations of the Student Code of Conduct.

H. Students are expected to abide by the following generally accepted rules of network etiquette:

1. Be polite, courteous, and respectful in your messages to others. Use language appropriate to school situations in any communications made through the Network. Do not use obscene, profane, lewd, vulgar, rude, inflammatory, sexually explicit, defamatory, threatening, abusive or disrespectful language in communications through the Network (including, but not limited to, public messages, private messages, and material posted on web pages).
2. Do not engage in personal attacks, including prejudicial or discriminatory attacks.
3. Do not harass another person. Harassment is persistently acting in a manner that distresses or annoys another person. If a student is told by a person to stop sending him/her messages, the student must stop.
4. Do not post information that, if acted upon, could cause damage or a danger of disruption.
5. Never reveal names, addresses, phone numbers, or passwords of yourself or other students, family members, teachers, administrators, or other staff members while communicating on the Internet. This prohibition includes, but is not limited to, disclosing personal identification information on commercial web sites.
6. Do not transmit pictures or other information that could be used to establish your identity without prior approval of a teacher.
7. Never agree to get together with someone you "meet" online without parent approval and participation.
8. Check email frequently and diligently delete old mail on a regular basis from the personal mail directory to avoid excessive use of the electronic mail disk space.
9. Students should promptly disclose to their teacher or other school employee any message they receive that is inappropriate or makes them feel uncomfortable, especially any email that contains pornography. Students should not delete such messages until instructed to do so by a staff member.
10. Students may not hack or enter into restricted web sites. Nor may students enter teacher computers already open or use teacher/staff passwords to gain access to teacher files, grading programs, or any other school related systems.

- I. Malicious use of the Network to develop programs that harass other users or infiltrate a computer or computer system and/or damage the software components of a computer or computing system is prohibited. Students may not use the Network in such a way that would disrupt its use by others. Students must avoid intentionally wasting limited resources. Students may not bypass or attempt to bypass the District's Technology Protection Measure. Students must immediately notify the teacher, principal, or technology coordinator if they identify a possible security problem. Students should not look for security problems, because this may be construed as an unlawful attempt to gain access.
- J. All communications and information accessible via the Internet should be assumed to be private property (i.e. copyrighted and/or trademarked). All copyright issues regarding software, information, and attributions /acknowledgement of authorship must be respected. Rules against plagiarism will be enforced.
- K. Downloading of information onto the Board's hard drives is prohibited, without prior approval from the principal or technology coordinator. If a student transfers files from information services and electronic bulletin board services, the student must check the file with a virus-detection program before opening the file for use. Only public domain software may be downloaded. If a student transfers a file or software program that infects the Network with a virus and causes damage, the student will be liable for any and all repair costs to make the Network once again fully operational.
- L. Students must secure prior approval from a teacher or the principal before joining a Listserv (electronic mailing lists) and should not post personal messages on bulletin boards or "List-servers."
- M. Students may use real-time electronic communication, such as chat or instant messaging, only under the direct supervision of a teacher or in moderated environments that have been established to support educational activities and have been approved by the Board, Superintendent, or principal.
- N. Privacy in communication over the Internet and the Network is not guaranteed. In order to verify compliance with these guidelines, the Board reserves the right to monitor, review, and inspect any directories, files and/or message residing on or sent using the Network. Messages relating to or in support of illegal activities will be reported to the appropriate authorities.
- O. Use of the Internet and any information procured from the Internet is at the student's own risk. The Board makes no warranties of any kind, either express or implied, that the functions or the services provided by or through the Network will be error free or without defect. The Board is not responsible for any damage a user may suffer, including, but not limited to, loss of data, service interruptions, or exposure to inappropriate material or people. The

Board is not responsible for the accuracy or quality of information obtained through the Internet. Information (including text, graphics, audio, video, etc.) from Internet sources used in student papers, reports, and projects should be cited the same as references to printed materials. The Board will not be responsible for financial obligations arising through the unauthorized use of the Network. Students or parents of students will indemnify and hold the Board harmless from any losses sustained as the result of misuse of the Network by the student. Use of the Network by students will be limited to those students whose parents have signed a release of claims for damages against the Board.

- P. File-sharing is strictly prohibited. Students are prohibited from downloading and/or installing file-sharing software or programs on the Network.
- Q. Students may not establish or access web-based email accounts on commercial services through the Network (e.g., Gmail, Hotmail, Yahoo, etc.).
- R. Since there is no central authority on the Internet, each site is responsible for its own users. Complaints received from other sites regarding any of the District's users will be fully investigated and disciplinary action will be taken as appropriate.
- S. Preservation of Resources and Priorities of Use: Computer resources are limited. Because space on disk drives and bandwidth across the lines which connect the Network (both internally and externally) are limited, neither programs nor information may be stored on the system without the permission of the teacher or principal. Each student is permitted reasonable space to store email, web, and personal files. The Board reserves the right to require the purging of files in order to regain disk space. Students who require access to the Network for class or instruction related activities have priority over other users. Students not using the Network for class related activities may be "bumped" by any student requiring access for class or instruction related purposes.

The following hierarchy will prevail in governing access to the Network:

1. Class work, assigned and supervised by a staff member.
2. Class work, specifically assigned but independently conducted.
3. Personal correspondence (checking, composing, and sending email).
4. Training (use of such programs as typing tutors, etc.)
5. Personal discovery ("surfing the Internet").
6. Other uses – access to resources for "other uses" may be further limited during the school day at the discretion of the principal or

specified instructor.

T. Game playing is only permitted with teacher/administrator approval

TRANSMISSION OF RECORDS AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

Parents/Guardians have to complete and return to the District Form 8330 F4a in order to authorize the staff to communicate with the parent/guardian via facsimile and/or electronic mail ("email"). Parents who elect to communicate with a staff member via email are required to keep the District informed of any changes to their email address.

STUDENT ASSESSMENT

In addition to end of course exams and specific class assessments, group tests may be given to students to monitor progress and determine educational mastery levels. These tests help the staff determine instructional needs. Classroom tests are given to assess student progress and assign grades. These are selected or prepared by teachers to assess student achievement on specific objectives. Career and interest surveys may be given to identify particular areas of student interests or talent. These are often given by the guidance staff.

Cheating

A zero (0) may be given on the assignment in addition to disciplinary action. The student's teacher will contact the parent to explain the situation. More severe actions may be taken depending on the situation. Stealing tests, taking pictures of material to be tested or quizzed, or additional forms of cheating will be dealt with accordingly.

PUBLIC SCHOOL CHOICE OPTIONS

If a school within the District has been designated as "persistently dangerous" as defined by State law, students have the right to transfer to another "safe" school in the District. If there is not another "safe" school in the District providing instruction at the students' grade level(s), the Superintendent shall contact neighboring districts and request that they permit students to transfer to a school in one of those districts. Further, if a student is a victim of a violent crime on school property, s/he also has the right to transfer to another school in the District. If there is not another school in the District providing instruction at the student's grade level, the Superintendent shall contact neighboring districts and request that they permit that student to transfer to a school in one of those districts providing instruction at the student's grade level.

LIBRARY, TEXTBOOK, AND INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS

The materials utilized as primary or supplemental instructional materials are selected due to their educational relevance and are aligned to students' standards. The process for selection, curation, and challenge of course materials is outlined in Board Policy 2520.01. Questions about course content and materials should first be addressed with the classroom teacher or library media specialist for explanation and clarification.

SECTION III - STUDENT ACTIVITIES

SCHOOL-SPONSORED CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES

Jonathan Alder Junior High School provides students the opportunity to broaden their learning through curricular-related activities

The Board authorizes the following student groups that are sponsored by a staff member.

Chorus	Student Council
Book Clubs	Power of the Pen
MakerSpace	Destination Imagination
Drama Club	Band
Spelling Bee	Geography Bee
Math Bee	

Extra-curricular activities do not reflect the School curriculum, but are made available to students to allow them to pursue additional worthwhile activities such as recreational sports, drama, and the like. There may be additional expectations or requirements in these activities which will be explained by the coach/advisor.

All students are permitted to participate in the activities of their choosing, as long as they meet the eligibility requirements. Participation in these activities is a privilege and not a right, and students may be prohibited from all or part of their participation in such activities by authorized school personnel without further notice, hearing and/or appeal rights in accordance with Board Policy 5610.05.

NON-SCHOOL SPONSORED CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES

Non-school sponsored student groups may meet in the school building during non-instructional hours. The application for permission to use school facilities can be obtained from the Principal. The applicant must verify that the activity is being initiated by students, that attendance is voluntary, that no school staff person is actively involved in the event, that the event will not interfere with school activities, and that non-school persons do not play a regular role in the meeting. All school rules relating to student conduct and equal opportunity to participate apply to such activities.

Membership in any fraternity, sorority, or other secret society as proscribed by law is not permitted. All groups must comply with School rules and must provide equal opportunity to participate.

No non-district sponsored organization may use the name of the school or school mascot on any materials or information.

ATHLETICS

Jonathan Alder High School provides a variety of athletic activities in which students may participate provided they meet eligibility requirements established by the Board and by the Ohio High School Athletic Association (OHSAA). Participation in these activities is a privilege and not a right, and students may be prohibited from all or part of their participation in such activities by authorized school personnel without further notice, hearing and/or appeal rights in accordance with Board Policy 5610.05.

Jonathan Alder High School fields teams in the following sports: (B=Boys', G=Girls')

Fall	Winter	Spring
Football (B)	Basketball (B&G)	Track (B&G)
Volleyball (G)	Wrestling (B)	
Sideline Cheer (B&G)	Sideline Cheer (B&G)	
Cross Country (B&G)		

For further information, contact Mr. Scott Moyer, the Athletic Director, at 614-873-4635.

ATHLETIC ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY

Participation in extracurricular activities at JAJHS is a privilege extended to all students in attendance. There are expectations that those that choose to participate will abide by all school rules as well as those outlined in the following policy. The privilege to participate can be revoked when deemed appropriate due to a student's failure to follow these guidelines.

Eligibility – All athletes must maintain their eligibility as required by the Ohio High School Athletic Association, passing at least **five** credits towards graduation at **each nine-week period**. Also, students need to abide by the rules that govern the sports as outlined by OHSSA.

In addition to the OHSAA rules, Alder may conduct an eligibility check twice during each athletic season. An ineligible student-athlete will not participate in any athletic contests from the following Monday through Sunday. If the student-athlete becomes ineligible for a second time during the season, he or she will be ineligible for two weeks. The eligibility checks will be made half way through the nine week grading period and two weeks following the initial check. **The 4th 9 week grading period will determine eligibility for the following Fall. Attendance – Students involved in extracurricular activities must attend school at least ½ of the school day to participate in any event that evening. This may be waived with special consent of a school administrator.**

BOE Policies 2430 and 2431

STUDENT EMPLOYMENT

It is recommended that students not take jobs outside of school that could interfere with their success in school. If a student elects to maintain a job in addition to going to school, s/he must first contact his/her counselor to discuss any legal requirements and to obtain any required documents.

STUDENT ATTENDANCE AT SCHOOL EVENTS

Students are encouraged to attend extra curricular events to cheer on their classmates but there are some expectations that come along with that privilege. All spectators should focus on cheering for the Pioneers, not against the opponent. Spectators must not, under any circumstance, engage in jeering or taunting the officials or the other team's players, coaches, or fans. Regardless of the outcome, all players and spectators should display the PBIS qualities that our community has identified and values.

Students need to make sure that attendance at events does not interfere with their school work and home activities. It is strongly advised that students attending evening events as non-participants be accompanied by a parent or adult chaperone. The Board is not responsible for supervising unaccompanied students nor will it be responsible for students who arrive without an adult chaperone.

STUDENT ATTENDANCE AT ASSEMBLIES/PERFORMANCES

At all times the student's behavior should be refined and courteous. An indication of the cultural level of a school is the conduct of its student body at an assembly. Whether guests are present or not, each student is personally responsible for the impression made by the school as a whole. Unacceptable conduct would include whistling, uncalled for clapping, boisterousness, "booing", and talking during a program. Misbehavior during an event may result in a student being asked to leave the area with possible disciplinary action taken.

SECTION IV - STUDENT CONDUCT

ATTENDANCE

School Attendance Policy

Regular attendance is a significant student responsibility at all grade levels. Many studies correlate regular attendance with success in school. Regular attendance means that the academic learning process is not interrupted, less time is spent on makeup assignments, and students benefit from participation and interaction with others in class. Many important lessons are learned through active participation in classroom and other school activities that cannot be replaced by individual study.

Establishing a pattern of good attendance will benefit the student in school and in the workplace. Attendance is important in the development of a high quality work ethic, which will be a significant factor in a student's success with future employers. One of the most important work habits that employers look for in hiring and promoting a person is his/her dependability in coming to work every day on time. This is a habit the School wants to help students develop as early as possible.

Truancy

Unexcused absence from school (truancy) is not acceptable. Students who are truant will receive no credit for school work that is missed. A student will be considered habitually truant if the student is absent without a legitimate excuse for thirty (30) or more consecutive hours, for forty-two (42) or more hours in 1 month, or for seventy-two (72) or more hours in 1 school year. If a student is habitually and the student's parent fails to cause the student's attendance, a complaint will be filed with the Judge of the Juvenile Court in compliance with State law and Board Policy 5200. Habitual truancy can also result in: A. assign the student to a truancy intervention program B. notify the Registrar of Motor Vehicles of the student's absences C. take appropriate legal action D. assignment to an alternative school.

Excused Absences

The educational program offered by this District is predicated upon the presence of the student and requires continuity of instruction and classroom participation. Attendance shall be required of all students enrolled in the schools during the days and hours that the school is in session or during the attendance sessions to which s/he has been assigned.

In accordance with statute, the Superintendent shall require, from the parent of each student of compulsory school age or from an adult student who has been absent from school or from class for any reason, a written statement of the cause for such absence. The Board of Education reserves the right to verify such statements and to investigate the cause of each single absence or prolonged absence.

Repeated infractions of Board policy on attendance may result in suspension or expulsion.

Students may be excused from school for one or more of the following reasons and will be provided an opportunity to make up missed school work and/or tests:

- A. personal illness (a written physician's statement verifying the illness may be required)
 - B. illness in the family necessitating the presence of the child
 - C. quarantine of the home
 - D. death in the family
 - E. necessary work at home due to absence or incapacity of parent(s)/guardian(s)
 - F. observation or celebration of a bona fide religious holiday
 - G. out-of-state travel (up to a maximum of four (4) days per school year) to participate in a District-approved enrichment or extracurricular activity
- Any classroom assignment missed due to the absence shall be completed by the student
- H. such good cause as may be acceptable to the Superintendent
 - I. medical necessary leave for a pregnant student in accordance with Policy 5751

The Board shall consider each student assigned to a program of other guided learning experiences to be in regular attendance for the program provided that s/he reports to such staff member s/he is assigned for guidance at the place in which s/he is conducting study, and regularly demonstrates progress toward the objectives of the course of study.

A student will be considered habitually truant if the student is absent without a legitimate excuse for five (5) or more consecutive school days, for seven (7) or more school days in one (1) month, or twelve (12) or more school days in one (1) school year.

A student will be considered chronically truant if the student is absent without a legitimate excuse for seven (7) or more consecutive school days, for ten (10) or more school days in one (1) month, or for fifteen (15) or more school days in one (1) year.

Legitimate excuses for the absence of a student who is otherwise habitually or chronically truant include but are not limited to:

- A. the student was enrolled in another school district
- B. the student was excused from attendance in accordance with R.C. 3321.04; or
- C. the student has received an age and schooling certificate.

R.C. 3313.664, 3321.01 et seq., 3321.13(B)(2), 3321.19, 3321.191, 3321.22
R.C. 3321.38, 3323.041, 3331.05
A.C. 3301-35-03(G), 3301-47-01, 3301-69-02

Notification of Absence

If a student will be absent, the parents must notify the School at 614-873-4635 by 7:45AM and provide an explanation. If prior contact is not possible, the parents should provide a written excuse as soon as possible after the student's absence. When no excuse is provided, the absence will be unexcused and the student will be identified as truant for that school day. If the offered excuse for a student's absence is questionable or if the number of student absences is excessive, the school staff will notify the parents of the need for improvement in the student's attendance.

When a parent, guardian, or other person having care of a student has failed to initiate a telephone call or other communication notifying the school or building administration of the student's excused or unexcused absence within 120 minutes after the beginning of the school day, the attendance officer or designee for each school building shall make at least one (1) attempt to contact the parent, guardian, or other person having care of any student who is recorded as absent without legitimate excuse within 120 minutes after the beginning of each school day by a method designated by the Superintendent in accordance with Ohio law (see AG 5200).

A skipped class or part of the school day will be identified as an unexcused absence and students will not be permitted to makeup missed class work. The student will also be subject to disciplinary action.

Students with a health condition that causes repeated absences must provide the administration with an explanation of the condition from a registered physician.

Homebound Instruction

The School may arrange for individual instruction at home for students who are unable to attend school because of an accident, illness, or disability. Such instruction may be arranged upon receipt of documentation of the student's condition from a physician. For more information, contact Mrs. Becky Krall at 614-873-5621.

Make-up Work/Tests/Other School Work & Incomplete Grades

It is the responsibility of the student to ask for make-up work from each of the teachers. A student is entitled to the same number of days to make up any work as was missed plus 2 days, unless extenuating circumstances prevail. Incomplete grades will not be issued without permission from the office. If an incomplete grade is issued all work must be made up within two weeks after the end of the grading period. Failure to do so will result in the student receiving an F for the nine weeks in the subject unless prior administrative approval has been given.

Students who are absent from school with an excuse shall be given the opportunity to makeup missed work. The student should contact each teacher as soon as possible to obtain assignments.

- The number of days for completion of make up work will be equivalent to the number of excused days of absence plus 2 days.

If a student misses a teacher's test due to an excused absence, s/he should make arrangements with the teacher to take the test at another time. If s/he misses a State-mandated assessment test or other standardized test, the student should consult with the Principal to arrange for administration of the test at another time.

Suspension from School

Absence from school due to suspension shall be considered an authorized absence. A suspended student will be responsible for making up school work missed due to suspension. It will be the responsibility of the student to contact their teachers and collect the information needed in order to complete the work during the suspension.

The student must complete missed assignments during the suspension and turn them in to the teacher within 2 day(s) after returning to school.

The student will be given credit for properly completed assignments and will receive a grade for any made-up tests.

Unexcused Absences

Any student who is absent from school for all or any part of the day without a legitimate excuse shall be considered truant and the student and his/her parents shall be subject to the truancy laws of the State. (Please refer also to "Truancy" in this handbook.)

If a student under the age of 18, has 10 or more consecutive or 15 total days of unexcused absence during a semester, s/he will be considered habitually absent and will be reported to the Judge of the Juvenile Court and to the Bureau of Motor Vehicles for suspension of his/her driver's license, if appropriate, as a result of this excessive absence.

Tardiness

Students who are repeatedly late to school may be assigned detentions. The policy is as follows: During each grading period a student is permitted to be tardy to school twice without receiving punishment. On the third time and each time thereafter, a detention may be given. The only way to be excused for tardiness is a morning doctor appointment. The student must bring a note from the doctor's office. Detention for tardiness may be served after school. After the sixth tardy in a grading period, additional consequences may be assigned.

Each student is expected to be in his/her assigned location throughout the school day. If a student is late arriving at school, s/he must report to the School office before going to his/her

first assigned location. Any student who is late to class up to 10 minutes shall be disciplined by the teacher. Students who are more than 10 minutes late

- will be considered absent for that instructional period.
- will meet with an administrator to discuss the situation and may be assigned an additional consequence

Vacations During the School Year

It is recommended that parents not 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 to make necessary arrangements. It may be possible for the student to receive certain assignments that may be completed during the trip.

Permit to Leave School

A student must secure written permission to leave the school grounds during school hours. Permission will not be granted without a note from a parent and must be presented before first period starts. Any student who leaves school before dismissal without the consent of the principal may be suspended or subject to disciplinary action. Anyone leaving the building must sign out. Students are not permitted to leave the building to go to the parking lot without permission from the office.

CODE OF CONDUCT

A major component of the educational program (at the school) is to prepare students to become responsible citizens by learning how to conduct themselves properly and in accordance with established standards. Students are expected to behave in accordance with Federal, State and local laws and rules and Board policies and Administrative Guidelines, and in a way that respects the rights and safety of others. Staff will take corrective action to discipline a student and/or to modify the student's behavior when a student's behavior does not fall within these parameters.

School staff may report suspected criminal misconduct by a student to law enforcement. Law enforcement officers will be permitted to carry out necessary law enforcement functions in the schools, including the removal of a student from school grounds in appropriate circumstances.

Expected Behaviors

Students are expected to:

- 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, gender, 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 in the School.

Classroom Environment

It is the responsibility of students, teachers, and administrators to maintain a classroom environment that allows:

- A. a teacher to communicate effectively with all student in the class; and
- B. all students in the class the opportunity to learn.

In addition to the general school rules that are to be observed, individual teachers may have other expectations for their classroom. These will be explained during the first week of school. As noted in the Student Behavior Code, students are expected to comply with any reasonable direction given by any school authority (i.e. faculty, cooks, custodians, staff).

Permission to Leave Class

Students should follow their assigned schedule at all times unless explicit verbal and/or written permission has been granted by the classroom teacher or office staff.

Dress and Grooming

Students are expected to dress appropriately at all times. Any fashion (dress, accessory, or hairstyle) that disrupts the educational process or presents a safety risk will not be permitted. Students should consider the following questions when dressing for school:

- Does my clothing expose too much? (No)
- Does my clothing advertise something that is prohibited to minors? (No)
- Are there obscene, profane, drug-related, gang-related, or inflammatory messages on my clothing? (No)
- Am I dressed appropriately for the weather? (Yes)
- Do I feel comfortable with my appearance? (Yes)

As society's norms for dress and grooming change, it is helpful for students and parents to have some guidelines concerning school policy on controversial questions relating to student dress and grooming. It is impossible to list all of the styles, which might be considered appropriate for school. Likewise, it is impossible to anticipate questions involving dress and grooming which may arise in the future. These guidelines are given to Jonathan Alder Local students to assist them in selecting clothing and grooming practices, which will serve as an indication of their pride in themselves and in their school. The following statements are intended to provide minimal guidelines for a standard of student dress. The major responsibility for meeting these standards may be established by the home. Failure to comply with these standards may result in the student being sent home from school.

- A. School clothing should be neat, clean, properly fitted in styles appropriate for school and community. Attempts by students to call undue attention to themselves by unusual, bizarre, or revealing dress as mentioned above will not be permitted.
- B. Clothing with profane, suggestive, or questionable pictures and/or lettering is prohibited.
- C. Clothing, such as shirts and blouses, should be worn as designed & should not display cleavage. "Low cut" tops that expose any part of the breast are not permitted.
- D. While on field trips, the teacher/s in charge will determine the mode of dress.
- E. Shorts are permitted as long as they are of reasonable length and appearance.
- F. Hair should be clean and well groomed at all times and extreme styles will not be allowed where it is a health or safety hazard. Coaches may set more stringent regulations for hair.
- G. Appropriate clothing is an expectation for each student. Clothing is deemed appropriate for both boys and girls using the standard that if a piece of clothing is inappropriate for either sex, it is also inappropriate for the other sex to wear. Following are examples of clothing that would be considered inappropriate:
 - Short shorts
 - See-through blouses
 - Tops that expose the stomach or back
 - Halter tops
 - Any garment that could result in indecent exposure including exposed cleavage
 - Any piece of clothing where stomachs or under garments are exposed, including pants not pulled up.

- Tops, dresses, etc. with thin straps or without backs.
- J. Shoes or sandals must be worn at all times.
- K. Students should make every attempt to be clean and well groomed at all times. Attempts by students to call undue attention to themselves by unusual, bizarre or revealing dress as mentioned above will not be permitted.
- L. No gang related dress (i.e. bandanas, colors, hair styles, etc.)
- M. Hats and/or hoods are not allowed to be worn in the school building unless given permission by classroom teacher/building principal or on approved special days.
- N. Items such as dog chokers, dangling chains, jewelry with sharp points (i.e. studded collars and bracelets) are prohibited.
- O. Wearing of coats is not permitted unless approved by the building principal due to temperature problems in the building. A coat is anything considered outerwear. If questions arise, the building principal will make the final determination about what is or isn't a coat.
- P. Book bags, tote bags, and duffel bags can be carried to and from school. Teachers and/or administrators may require bags to be stored in student lockers due to safety and/or classroom space.
- Q. AirPods or similar Bluetooth earbuds/headphones are not to be worn during the school day unless given specific permission by a teacher or administrator. Any devices brought from home are brought on the students' own risk of loss or theft.

Students who violate the above guidelines will not be admitted to class. They will be sent to the office and given a detention. The student will have to change clothes or will be sent home. Additional violations could result in additional discipline, including suspension from school. The building principal shall serve as the arbiter of student dress and grooming in his/her building.

Students who are representing Jonathan Alder at an official function or public event may be required to follow specific dress requirements. Usually, this applies to athletic teams, cheerleaders, bands, and other such groups.

BOE Policy 5511

Gangs

Gangs that initiate, advocate or promote activities that threaten the safety or wellbeing of persons or that are disruptive to the school environment will not be tolerated.

Incidents involving initiations, hazing, intimidations or related activities that are likely to cause harm or personal degradation are prohibited.

Students wearing, carrying or displaying gang paraphernalia or exhibiting behaviors or gestures that symbolize gang membership or causing and/or participating in activities that are designed to intimidate another student will be disciplined. If deemed necessary, prohibited gang paraphernalia will be specifically identified and posted by the principal.

Care of Property

Students are responsible for the care of their own personal property. The School is not responsible for personal property. Valuables such as jewelry or irreplaceable items should not be brought to school.

Damage to or loss of school equipment and facilities wastes taxpayers' money and undermines the school program. Therefore, if a student damages or loses school property, the student and/or his/her parents will be required to pay for the replacement or repair. If the damage or loss was intentional, the student will be subject to discipline according to the Student Discipline Code.

BULLYING, HARASSMENT AND OTHER FORMS OF AGGRESSIVE BEHAVIOR

Policy 5517.01

The Board of Education 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.

Harassment, intimidation, or bullying toward a student, by other students, staff, or third parties is strictly prohibited and will not be tolerated. This prohibition includes aggressive behavior, physical, verbal, and psychological abuse, and violence within a dating relationship. 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, on a school bus, or while enroute to or from school, and those occurring 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 school's control, in a school vehicle, or where an employee is engaged in school business.

This policy has been developed in consultation with parents, District employees, volunteers, students, and community members as prescribed in R.C. 3313.666 and the State Board of Education's Model Policy.

Harassment, intimidation, or bullying means:

A. any intentional written, verbal, electronic, or physical act that a student or group of students exhibits toward another particular student(s) more than once and the behavior both causes mental or physical harm to the other student(s) and is sufficiently severe, persistent, or pervasive that it creates an intimidating, threatening, or abusive educational environment for the other student(s); or

B. violence within a dating relationship.

"Electronic act" means an act committed through the use of a cellular telephone, computer, personal communication device, or other electronic communication device.

Aggressive behavior is defined as inappropriate conduct that is repeated enough, or serious enough, to negatively impact a student's educational, physical, or emotional well-being. This type of behavior is a form of intimidation and harassment, although it need not be based on any of the legally protected characteristics, such as sex, race, color, national origin, marital status, or disability. It would include, but not be limited to, such behaviors as stalking, bullying/cyberbullying, intimidating, menacing, coercion, name calling, taunting, making threats, and hazing.

Harassment, intimidation, or bullying also means cyberbullying through electronically transmitted acts (ie., internet, e-mail, cellular telephone, or wireless hand-held device) that a student(s) or a group of students exhibits toward another particular student(s) more than once

and the behavior both causes mental and physical harm to the other student and is sufficiently severe, persistent, or pervasive that it creates an intimidating, threatening, or abusive educational environment for the other students(s).

Any student or student's parents/guardian who believes s/he has been or is the victim of aggressive behavior should immediately report the situation to the building principal or assistant principal, or the Superintendent. The student may also report concerns to teachers and other school staff who will be responsible for notifying the appropriate administrator or Board official. Complaints against the building principal should be filed with the Superintendent. Complaints against the Superintendent should be filed with the Board President.

Every student is encouraged, and every staff member is required to report any situation that they believe to be aggressive behavior directed toward a student. Reports may be made to those identified above.

All complaints about aggressive behavior that may violate this policy shall be promptly investigated. The building principal or appropriate administrator shall prepare a written report of the investigation upon completion. Such a report shall include findings of fact, a determination of whether acts of harassment, intimidation, and /or bullying were verified, and, when prohibited acts are verified, a recommendation for intervention, including disciplinary action shall be included in the report. Where appropriate, written witness statements shall be attached to the report.

If the investigation finds an instance of harassment, intimidation, and/or bullying/cyberbullying by an electronic act or otherwise, has occurred, it will result in prompt and appropriate remedial and/or disciplinary action. This may include suspension or up to expulsion for students, up to discharge for employees, exclusion for parents, guests, volunteers, and contractors, and removal from any official position and/or a request to resign for Board members. Individuals may also be referred to law enforcement officials.

Retaliation against any person who reports, is thought to have reported, files a complaint, or otherwise participated in an investigation or inquiry concerning allegations of aggressive behavior is prohibited and will not be tolerated. Such retaliation shall be considered a serious violation of Board policy and independent of whether a complaint is substantiated. Suspected retaliation should be reported in the same manner as aggressive behavior. Retaliation may result in disciplinary action as indicated above.

Deliberately making false reports about harassment, intimidation, bullying and/or other aggressive behavior for the purpose of getting someone in trouble is similarly prohibited and will not be tolerated. Deliberately making false reports may result in disciplinary action as indicated above.

If a student or other individual believes there has been aggressive behavior, regardless of whether it fits a particular definition, s/he should report it and allow the administration to determine the appropriate course of action.

The District shall implement intervention strategies (AG 5517.01) to protect a victim or other person from new or additional harassment, intimidation, or bullying and from retaliation following such a report.

This policy shall not be interpreted to infringe upon the First Amendment rights of students (i.e., to prohibit a reasoned and civil exchange of opinions, or debate, that is conducted at appropriate times and places during the school day and is protected by State or Federal law).

The complainant shall be notified of the findings of the investigation, and as appropriate, that remedial action has been taken. If after investigation, acts of bullying against a specific student are verified, the building principal or appropriate administrator shall notify the custodial parent/guardian of the victim of such finding. In providing such notification care shall be taken to respect the statutory privacy rights of the perpetrator of such harassment, intimidation, and/or bullying.

If after investigation, acts of harassment, intimidation, and/or bullying by a specific student are verified, the building principal or appropriate administrator shall notify in writing the custodial parent/guardian of the perpetrator of that finding. If disciplinary consequences are imposed against such student, a description of such discipline shall be included in the notification.

COMPLAINTS

Students and/or their parents/guardians may file reports regarding suspected harassment, intimidation, or bullying. Such reports shall be reasonably specific including person(s) involved, number of times and places of the alleged conduct, the target of suspected harassment, intimidation, and/or bullying, and the names of any potential student or staff witnesses. Such reports may be filed with any school staff member or administrator, and they shall be promptly forwarded to the building principal for review, investigation, and action.

Students, parents/guardians, and school personnel may make informal or anonymous complaints of conduct that they consider to be harassment, intimidation, and/or bullying by verbal report to a teacher, school administrator, or other school personnel. Such complaints shall be reasonably specific including person(s) involved, number of times and places of the alleged conduct, the target of suspected harassment, intimidation, and/or bullying, and the names of any potential student or staff witnesses. A school staff member or administrator who receives an informal or anonymous complaint shall promptly document the complaint in writing, including the information provided. This written report shall be promptly forwarded by the school staff member and/or administrator to the building principal for review, investigation, and appropriate action.

Individuals who make informal complaints as provided above may request that their name be maintained in confidence by the school staff member(s) and administrator(s) who receive the complaint. Anonymous complaints shall be reviewed and reasonable action shall be taken to address the situation, to the extent such action may be taken that (1) does not disclose the source of the complaint, and (2) is consistent with the due process rights of the student(s) alleged to have committed acts of harassment, intimidation, and/or bullying.

When an individual making an informal complaint has requested anonymity, the investigation of such complaint shall be limited as is appropriate in view of the anonymity of the complaint. Such

limitation of investigation may include restricting action to a simple review of the complaint subject to receipt of further information and/or the withdrawal by the complaining student of the condition that his/her report be anonymous.

PRIVACY/CONFIDENTIALITY

The School District will respect the privacy of the complainant, the individual(s) against whom the complaint is filed, and the witnesses as much as possible, consistent with the Board's legal obligations to investigate, to take appropriate action, and to conform with any discovery or disclosure obligations. All records generated under this policy and its related administrative guidelines shall be maintained as confidential to the extent permitted by law.

REPORTING REQUIREMENT

At least semi-annually, the Superintendent shall provide to the President of the Board a written summary of all reported incidents and post the summary on the District web site (if one exists). The list shall be limited to the number of verified acts of harassment, intimidation, and/or bullying, whether in the classroom, on school property, to and from school, or at school-sponsored events.

Allegations of criminal misconduct and suspected child abuse will be reported to the appropriate law enforcement agency and/or the Child Protective Services in accordance with statute. District personnel shall cooperate with investigations by such agencies.

IMMUNITY

A School District employee, student, or volunteer shall be individually immune from liability in a civil action for damages arising from reporting an incident in accordance with this policy and R. C. 3313.666 if that person reports an incident of harassment, intimidation, and/or bullying promptly, in good faith, and in compliance with the procedures specified in this policy. Such immunity from liability shall not apply to an employee, student, or volunteer determined to have made an intentionally false report about harassment, intimidation, and/or bullying.

NOTIFICATION

Notice of this policy will be annually circulated to and posted in conspicuous locations in all school buildings and departments within the District and discussed with students, as well as incorporated into the teacher, student, and parent/guardian handbooks. At least once each school year a written statement describing the policy and consequences for violations of the policy shall be sent to each student's custodial parent or guardian.

This statement may be sent with regular student report cards or may be delivered electronically.

The policy and an explanation of the seriousness of bullying by electronic means shall be made available to students in the District and to their custodial parents or guardians.

State and Federal rights posters on discrimination and harassment shall also be posted at each building. All new hires will be required to review and sign off on this policy and the related complaint procedures.

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

In support of this policy, the Board promotes preventative educational measures to create greater awareness of aggressive behavior, including bullying and violence within a dating relationship. The Superintendent or designee shall provide appropriate training to all members of the School District community related to the implementation of this policy and its accompanying administrative guidelines. All training regarding the Board's policy and administrative guidelines and aggressive behavior and bullying in general, will be age and content appropriate.

Annually, the District shall provide all students enrolled in the District with age-appropriate instruction regarding the Board's policy, including a written or verbal discussion of the consequences for violations of the policy to the extent that State or Federal funds are appropriated for this purpose.

Students in grades seven (7) through twelve (12) shall receive age-appropriate instruction in dating violence prevention education, including instruction in recognizing dating violence warning signs and characteristics of healthy relationships. Parents, who submit a written request to the building principal to examine the dating violence prevention instruction materials used in the school, will be afforded an opportunity to review the materials within a reasonable period of time.

The District shall provide training, workshops, and/or courses on this policy for school employees and volunteers who have direct contact with students, to the extent that State and Federal funds are appropriated for these purposes. Time spent by school staff in these training programs shall apply toward mandated continuing education requirements.

In accordance with Board Policy 8462, the Superintendent shall include a review of this policy on bullying and other forms of harassment in the required training in the prevention of child abuse, violence, and substance abuse and the promotion of positive youth development.
R.C. 3313.666, 3313.667

TITLE IX SEXUAL HARASSMENT

The Board of Education of the Jonathan Alder Local School District (hereinafter referred to as "the Board" or "the District") does not discriminate on the basis of sex (including sexual orientation or gender identity), in its education programs or activities, and is required by Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972, and its implementing regulations, not to discriminate in such a manner. The requirement not to discriminate in its education program or activity extends to the enrollment of students and employment of District staff.

The Board is committed to maintaining an education and work environment that is free from discrimination based on sex, including sexual harassment. The Board prohibits Sexual Harassment that occurs within its education programs and activities. When the District has actual knowledge of Sexual Harassment in its education program or activity against a person in the United States, it shall promptly respond in a manner that is not deliberately indifferent.

Pursuant to its Title IX obligations, the Board is committed to eliminating Sexual Harassment and will take appropriate action when an individual is determined responsible for violating this

policy. Board employees, students, third-party vendors and contractors, guests, and other members of the School District community who commit Sexual Harassment are subject to the full range of disciplinary sanctions set forth in this policy. The Board will provide persons who have experienced Sexual Harassment ongoing remedies as reasonably necessary to restore or preserve access to the District's education programs and activities.

The Board has adopted a grievance process and procedures that provide 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 but does not fall within the definitions set forth above. The grievance process and procedures to be applied in those other instances are included in Policy 2260 (Non-Discrimination and Access to Equal Education Opportunity). The grievance process and procedures in Policy 2266 specifically address how to report or file a complaint of sex discrimination, how to report or file a formal complaint of Sexual Harassment, and how the District will respond to allegations falling within the definitions contained within this Policy 2266.

Title IX Coordinator

The Board designates and authorizes the following individual to oversee and coordinate its efforts to comply with Title IX and its implementing regulations.

The Title IX Coordinator shall report directly to the Superintendent. Questions about this policy should be directed to the Title IX Coordinator. The Superintendent shall notify applicants for enrollment and employment, students, parents, or legal guardians of elementary or secondary school students, Board employees, and all unions or professional organizations holding collective bargaining or professional agreements with the Board of the following information:

The Board of the Jonathan Alder Local 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 enrollment of students, and employment of staff. The District's Title IX Coordinator is:

Becky Krall

Director of Student Services
Title IX Coordinator
614.873.8617
9200 US Route 42 S.
Plain City, OH 43064
krallbe@japioneers.org

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

Grievance Process and Procedures

The Board is committed to promptly and equitably resolving student and employee complaints alleging Sexual Harassment. The District's response to allegations of Sexual Harassment will

treat Complainants and Respondents equitably, including providing supportive measures to the Complainant and Respondent, as appropriate, and following this Grievance Process before imposition of any disciplinary sanctions or other actions, other than supportive measures, against the Respondent.

The Title IX Coordinator, along with any investigator(s), decision-maker(s), or any person(s) designated to facilitate an informal resolution process, shall not have a conflict of interest or bias for or against complainants or respondents generally or an individual complainant or respondent. If a determination of responsibility for Sexual Harassment is made against the Respondent, the Board will provide remedies to the Complainant. The remedies will be designed to restore or preserve equal access to the District's education program or activity. Potential remedies include, but are not limited to, individualized services that constitute supportive measures. Remedies may also be disciplinary or punitive consequences imposed against a Respondent who violates this Policy.

Report of Sexual Discrimination/Harassment

Any person may report sex discrimination, including Sexual Harassment (whether or not the person reporting is the person alleged to be the victim of conduct that could constitute sex discrimination or Sexual Harassment), in person, by mail, by telephone, or by electronic mail, using the Title IX Coordinator's(s') contact information listed above, or by any other means that results in the Title IX Coordinator receiving the person's oral or written report. Reports may be made at any time (including during non-business hours), by using the telephone number(s) or electronic mail address(es), or by mail to the office address(es), listed for the Title IX Coordinator(s).

Students, Board members, and Board employees are required, and other members of the School District community, and Third Parties) are encouraged, to report allegations of sex discrimination or Sexual Harassment promptly to the/a Title IX Coordinator or to any Board employee, who will in turn notify the/a Title IX Coordinator. Reports can be made orally or in writing and should be as specific as possible. The person making the report should, to the extent known, identify the alleged victim(s), perpetrator(s), and witness(es) of the sexual discrimination or harassment, and describe in detail what occurred, including date(s), time(s), and location(s).

If a report involves allegations of Sexual Harassment by or involving the Title IX Coordinator, the person making the report should submit it to the Superintendent, or another Board employee who, in turn, will notify the Superintendent of the report. In that circumstance, the Superintendent will designate a qualifying individual to serve as the Title IX Coordinator.

Determination of Responsibility

The Title IX Coordinator shall appoint a decision-maker(s) to issue a determination of responsibility. The decision-maker(s) cannot be the same person(s) as the Title IX Coordinator or the investigator(s).

Determination regarding responsibility: The decision-maker(s) will issue a written determination regarding responsibility. To reach this determination, the decision-maker(s) must

apply the preponderance of the evidence standard to each finding of fact and to the ultimate determination of whether a violation of this policy exists.

The written determination will include the following content:

- A. Identification of the allegations potentially constituting Sexual Harassment pursuant to this policy;
- B. A description of the procedural steps taken from the receipt of the Formal Complaint through the determination, including any notifications to the parties, interviews with parties and witnesses, site visits, [and] methods used to gather other evidence;
- C. Findings of fact supporting the determination;
- D. Conclusions regarding the application of the applicable code of conduct to the facts;
- E. A statement of, and rationale for, the result as to each allegation, including a determination regarding responsibility, any disciplinary sanctions the decision-maker(s) is recommending that the District imposes on the Respondent(s), and whether remedies designed to restore or preserve equal access to the District's education program or activity should be provided by the District to the Complainant(s); and
- F. The procedures and permissible bases for the Complainant(s) and Respondent(s) to appeal.

Disciplinary sanctions/consequences may be imposed on a student Respondent who is determined responsible for violating this policy (i.e., engaging in Sexual Harassment), ranging from informal discipline to formal discipline (i.e., suspension/expulsion).

If the decision-maker(s) determines the student Respondent is responsible for violating this policy (i.e., engaging in Sexual Harassment), the decision-maker(s) will recommend appropriate remedies, including disciplinary sanctions/consequences. An authorized administrator can consider the recommendation(s) and implement an appropriate remedy (ies consequence) in compliance with Policy 5600 – Student Discipline, Policy 5605 – Suspension/Expulsion of Students with Disabilities, Policy 5610 – Removal, Suspension, Expulsion, and Permanent Exclusion of Students, Policy 5601.01 – Permanent Exclusion of Nondisabled Students, Policy 5610.02 – In-School Discipline, Policy 5610.03 – Emergency Removal of Students, Policy 5610.04 – Suspension of Bus Riding/Transportation Privileges, Policy 5610.05 – Prohibition from Extra-Curricular Activities, and Policy 5611 – Due Process Rights. Discipline of a student Respondent must comply with the applicable provisions of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act (IDEA) and/or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1972, and their respective implementing regulations.

Retaliation

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 this policy, 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 this policy that can result in imposition of disciplinary sanctions/consequences and/or other appropriate remedies.

Complaints alleging retaliation related to a complaint of sexual harassment may be filed according to the grievance procedures set forth above. Complaints alleging retaliation related to a complaint of sexual discrimination must be filed according to the grievance procedures for sex discrimination under Board Policy 2260.

The exercise of rights protected under the First Amendment of the United States Constitution does not constitute retaliation prohibited under this policy.

Charging an individual with a code of conduct violation for making a materially false statement in bad faith in the course of a grievance proceeding under this policy shall not constitute retaliation, provided, however, that a determination regarding responsibility, alone, is not sufficient to conclude that any party made a materially false statement in bad faith.

Confidentiality

The District will keep confidential the identity of any individual who has made a report or complaint of sex discrimination pursuant to Board Policy 2260, including any individual who has made a report or filed a Formal Complaint of Sexual Harassment under this Policy, any Complainant, any individual who has been reported to be the perpetrator of sex discrimination, any Respondent, and any witness, except as may be permitted by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act ("FERPA"), 20 U.S.C. 1232g, or FERPA regulations, 34 CFR part 99, or as required by law, or to carry out the purposes of 34 CFR part 106, including the conduct of any investigation, hearing, or judicial proceeding arising thereunder (i.e., the District's obligation to maintain confidentiality shall not impair or otherwise affect the Complainant's and Respondent's receipt of the information to which they are entitled related to the investigative record and determination of responsibility). The Complainant and Respondent will be advised of the identities of all parties, advisors, and witnesses.

Severe Infractions

No form of violent, disruptive, or inappropriate behavior, including excessive truancy, will be tolerated.

STUDENT DISCIPLINE CODE

Each of the behaviors and/or types of misconduct described below are prohibited and may subject the student to disciplinary action including, but not limited to, student conference, parent/guardian notification, parent/guardian conference, detention, in-school discipline, suspension and/or expulsion from school. Furthermore, any criminal acts committed at or related to the School will be reported to law enforcement officials as well as disciplined at school. Certain criminal acts may result in permanent exclusion from school.

1. Possession/use of drugs and/or alcohol

Possessing, using, transmitting or concealing, or evidence of consumption of any alcoholic beverage, controlled substance including, but not limited to, narcotics, mood altering drugs, counterfeit controlled substances, look-a-likes, over the counter stimulants or depressants, anabolic steroids, or drug-related paraphernalia.

If a building principal has a reasonable individualized suspicion of drug or alcohol use, s/he may request the student in question to submit to any appropriate testing, including but not limited to, a breathalyzer test or urinalysis. In such circumstances, the student will be taken to a private administrative or instructional area on school property for such testing with at least one other member of the teaching or administrative staff present as a witness to the test. If a student refuses to take the test, s/he will be advised that such denial leaves the observed evidence of alcohol or drug use un-refuted thus leading to possible disciplinary action. The student will then be given a second opportunity to take the test.

Violations may result in ten (10) days suspension from school (out-of-school). Charges may be filed with the local authorities. (Refer to Board policy for consequences regarding extracurricular activities.)

- A. Parent will be notified as soon as possible and student may be removed from school for the remainder of the day.
- B. The police may be notified of the incident and they, at their discretion, may conduct an investigation.
- C. Consultation set up with parent and student about the suspension procedure and the possibility of a reduced suspension if there is cooperation in dealing with the problem through an alcohol/drug use evaluation and/or assessment from a school approved individual or agency.
- D. Penalty
 - 1st Offense: May result 10 days out-of-school suspension with possible reduction
 - 2nd Offense: May result in 10 days out-of-school suspension, no reduction, possible expulsion
 - 3rd Offense: Possible Expulsion

Possession for sale or transmission: 1st offense – Expulsion. The principal may modify a 10-day suspension for the first offense (except for sale and/or transmission of drugs) if the student and parent agree to participate in an activity designed to modify alcohol and drug related behavior. The 10-day suspension may be reduced by a maximum of 5 days for participation in the designated activities.

Alcohol and Drug 10 Day Suspension Reduction Procedures

If a student is suspended for a first violation of the Board of Education's Alcohol and Drug policy (except for sales and/or transmission), the parent may request a reduction of up to five days of the suspension in the following manner:

1. The parents will be advised of the reduction possibility by the administrator who notifies them of the suspension.
2. A combination of the following alternatives may be required by the administrator to effect reduction of the suspension:
 - a. parents take student to a school-approved person or agency for a dependency assessment and authorize the release of the results of same to school.
 - b. student will attend support group meetings at school upon return from out-of-school suspension.
 - c. failure of the student or parent to complete the activities assigned by the administrator will result in the days of reduction being reinstated

2. Possession/use of tobacco

The term "tobacco" includes any product that contains tobacco, is derived from tobacco, contains nicotine, or e-cigarettes and other electronic smoking devices (including but not limited to "JUULs"), but does not include any cessation product approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration for use as a medical treatment to reduce or eliminate nicotine or tobacco dependence.

Possession, consumption, distribution, purchase or attempt to purchase, and/or use of tobacco products or electronic cigarettes or similar devices in school, on school grounds, on school buses, and at any interscholastic competition, extracurricular event, or other school-sponsored event. Tobacco products include, but are not limited to cigarettes, cigars, pipe tobacco, chewing tobacco, snuff or any other matter or substance that contains tobacco. Smoking of electronic, "vapor", other substitute forms of cigarettes, or clove cigarettes is also prohibited.

There will be no tobacco permitted at school or school sponsored events. Possession of tobacco in any form on school premises will result in disciplinary action.

3. Use and/or possession of a firearm

Bringing a firearm (as defined in the Federal Gun-Free Schools Act of 1994) onto school property or to any school-sponsored activity, competition, program, or event, regardless of where it occurs, will result in a mandatory one (1) year expulsion under Ohio law. This expulsion may be reduced on a case-by-case basis by the Superintendent using the guideline(s) set forth in Board Policy.

- Firearm is defined as any weapon (including a starter gun) that will or is designed to or may readily be converted to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive; the frame or receiver of any such weapon; any firearm muffler or firearm silencer; or any destructive device (as defined in the Federal Gun-Free Schools Act of 1994). Firearms include any unloaded firearm and any firearm that is inoperable but that can be readily operated.
- Students are prohibited from knowingly possessing an object on school premises, in a school or a school building, at a school activity or on a school

bus that is indistinguishable from a firearm, whether or not the object is capable of being fired, and indicating they are in possession of such an object and that it is a firearm or knowingly displaying or brandishing the object and indicating it is a firearm.

4. Use and/or possession of a weapon

A weapon is any device that may be used for offensive or defensive purpose, including but not limited to conventional objects such as guns, pellet guns, knives, or club type implements. It may also include any toy that is presented as a real weapon or reacted to as a real weapon. Possession and/or use of a weapon may subject a student to expulsion and possible permanent exclusion.

A knife is defined as any cutting instrument consisting of a sharp blade fastened to a handle, a razor blade or any similar device that is used for, or is readily capable of causing death or serious bodily injury.

- Pocket knives with a blade of less than two and one-half (2 1/2) inches are acceptable ONLY with the prior approval of the student's parents and teachers.

5. Use of an object as a weapon

Any object that is used to threaten, harm, or harass another may be considered a weapon. This includes but is not limited to padlocks, pens, pencils, laser pointers, and jewelry.

6. Knowledge of dangerous weapons or threats of violence

Because the Board believes that students, staff members, and visitors are entitled to function in a safe school environment, students are required to report knowledge of dangerous weapons or threats of violence to the Principal. Failure to report such knowledge may subject the student to discipline.

7. Arson

Intentional or purposeful destruction or damage to school or district buildings or property by means of fire. Anything, such as fire, that endangers school property and its occupants will not be tolerated. Arson is a felony.

8. Misconduct against a school official or employee, or the property of such a person, regardless of where it occurs.

The Board prohibits misconduct committed by a student against a school official or employee, including, but not limited to, harassment (of any type), vandalization, assault (verbal and/or physical), and destruction of property.

9. Misconduct off school grounds

Students may be subject to discipline for their misconduct even when it occurs off school property when the misconduct is connected to activities or incidents that occurred on property owned or controlled by the District. Misconduct is defined as any violation of the Student Discipline Code.

10. Physically assaulting a staff member/student/person associated with the District.

Acting with intent to cause fear in another person of immediate bodily harm or death, or intentionally bullying, inflicting or attempting to inflict bodily harm upon another person. Physical assault of a staff member, student, or other person associated with the District, regardless of whether it causes injury, will not be tolerated. Any intentional, harmful or potentially harmful physical contact or bullying initiated by a student against a staff member will be considered to be assault. Assault may result in criminal charges and may subject the student to expulsion.

11. Verbally threatening (either orally, in writing or otherwise expressed) a staff member/student/person associated with the District.

Any oral or written statement or otherwise expressed action that a staff member, student, or other person associated with the District reasonably feels to be a threat will be considered a verbal assault. Profanity directed toward a staff member in a threatening tone may also be considered a verbal assault. Confrontation with a student or staff member that bullies, intimidates, or causes fear of bodily harm or death is also prohibited.

12. Extortion

Extortion is the use of threat, intimidation, force, or deception to take, or receive something from someone else. Extortion is against the law.

13. Gambling

Gambling (i.e., playing a game of chance for stakes) includes casual betting, betting pools, organized sports betting, and any other form of wagering. Students who bet on any school activity in which they are involved may also be banned from that school activity.

14. Falsification of school work, identification, forgery, lying to a staff member

Falsifying signatures or data, or refusing to give proper identification or giving false information to a staff member. This prohibition includes, but is not limited to, forgery of hall/bus passes and excuses, as well as use of false I.D.'s. Plagiarism and cheating are also forms of falsification and will subject the student to academic penalties as well as disciplinary action.

15. Terrorist Threat

Threatening, directly or indirectly, to commit a crime of violence with the purpose to terrorize another or with reckless disregard of the risk of causing terror in another.

16. Bomb Threats, and other false alarms and reports

Making a bomb threat (i.e., intentionally giving a false alarm of a bomb) against a school building or any premises at which a school activity is being held at the time the threat is made may result in expulsion for a period of up to one (1) school year. Additionally, intentionally giving a false alarm of a fire, or tampering or interfering with any fire alarm is prohibited. It should be remembered that false emergency alarms or reports endanger the safety forces that are responding to the alarm/report, the citizens of the community, and the persons in the building. What may seem like a prank, is a dangerous stunt that is against the law and will subject the student to disciplinary action.

17. Possession and/or use of explosives and/or fireworks

Possessing or using any compound or mixture, the primary or common purpose of which is to function by explosion, with substantially instantaneous release of gas and heat (including, but not limited to explosives and chemical reaction objects such as smoke bombs and poppers). Additionally, possessing or offering for sale any substance, combination of substances or article prepared to produce a visible and/or audible effect by combustion, explosion, deflagration or detonation.

18. Trespassing

Although schools are public facilities, the law allows the Board to restrict access to school property. Being present in any Board owned facility or portion of a Board owned facility when it is closed to the public or when the student does not have the authorization to be there, or unauthorized presence in a Board owned vehicle; or unauthorized access or activity in a Board owned computer, into district, school or staff computer files, into a school or district file server, or into the Network. When a student has been removed, suspended, expelled, or permanently excluded from school, the student is prohibited from being present on school property without authorization of the principal.

19. Theft, or knowingly receiving or possessing stolen property

Unauthorized taking of property of another person or receiving or possessing such property. Students caught stealing will be disciplined and may be reported to law enforcement officials. Students should not bring anything of value to school. The School is not responsible for personal property. Financial reimbursement may be deemed fair by the Principal and a suspension of up to three (3) days may be given. Repeat offenses may involve harsher punishments. A longer suspension may be invoked for valuable items.

20. Insubordination/Disrespect

Students are expected to comply with the reasonable directions of staff. Willful refusal or failure to follow or comply with an appropriate direction given by a staff member, or acting in defiance of staff members. Disrespect will not be tolerated and may result in disciplinary action.

21. Persistent absence, tardiness, or skipping class.

Attendance laws require students to be in school all day or to have a legitimate excuse for their absence. Penalties for unexcused absences can range from detention to a referral to court and/or revocation of the student's driver's license.

22. Damaging or Destruction of property (Vandalism)

Defacing, cutting, or otherwise damaging property that belongs to the school, district, other students, employees or others and disregard for school property. Damage may be paid for by the student or his/her parent/guardian at a price deemed fair by the principal. In addition to financial reimbursement, discipline may be assigned by an administrator. Charges may be filed with local authorities.

23. Unauthorized use of school or private property

Students must obtain permission to use any school property or any private property located on school premises. Any unauthorized use of school property, or private property located on school premises, shall be subject to disciplinary action.

24. Refusing to accept discipline

Students failing to comply with disciplinary penalties may face enhanced penalties for such action.

If a student cannot attend an assigned disciplinary session for any reason, he/she must notify the assistant principal prior to the session. It is at the discretion of the principal to reassign the punishment. If a student skips a session and does not notify the assistant principal as to the reason for doing so ahead of time, an additional or more advanced disciplinary action may be assigned.

25. Aiding or abetting violation of school rules

Assisting other students in the violation of any school rule. Students are expected to resist peer pressure and exercise sound decision making regarding their behavior.

26. Displays of affection/sexual activities

Affection between students is personal and not meant for public display. This includes touching, petting, or any other contact that may be considered sexual in nature. Sexual activity of any nature is prohibited and will result in disciplinary action. Also, indecently exposing his/her body or participation in indecent acts with another person.

27. Failure to comply with electronic devices/cell phone policy

There are many responsibilities that go along with possessing cell phones, I-pads, Chromebooks, tablets, cameras etc. All electronic devices, including headphones, are prohibited during classes unless permission is granted by the instructor. If a student is using an electronic device without permission during a class, a teacher or administrator may ask a student to turn off their device and hand over the device. The device may be held by the teacher until the end of the day or turned into the office. Failure to comply will be considered disrespect or insubordination. Additionally, a detention may be issued by the teacher or administrator for using a device when deemed inappropriate. Severe disciplinary action may be taken if an individual case warrants such action. Repeat offenses will result in disciplinary actions and could result in the parents having to come to school to pick up the students phone/electronic device. Students should keep lockers locked at all times to avoid having any valuables stolen. In addition, no student may take still or video images. This includes restrooms and/or locker rooms. Violations will result in severe disciplinary action.

28. Violation of individual school/classroom rules

Each learning environment has different rules for students. These rules are for the safe and orderly operation of that environment. Students will be oriented to specific rules within each learning environment, all of which will be consistent with this Code.

29. Violation of bus rules (see Section V – Transportation)

30. Interference, disruption or obstruction of the educational process

Any actions or manner of dress that materially and substantially disrupts or interferes with school activities or the educational process, or which threaten to do so are unacceptable. Such disruptions include, but are not limited to, delay or prevention of lessons, assemblies, field trips, athletic and performing arts events.

31. Harassment and/or Aggressive Behavior (including Bullying/Cyber-bullying)

The Board encourages the promotion of positive interpersonal relations between members of the school community. Harassment and/or aggressive behavior (including bullying/cyber-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, and any speech or action that creates a hostile, intimidating, or offensive learning environment. The Board will not tolerate any gestures, comments, threats, or actions which cause or threaten to cause bodily harm or personal degradation. Individuals engaging in such conduct will be subject to disciplinary action.

Conduct constituting sexual harassment, may include, but is not limited to:

- A. verbal harassment or abuse;
- B. pressure for sexual activity;
- C. repeated remarks with sexual or demeaning implications;
- D. unwelcome touching;
- E. sexual jokes, posters, cartoons, etc.;
- F. suggesting or demanding sexual involvement, accompanied by implied or explicit threats concerning one's grades or safety;
- 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;
- H. remarks speculating about a person's sexual activities or sexual history, or remarks about one's own sexual activities or sexual history.

Note: An inappropriate boundary invasion by a District employee or other adult member of the School District community into a student's personal space and personal life is sexual harassment. Further, any administrator, teacher, coach, other school authority who engages in sexual or other inappropriate physical contact with a student may be guilty of criminal "child abuse" as defined in State law.

Conduct constituting harassment on the basis or race, color, national origin, religion, or disability may take different forms, including, but not limited to, the following:

A. Verbal:

The making of offensive written or oral innuendoes, comments, jokes, insults, threats, or disparaging remarks concerning a person's race, color, national origin, religious beliefs, or disability.

B. Nonverbal:

Placing offensive objects, pictures, or graphic commentaries in the school environment or making insulting or threatening gestures based upon a person's race, color, national origin, religious beliefs, or disability.

C. Physical:

Any intimidating or disparaging action such as hitting, pushing, shoving, hissing, or spitting, on or by a fellow staff member, students, or other person associated with the

District, or third parties, based upon the person's race, color, national origin, religious beliefs, or disability.

Aggressive behavior is defined as inappropriate conduct that is repeated enough, or serious enough, to negatively impact a student's educational, physical, or emotional well being. This type of behavior is a form of intimidation and harassment, although it need not be based on any of the legally protected characteristics, such as sex, race, color, marital status, or disability. It would include, but not be limited to, such behaviors as stalking, bullying/cyber-bullying, intimidating, menacing, coercion, name-calling, taunting, making threats, and hazing.

Any student who believes that s/he is the victim of any of the above actions or has observed such actions by another student, staff member, or other person associated with the District, or by third parties should contact the District's Anti-Harassment Complaint Coordinator(s):

BOE Policy 5517 - Anti-Harassment

The Complaint Coordinators are available during regular school hours to discuss a student's concerns related to harassment and/or bullying/cyber-bullying, to assist a student who seeks support or advice when informing another individual about "unwelcome" conduct, or to intercede informally on behalf of the student.

The student may report his/her concerns to the Anti-Harassment Complaint Coordinators either by a written report, telephone, or personal visit. In reporting his/her concerns, the student should provide the name of the person(s) whom s/he believes to be responsible for the harassment and or bullying/cyber-bullying and the nature of the harassing and/or bullying/cyber-bullying incident(s). The Anti-Harassment Complaint Coordinators will promptly compile a written summary of each such report that will be forwarded to the Principal.

Each report will be investigated in a timely manner and as confidentially as possible. The District will respect the privacy of the complainant, the individual(s) against whom the complaint is filed, and the witnesses as much as possible, consistent with the Board's legal obligations to investigate, to take appropriate action, and to conform with any discovery or disclosure obligations. While a charge is under investigation, no information will be released to anyone who is not involved with the investigation, except as may be required by law or in the context of a legal or administrative proceeding. All records generated under the terms of this policy and its related administrative guidelines shall be maintained as confidential to the extent permitted by law. All individuals involved in an investigation as either a witness, victim or alleged harasser and/or bully/cyber-bully will be instructed not to discuss the subject outside of the investigation.

If an investigation reveals that a harassment and/or bullying/cyber-bullying complaint is valid, appropriate remedial and or disciplinary action will be taken promptly to prevent the continuance of the harassment and/or bullying/cyber-bullying or its recurrence.

Given the nature of harassing and/or bullying/cyber-bullying behavior, the School recognizes that false accusations can have serious effects on innocent individuals. Therefore, all students

are expected to act responsibly, honestly, and with the utmost candor whenever they present harassment and/or bullying/cyber-bullying allegations or charges.

Some forms of sexual harassment of a student may reasonably be considered child abuse that must be reported to the proper authorities.

These guidelines shall not be interpreted to infringe upon the First Amendment rights of students (i.e., to prohibit a reasoned and civil exchange of opinions, or debate, that is conducted at appropriate times and places during the school day and is protected by State or Federal law).

Retaliation against any person who reports, is thought to have reported, files a complaint, or otherwise participates in an investigation or inquiry concerning allegations of harassment and/or aggressive behavior is prohibited and will not be tolerated. Such retaliation shall be considered a serious violation and independent of whether a complaint is substantiated. Suspected retaliation should be reported in the same manner as harassment and aggressive behavior. Making intentionally false reports about harassment or aggressive behavior for the purpose of getting someone in trouble is similarly prohibited and will not be tolerated. Retaliation and intentionally false reports may result in disciplinary action as indicated above.

Anyone having further questions concerning prohibited behaviors and/or the complaint process should review Board policies and administrative guidelines 5517 and 5517.01.

32. Violent Conduct

Students may be expelled for up to one school year for committing an act at school, on other school property, at an interscholastic competition, extracurricular event, or any other school program, or directing an act at a Board official or employee, regardless of where or when that act may occur, or their property that would be a criminal offense if committed by an adult and results in serious physical harm to person(s) or property.

33. Hazing

Performing any act, or coercing another, including the victim, to perform any act of initiation into any class, team, or organization, that causes or creates a substantial risk of causing mental or physical harm. Permission, consent, or assumption of risk by an individual subjected to hazing shall not lessen the prohibitions contained in this rule.

Hazing by any individual, school group, club, or team is not permitted. This includes any form of initiation that causes or creates a risk of causing mental or physical harm, no matter how willing the participant may be. Hazing activities are prohibited at any time in school facilities, on school property, and/or off school property but connected to activities or incidents that have occurred on school property.

All incidents of hazing must be reported immediately to any of the following individuals: the building principal or other administrator; teacher; coach; student club advisor/supervisor, and/or Superintendent. Students who engage in hazing may also be liable for civil and criminal penalties.

34. Improper Dress

Clothing may not include words or visuals that are lewd, obscene, disruptive, abusive, or discriminatory, or that advertise or make reference to drugs, alcohol or tobacco. Dress or grooming that is disruptive of the classroom or school atmosphere is not allowed. Shoes must be worn at all times for health and safety reasons.

35. Burglary

Entering a building or a specific area of a building without consent and with intent to commit a crime, or entering a building without consent and committing a crime.

36. Offensive Materials or Actions

Students may not carry, exhibit, wear, or possess materials deemed to be offensive or agitating in nature. This includes hanging items in or on your locker, posting signs in the classrooms or the halls, having drawings, pictures or other graphics materials which depict scenes, emblems, or causes designated to promote or incite reactionary behaviors. Examples of several unacceptable items includes pornography, sexually graphic language or images, Confederate flags, Nazi emblems, etc. Possession and/or transmission of pornographic materials is prohibited. Displays of any explicit or suggestive graphics, drawings, photographs, etc. is not permitted. The final decision as to whether an item is offensive or not will be made by a school administrator.

Additionally, physical acts like flipping the middle finger or making other offensive gestures along with pulling an individual's clothing off or shorts down are punishable acts.

37. Lighting Incendiary Devices

Unauthorized igniting of matches, lighters and other devices that produce flames.

38. Possession of Pornography

Possessing sexually explicit material.

39. Fighting

Engaging in adversarial physical contact (differentiated from poking, pushing, shoving or scuffling) in which one or the other party(ies) or both contributed to the situation by verbally instigating a fight and/or physical action. Promoting or instigating a fight (i.e., contributing to a fight verbally or through behavior).

If a student is involved in a fight, he/she will be removed from classes and, if possible, sent home for the day. This will be followed by an out-of-school suspension for the first offense. Additional infractions will result in longer suspensions ranging from 5 to 10 days. In severe and/or recurring offenses expulsion may be recommended.

Generally speaking BOTH parties involved in a fight will be punished. However, if one student is obviously the aggressor and the other has done everything possible to avoid the situation, only one student might be punished. This could happen if the other student is defending him/herself and doing nothing to continue the fight.

Furthermore, if a student is involved in an assault of another student the consequence is considerably greater. (ASSAULT is defined as one student hitting another without any

retaliation.) Assault of a student will result in removal from classes and, if possible, sent home for the day. This will be followed by a 5-day out-of-school suspension for the first offense AND a report will be filed with the proper authorities. Additional infractions will result in a longer suspension and possible recommendation for expulsion. CAUTION – Horseplay could result in a fight that would warrant disciplinary action.

40. Use of Profanity

Depending on the severity and extent of the language used, disciplinary action may range from a detention to a "Thursday School" to an "Out-of-School Suspension." The student may also be assigned a writing assignment in which they must explain the choice of words used and appropriate alternative choices which could have been used. This assignment may be sent to the students parents/guardians with the requirement that the parent/guardian sign the assignment and return it to the school. Using obscene gestures is considered profane.

41. Cheating

Cheating includes, but is not limited to the following:

- Copying, text messaging, faxing, emailing, or in any way duplicating assignments that are turned in, wholly or in part, as original work
- Exchanging assignments with other students, either handwritten or computer generated, whether you believe they will be copied or not
- Using any form of memory aid during tests or quizzes without the expressed permission of the instructor
- Using a computer or other means to translate an assignment from one language into another language and submitting it as an original work
- Giving or receiving answers during tests or quizzes
- Taking credit for group work when you have not contributed an equal or appropriate share toward the result
- Accessing a test or quiz for determining the questions in advance of its administration
- Using summaries/commentaries (Cliff Notes, Spark Notes, etc.) in lieu of reading the assigned materials

Students are expected to produce their own work except on projects designated by the teacher as cooperative efforts. Teachers will indicate which assignments are to be cooperative efforts and will establish guidelines for the use of such aids as calculators, computers, word processors and published study guides.

If a student is in doubt about the ethical standards applicable to a particular situation, the student is responsible for clarifying the matter with the teacher.

Each student is responsible for securing his/her own work.

42. Plagiarism

Plagiarism includes, but is not limited to:

- Taking someone else's assignment or portion of an assignment and submitting it as your own
- Submitting material written by someone else or rephrasing the ideas of another without giving the author's name or source
- Presenting the work of tutors, parents, siblings, or friends as your own
- Submitting purchased papers as your own
- Submitting papers, or portions of papers, from the Internet written by someone

- else as your own
- Supporting plagiarism by providing your work to others, whether you believe it will be copied or not

Any student who plagiarizes will be expected to redo the assignment and may receive a grade reduction for the assignment and the teacher will contact the parent. Progressive discipline will be administered for additional violations.

43. Horseplay

Horseplay is rough or rowdy play or pranks. It can be activities such as joking that includes physical contact, playing around, racing, grabbing, and social pressure to participate in unsafe acts.

DISCIPLINE

School discipline is the system of rules, punishments, and behavioral strategies appropriate to the regulation of students and the maintenance of order and safety at school. The goal is to positively influence student actions and behavior for the betterment of the school and the educational community.

If an individual follows the PBIS principles and adheres to the school policies, they will be in compliance with the school rules and codes of conduct. These rules may, for example, define the expected standards of clothing, timekeeping, social conduct, and work ethic. The term discipline is also applied to the punishment that is the consequence of breaking the rules. The aim of discipline is to set limits restricting certain behaviors or attitudes that are seen as harmful or going against school policies, educational norms, school traditions, et cetera.

Discipline as a punishment: If an individual breaks the rules or policies set forth in the student handbook or as established by Board of Education, disciplinary action will be issued. It is the intention of the administration to apply standard consequences for first time offenders. To clarify, the consequence listed will only apply to the first incident. Second offenses and further infractions or misbehavior will be dealt with at the discretion of the principal. The discipline used by Jonathan Alder Junior High School is of a progressive nature. Progressive discipline is defined as the more frequent the instances of misbehavior, the more severe the punishment.

When students disobey the Student Behavior Code, they are subject to the consequences. Usually this means serving lunch detentions, after school detentions, or suspension. Frequent offenses or serious offenses may warrant expulsion from school.

It is important to remember that the School's rules apply going to and from school, at school, on school property, at school-sponsored events, on school transportation, and on property not owned or controlled by the Board but that is connected to activities or incidents that have occurred on property owned or controlled by the Board. Furthermore, students may be disciplined for conduct that, regardless of where or when it occurs, is directed at a Board official or employee, or the property of such official or employee. In some cases, a student can be suspended from school transportation for infractions of school bus rules.

The School is committed to providing prompt, reasonable discipline consistent with the severity of the incident. The consequences for misbehavior are designed to be fair, firm and consistent for all students in the School.

Because it is not possible to list every misbehavior that occurs, misbehaviors not listed above will be responded to as necessary by staff.

Two (2) types of discipline are possible, informal and formal.

Informal Discipline

Informal discipline takes place within the School. It includes:

- writing assignments;

- change of seating or location or assigned seating,
- before school detention,
- lunchtime restrictions,
- after-school detention;
- in-school discipline;
- extended time detention (Thursday School),

Detentions

A student may be detained after school or asked to come to school early by a teacher, after giving the student and his/her parents one day's notice. The student or his/her parents are responsible for transportation.

In-School Discipline

"Thursday School" - The desired goal of "Thursday School" is to serve as a disciplinary tool which addresses inappropriate actions while providing a punishment that is an alternative to out-of-school suspension. Failure to attend "Thursday School" will result in further disciplinary action which may include suspension.

THURSDAY SCHOOL GUIDELINES & RULES:

1. "Thursday School" will be issued in time increments. A standard "Thursday School" will be three hours in length.
2. The time to serve a "Thursday School" may extend for more than one session. The reason for this is; We will now have "Detention" and "Thursday School" sessions combined and host them on Tuesdays and Thursdays. The sessions will be for one and a half hours. Thus, a three hour "Thursday School" will need to be served over a two day period.
3. The sessions for "Thursday School" will be from 2:45pm to 4:15pm.
4. If a student arrives late he or she will be sent home and will not be permitted to serve their "Thursday School."
5. All students must leave the building within 15 minutes of "Thursday School" ending. Students must make their own transportation arrangements.
6. Any students involved in extra-curricular activities will be prohibited from participation during "Thursday School." This includes those who skip the Thursday School.
7. Students will not be allowed to talk, eat, sleep, leave their seat without permission, or spend time on anything except schoolwork during "Thursday School."
8. There will be a supervised restroom break. This is the only time students will be permitted to use the restroom without a doctor's note.
9. All school rules are to be observed while students are on school grounds.
10. Students MUST arrive with the necessary school supplies, i.e., textbooks, notebooks, etc.
11. Any student not serving the "Thursday School" or who is sent home for any reason may be suspended from school.
12. If school is closed for any reason on Tuesday or Thursday, the "Thursday School" is cancelled for that day and will resume on the next scheduled Tuesday or Thursday.
13. "Thursday School" may only be rescheduled if a parent or guardian makes a request to a school administrator prior to the scheduled "Thursday School" and if the request is granted.

Students assigned a detention or Thursday School will attend the session continuously for the time period they are designated. No breaks will occur during a regular detention. "Thursday School" regulatory procedures are listed above.

Failure to Serve Disciplinary Assignment

If a student cannot attend a disciplinary assignment for any reason, he/she must notify the assistant principal prior to the event. It is at the discretion of the assistant principal to reassign the disciplinary action. If a student skips the disciplinary assignment and does not notify the assistant principal as to the reason for doing so ahead of time, a more stringent disciplinary action may be assigned.

The following rules apply to all in-school discipline: Detention, In-School Suspension, and Thursday School:

- Students are required to have class assignments with them.
- Students are not to communicate with each other unless given permission to do so.
- Students are to remain in their designated seats at all times unless permission is granted to do otherwise.
- Students shall not be allowed to put their heads down or sleep.
- No electronic communication devices or other entertainment/recreational articles or devices shall be allowed in the room.
- No food or beverages shall be consumed.

Formal Discipline

Formal discipline involves removal of the student from school. It includes emergency removal for up to three (3) school days, suspension for up to ten (10) school days, expulsion for up to eighty (80) school days or the number of days remaining in a semester, whichever is greater, and permanent exclusion. Suspensions and expulsions may carry over into the next school year. Any student who is expelled from school for more than twenty (20) days or for any period of time if the expulsion will extend into the following semester or school year will be provided with information about services or programs offered by public and private agencies that work toward improving those aspects of the student's attitude and behavior that contributed to the incident that gave rise to the student's expulsion. The Superintendent at his/her discretion may require/allow a student to perform community service in conjunction with or in place of an expulsion. The Superintendent may impose a community service requirement beyond the end of the school year in lieu of applying the expulsion to the following school year. Removal for less than one (1) school day without the possibility of suspension or expulsion may not be appealed. Suspension, expulsion, and permanent exclusion may be appealed.

Students being considered for suspension are entitled to an informal meeting with the building administrator prior to removal. Also, students being considered for expulsion are entitled to an informal meeting with the Superintendent or designee prior to removal. During the informal meeting, the student will be notified of the charges and given the opportunity to respond.

Students involved in co-curricular and extracurricular activities such as band and athletics can lose their eligibility for violation of the School rules.

If a student commits a crime while under the School's jurisdiction, s/he may be subject to school disciplinary action as well as action through local law enforcement.

DUE PROCESS RIGHTS

Before a student is suspended, expelled, or permanently excluded from school, there are specific procedures that must be followed.

As long as the in-school discipline is served entirely in the school setting, it will not require any notice or meeting, or be subject to appeal.

Suspension from School

When a student is being considered for a suspension, the administrator in charge will notify the student of the basis for the proposed suspension. The student will be given an opportunity to explain his/her view of the underlying facts. After that informal hearing, the Principal [or assistant principal or other administrator] will determine whether or not to suspend the student. If the decision is made to suspend the student, s/he and his/her parents will be given written notification of the suspension within one (1) day setting forth the reason for the suspension, the length of the suspension, and the process for appeal. The suspension may be appealed, within three (3) days after receipt of the suspension notice, to the Superintendent. The request for an appeal must be in writing.

During the appeal process, the student shall not be allowed to remain in school.

If the appeal is heard by the Board's designee, the appeal shall be conducted in a private hearing. If the appeal is heard by the Board of Education, the appeal shall be conducted in executive session unless the student or his/her representative requests otherwise. A verbatim transcript will be made and witnesses will be sworn in prior to giving testimony. If the appeal decision is to uphold the suspension, the next step in the appeal process is to the Court of Common Pleas.

Emergency Removal

If a student's presence poses a continuing danger to persons or property, or an ongoing threat of disrupting the academic process taking place either in a classroom or elsewhere on the school premises, the Superintendent, principal or assistant principal may remove the student from any curricular or extracurricular activity or from the school premises. A teacher may remove the student from any curricular or extracurricular activity under the teacher's supervision, but not from the premises.

If a teacher makes an emergency removal, the teacher will notify a building administrator of the circumstances surrounding the removal in writing within one (1) school day. No prior notice or hearing is required for any removal under this procedure. In all cases of normal disciplinary procedures where a student is removed from curricular or extracurricular activity for less than one school day, and is not subject to further suspension for expulsion, the following due process requirements do not apply.

If the emergency removal exceeds one (1) school day, then a hearing will be held within three (3) school days after the removal is ordered. Written notice of the hearing and the reasons for removal and any intended disciplinary action will be provided to the student, as soon as practical prior to the hearing. If the student is subject to an out of school suspension, the student

will have the opportunity to appear at an informal hearing before the principal, assistant principal, Superintendent or a designee, and may challenge the reasons for the removal or otherwise explain his/her actions.

Within one (1) school day of the decision to suspend, written notification will be given to the parent(s)/guardian(s) or custodian(s) of the student. This notice will include the reasons for the suspension, the right of the student or his/her parent(s)/guardian(s) or custodian(s) to appeal to the Board or its designee, and the student's right to be represented in all appeal proceedings. If it is likely that the student may be subject to expulsion, the hearing will take place within three (3) school days and will be held in accordance with the procedures outlined in the Student Expulsion Policy. The person who ordered or requested the removal will be present at the hearing. In an emergency removal, a student may be kept from class until the matter of the alleged misconduct is resolved either by reinstatement, suspension or expulsion.

Expulsion from School

When a student is being considered for expulsion, the student and parent will be provided with a formal notice of the proposed expulsion. This written notice will include the reasons for the intended expulsion, notification of the opportunity to appear in person before the Superintendent or the Superintendent's designee to challenge the reasons for the expulsion and/or explain the student's action, and notification of the time and place to appear. Students being considered for expulsion may be removed immediately. A hearing will be scheduled no earlier than three (3), nor no later than five (5) school days after the notice is given. Parents may request an extension of time for the hearing. The student may be represented by his/her parents, legal counsel, and/or by a person of his/her choice at the hearing.

In accordance with Board Policy 5610, the Superintendent shall initiate expulsion proceedings against a student who has committed an act that warrants expulsion under Board policy even if the student withdraws from school prior to the hearing or decision to impose the expulsion. The expulsion will be imposed for the same duration that it would have been had the student remained enrolled.

If a student is expelled, the student and the student's parents will be provided with written notice within one (1) school day of the imposed expulsion. The notice will include the reasons for the expulsion, the right of the student, or the student's parent(s)/guardian(s) or custodian(s) to appeal the expulsion to the Board or its designee, the right to be represented in all appeal proceedings, the right to be granted a hearing before the Board or its designee, and the right to request that the hearing be held in executive session.

Within fourteen (14) days after the Superintendent notifies the parents of the expulsion, the expulsion may be appealed, in writing, to the Board of Education or its designee. A hearing on the requested appeal will be formal with an opportunity for sworn testimony. If the expulsion is upheld on appeal, a student's parents may pursue further appeal to the Court of Common Pleas.

Students serving expulsions will not be awarded grades or credit during the period of expulsion. Expulsion for certain violations including use or possession of alcohol or drugs, may result in revocation of student's driver's license. When a student is expelled, the Superintendent will

notify any college in which the expelled student is enrolled under the Postsecondary Enrollment Option at the time the expulsion is imposed.

Permanent Exclusion

State law provides for the permanent exclusion of a student, 16 years of age or older who engages in certain criminal activity. Permanently excluded students may never be permitted to return to school anywhere in the State of Ohio. A permanent exclusion may be considered if the student is convicted or adjudicated delinquent for committing one or more of the following crimes while on the property of any Ohio school:

- A. conveying deadly weapons onto school property or to a school function;
- B. possessing deadly weapons onto school property or at a school function;
- C. carrying a concealed weapon onto school property or at a school function;
- D. trafficking in drugs onto school property or at a school function;
- E. murder, aggravated murder on school property or at a school function;
- F. voluntary or involuntary manslaughter on school grounds or at a school function;
- G. assault or aggravated assault on school property or at a school function;
- H. rape, gross sexual imposition or felonious sexual penetration on school grounds, or at a school function, when the victim is a school employee;
- I. complicity in any of the above offenses, regardless of the location.

This process is formal and may follow an expulsion with the proper notification to the parents.

Discipline of Students with Disabilities

Students with disabilities are entitled to the rights and procedures afforded by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act (I.D.E.I.A.), and, where applicable, the Americans with Disabilities Act (A.D.A.), and/or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

Suspension of Bus Riding/Transportation Privileges

When a student is being considered for suspension of bus riding/transportation privileges, the administrator in charge will notify the student of the reason. The student will be given an opportunity to address the basis for the proposed suspension at an informal hearing. After that informal hearing, the principal [or assistant principal or other administrator] will decide whether or not to suspend his/her bus riding/transportation privileges for all or part of the school year.

If a student's bus riding/transportation privileges are suspended, s/he and his/her parents will be notified, in writing within one day, of the reason for and the length of the suspension.

SEARCH AND SEIZURE

Administrators may search a student or his/her property (including vehicles, purses, knapsacks, gym bags, etc.) with or without the student's consent, whenever they reasonably suspect that a search will lead to the discovery of evidence of a violation of law or school rules. The extent of the search will be governed by the seriousness of the alleged infraction and the student's age. General housekeeping inspection of school property may be conducted with reasonable notice. Student lockers are the property of the District and students have no reasonable expectation of privacy in their contents or in the contents of any other District property including desks or other

containers. School authorities may conduct random searches of the lockers and their contents at any time without announcement. Unannounced and random canine searches may also be conducted.

Additionally, students have NO reasonable expectation of privacy in their actions in public areas including but not limited to, common areas, hallways, cafeterias, classrooms and gymnasiums. The District may use video cameras in such areas and on all school vehicles transporting students to and from regular and extracurricular activities.

Anything that is found in the course of a search may be used as evidence of a violation of school rules or the law, and may be taken, held or turned over to the police. The School reserves the right not to return items that have been confiscated.

INTERROGATION OF STUDENTS

The School is committed to protecting students from harm that may be connected with the school environment and also recognizes its responsibility to cooperate with law enforcement and public child welfare agencies. While the School believes these agencies should conduct their investigations off school property if possible, investigations can take place at school in emergency situations or if the violation being investigated occurred on school property.

Before students are questioned as witnesses or suspects in an alleged criminal violation, the building administrator will attempt to contact a parent prior to questioning and shall remain in the room during questioning.

If a student is questioned as the subject of alleged child abuse or neglect, the building administrator will attempt to contact a parent prior to questioning, and s/he (or a designated guidance counselor) will remain in the room during questioning. If the agency investigating the alleged child abuse or neglect suspects the parent is the perpetrator, neither parent will be contacted prior to questioning, but the building administrator (or a designated guidance counselor) will remain in the room during questioning.

If law enforcement or children's services agency removes a student from school, the building administrator will notify a parent.

STUDENT RIGHTS OF EXPRESSION

The School recognizes the right of students to express themselves. With the right of expression comes the responsibility to do so 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 school guidelines.

- A. Material cannot be displayed if it:
 - 1. is obscene to minors, libelous, or pervasively 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
 - 5. presents a clear and present likelihood that, either because of its content or manner of distribution or display, it will cause 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. Material may not be displayed or distributed during class periods, or between classes. Permission may be granted for display or distribution during lunch periods, and/or before or 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 materials they wish to display meet school guidelines may present them to the Principal twenty-four (24) hours prior to display.

SECTION V TRANSPORTATION

Bus Transportation to School

The School provides transportation for all students who live farther than one (1) mile from school. The transportation schedule and routes are available by contacting the Director of Transportation at 614-873-4642.

Students may only ride assigned buses and must 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. The principal may approve a change in a student's regular assigned bus stop to address a special need. Parents should send a note to the principal stating the reason for the request and the duration of the requested change.

Bus Conduct

Students who are riding to and from school on District provided transportation must follow all basic safety rules. This applies to school owned buses as well as any contracted transportation. This also includes any person riding transportation for any reason. (Field trips, athletic events, etc.)

The driver may assign seating or direct students in any reasonable manner to maintain transportation safety.

Students must comply with the following basic safety rules:

Prior to loading (on the road and at school)

Each student shall:

- be on time at the designated loading zone five (5) minutes prior to scheduled stop);
- stay off the road at all times while walking to and waiting for school transportation;
- line up single file off the roadway to enter;
- wait until the school transportation is completely stopped before moving forward to enter;
- refrain from crossing a highway until the driver signals it is safe to cross;
- properly board and depart the vehicle;
- go immediately to a seat and be seated.

It is the parents' responsibility to inform the bus driver when their child will not be aboard school transportation. Drivers will not wait for students who are not at their designated stops on time.

During a trip, all passengers shall observe the following rules to insure the safe operation of the school bus. These rules are issued in conjunction with State Law and school policy. Drivers are responsible for enforcing the rules and passengers will be held accountable for their actions. Failure to follow the rules may result in disciplinary action.

When teachers, coaches, advisors, or chaperones are on a bus, these individuals are expected to assist the driver with making sure that all passengers follow the rules of the bus. The bus driver is responsible for all aspects of the safe operation of the school bus. With safety as our goal, orderliness and cooperation are essential for the security and protection of all on board. Teachers, coaches, advisors and chaperones will have their organization's members adhere to these rules.

1. Load and unload in an orderly manner at the designated stop.
2. Aisle must be clear at ALL TIMES.
3. Find a seat and be seated. Never change seats, remain seated while transportation is in motion.
4. Eating and littering are not permitted on the bus. If a stop at a restaurant is scheduled, all eating, drinking must be done on the restaurant premises. **No FOOD or DRINK will be allowed on the school bus.
5. There must be absolute quiet at railroad crossings and other places of danger as specified by the driver.
6. Noise on the bus should be kept to a minimum. The same behavior is EXPECTED on the bus as in the classroom. Pupils may talk quietly if the driver permits. Radios without earphones may not be played on the bus at any time.
7. When more than one adult supervisor rides with a group, one should position their seat at the rear of the bus, and one near the front.
8. Students should be off the bus if no adult chaperone is on with them to maintain order.
9. Only those in official capacity are entitled to ride the bus. For example: coaches, statisticians, team members and substitutes, water boys/girls.
10. It is the chaperone's responsibility to confiscate any potential safety hazards. Examples: glass containers, fireworks, matches, noisemakers, aerosol cans, etc.
11. Keep head, hands, arms, and legs inside the school transportation at all times
12. No throwing of any object out of windows
13. No yelling out the windows
14. No pushing, shoving, scuffling or inappropriate contact with others
15. Keep books, packages, coats, and all other objects out of aisle.
16. Be courteous to the driver and other riders
17. Do not use nuisance devices (e.g., laser pointers) in a way that disrupts the safe transportation of students and/or endangers students or employees
18. Do not tamper with the school vehicle or any of its equipment

** There may be circumstances where this rule needs to be eased. Both driver and those in charge must feel the need to waive this rule. Litter must be picked up.

Bus drivers may inform the principal in writing of misbehavior. Discipline will be administered according to policies adopted by the Board of Education.

Each student shall:

- remain seated while the school transportation is in motion;
- keep head, hands, arms, and legs inside the school transportation at all times;
- not push, shove or engage in scuffling;
- not litter in the school vehicle or throw anything in, into, or from the vehicle;
- keep books, packages, coats, and all other objects out of the aisle;
- be courteous to the driver and to other riders;
- not eat or play games, cards, etc.;
- not use nuisance devices (e.g., laser pointers) on the bus in a way that disrupts the safe transportation of students and/or endangers students or employees;

- not tamper with the school vehicle or any of its equipment (including, but not limited to emergency and/or safety equipment).

Exiting the school vehicle

Each student shall:

- remain seated until the vehicle has stopped;
- cross the road, when necessary, at least 10 feet in front of the vehicle, but only after the driver signals that it is safe;
- be alert to a possible danger signal from the driver.

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

Video Recordings on School Buses

The Board of Education has installed video cameras on school buses to monitor student behavior. If a student misbehaves on a bus and his/her actions are recorded video, the recording will be submitted to the Principal and may be used as evidence of misbehavior.

Penalties for Infractions

A student who misbehaves on the bus shall be disciplined in accordance with the Student Discipline Code and may lose the privilege of riding on the bus.

Transportation of Students By Private Vehicle

When transportation by District vehicle is either not available or feasible, there may be a need to provide transportation to students by private vehicle. However, no students will be permitted to ride in a private vehicle unless written consent is provided by each student's parent using Form 8660 F2 – Parental Consent for Transportation by Private Vehicle. Upon request, parents of participating students will be given the name of the driver, the owner of the vehicle, and the description of the vehicle.