Dermott Public Schools



Home of the Rams
2026-2027
Student/Parent Handbook

Adopted by Dermott School Board July 07, 2026

Welcome to the 2026–2027 School Year!

Dear Dermott School District Students, Parents, Guardians, Faculty, Staff, and Community,

It is my great pleasure to welcome you to the 2026–2027 school year at Dermott School District. I hope your summer has been filled with rest, joy, and meaningful time with family and friends. As we begin this new school year, I am excited about the opportunities that lie ahead for every student.

At Dermott School District, our mission is to provide every student with a safe, supportive, and engaging learning environment where they can grow academically, socially, and emotionally. We believe that every child has unique talents and unlimited potential, and we remain committed to helping each student achieve success both inside and outside the classroom.

This year, we will continue to focus on academic excellence, student achievement, school safety, and building strong relationships with our families and community. We know that education is most successful when schools and families work together. Your partnership, encouragement, and involvement make a tremendous difference in the lives of our students.

To our students, I encourage you to come to school each day ready to learn, ask questions, work hard, and treat others with kindness and respect. Challenge yourselves to set goals, embrace new opportunities, and take pride in your accomplishments.

To our parents and guardians, thank you for entrusting us with your children's education. We value your support and invite you to stay engaged throughout the school year by communicating with teachers, attending school events, and celebrating your child's successes.

I also want to recognize our outstanding teachers, staff, and administrators who have worked diligently to prepare for another successful year. Their dedication and commitment to our students are the foundation of everything we do.

As we begin this new journey together, let us embrace the year with optimism, determination, and a shared commitment to excellence. Together, we will continue to create opportunities that prepare our students for bright and successful futures.

Thank you for being a part of the Dermott School District family. I look forward to an amazing school year filled with learning, growth, and achievement.

Welcome back, and let's make the 2026–2027 school year our best one yet!

Sincerely,

Kristi Ridgell, Superintendent
Dermott School District

Dermott Public Schools

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FOREWORD

This Handbook has been reviewed and approved by the Dermott Board of Education. It is considered to be the official guide for parents and students on policies, regulations, requirements, activities, and traditions at Dermott Public Schools. This handbook, when properly used, can help the students enjoy fully the school and the opportunities it affords.

Students are expected to follow the provisions of this handbook and obey the directions of certified staff as well as classified staff and school volunteers who have been assigned responsibility that include the supervision or oversight of students. Failure to follow the directions of a volunteer or classified staff member is a violation of this handbook and will result in disciplinary action being taken against the student ranging from a warning to the recommendation of expulsion.

TO THE PARENTS

Education is, and must be, a cooperative affair between the home and the school. When parents, teachers, and students understand the common goals and the part each must play in order to reach these goals, then the process of getting an education becomes easier, and certainly more pleasant.

The purpose of this handbook is to promote understanding between the home and school. Please read this handbook carefully. Your child will be guided by its provisions through his/her career. Please keep in mind that, as a school becomes larger, more care is needed to insure their smooth operation. Regulations are set up for one purpose only – to guarantee to your son or daughter the best possible opportunity for securing a good education.

Students and parents should consider the school as a place of business and work. The primary responsibility of the school is **EDUCATION,** and not entertainment, though certainly it is expected that the work and activities of the school will be a genuine source of pleasure for most students. Education for the times in which we live requires an abundance of study. We believe, therefore, that every school student should do at least some home study every night. The home study should be planned so that a definite time and place is set up and the program is followed at least four nights each week. The place of study should be a quiet, well-lighted place away from radio, television, telephone, and family conversations.

Social affairs should not be allowed to interfere with school duties. Social activities are essential, but they should be restricted as far as possible to weekends. Students must have adequate rest if they are to profit most from their school experiences.

Regular attendance is a must. No student can accomplish much unless he/she attends regularly. It is important to remember that all absences are recorded and become a part of the student's permanent record. Many prospective employers are more interested in the attendance record than they are in the academic record. Past experience also shows without a doubt that unnecessary absences are one of the greatest single causes of failure.

Parents/guardians are welcome to consult the school officials or teachers on matters that they would like to have clarified concerning the operation of the school. In order that we may extend the proper

courtesies and provide the necessary information, it is requested that parents who wish to consult with some teacher call first at the office of the principal. Except in urgent matters, conferences will be arranged during the teacher's conference period, before school, or after school so that it will not interfere with classes.

If at any time parents/guardians need to visit the school, they must check in at the office. This is necessary to maintain our closed campus policy. We need to know who is on our campus to provide for the safety of our students.

The administration and faculty of Dermott Public Schools solicit your full support and cooperation in providing the kind of school that your sons and daughters deserve. With this in mind, we would like to extend an invitation for you to volunteer in our school, substitute if qualifications are met, and be active in school activities.

ACCREDITATION

Dermott Public Schools are accredited by the Arkansas Department of Education. This association assures you of high quality instruction and admission to college according to your achievement.

PHILOSOPHY

The Dermott Public School Systems is an institution established by the community for the purpose of providing the best education possible for its students, and for systematically teaching the knowledge, skill, and values which assure the preservation of our democratic way of life.

We believe that education strives to improve society through the improvement of the individual; therefore, all children should be educated to the very highest of their capabilities. To accomplish this, teachers in our system are encouraged to use methods of instruction that will provide the experience and opportunities necessary to motivate each student to discover and develop his particular abilities and need to the maximum, thus enabling each student to develop a well-rounded life.

We further feel that education should develop the whole personality of the individual and should include, in addition to the many academic disciplines, emphasis on the mastery of understanding concepts, skills, and attitudes, which will enable each student to have a feeling of self-worth and to become a self-supporting, responsible individual who can cope successfully with society. In addition, fine arts, such as music and art, should be offered insofar as possible. Thus, education is not merely the training of the mind, but rather a training of the physical, mental, moral, social, and emotional self.

We believe it to be the responsibility of the staff to keep abreast with the new developments in education to incorporate those proven trends into our curriculum with the proper training and timing.

We seek to encourage good work habits, respect for the dignity and worth of every person, and the ability to live and work successfully, for we believe that we are not teaching just subject matter, but the youth of America - tomorrow's men and women, our leaders of the future.

SCHOOL OBJECTIVES

In order to ensure that students are provided the best possible programs, the following goals are established:

- The Dermott School District will have in place a program designed to help each learner to reach his/her maximum potential in the basic skills of reading, math, communication, and problem solving which will enable students to function effectively in the present as well as the future.
- The Dermott School District will have implemented a process whereby learners will be assisted to achieve functional understanding of economic and occupational skills and options via the presentation of career information, provision of opportunities to develop job entry skills, and the presentation of economic concept including the management of time, money, and personal resources.
- The Dermott School District will have in operation procedures aimed at helping each learner develop his/her full range of potential through the fostering and encouragement of creativity through the Arts and the development of specific learning skills to include critical thinking, decision-making, and the use of the scientific method to facilitate independent life-long learning.
- The Dermott School District will have in place a process designed to help learners progress toward becoming healthy, responsible, and humane citizens through the following:
    - developing a sense of personal and civic responsibility;
    - developing an understanding, stewardship, appreciation, and awareness of this country's natural, social, economic, and political heritage;
    - developing an understanding of the world cultures;
    - developing self-discipline, moral values, and a respect for the rights and property of others, including those who think and act differently.
- The Dermott School District will have implemented procedures whereby learners will be helped to maintain healthful living through the maintenance of good physical and mental health, the development of a positive and realistic self-concept and family living.

EQUAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY

No student in the Dermott School District shall, on the grounds of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, or disability be excluded from participation in, or denied the benefits of, or subjected to discrimination under any educational program or activity sponsored by the District. The District has a limited open forum granting equal access to the Boy Scouts of America and other youth groups.

Inquiries on non-discrimination may be directed to Mrs. Arniece Gardner, who may be reached at (870)-538-1000 ext 1401.

Any person may report sex discrimination, including sexual harassment, to the Title IX Coordinator in person or by using the mailing address, telephone number, or email address provided above. A report may be made at any time, including during non-business hours, and may be on the individual's own behalf or on behalf of another individual who is the person alleged to be the victim of conduct that could constitute sex discrimination or sexual harassment.

For further information on notice of non-discrimination or to file a complaint, visit https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/complaintintro.html; for the address and phone number of the office that serves your area, or call 1-800-421-3481.

SPECIAL EDUCATION

The district shall provide a free appropriate public education and necessary related services to all children with disabilities residing within the district, as required under the Individuals With Disabilities Education Act ("IDEA"), Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans With Disabilities Act, and Arkansas Statutes.

It is the intent of the district to ensure that students who are disabled within the definition of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 are identified, evaluated and provided with appropriate educational services. Students may be disabled within the meaning of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act even though they do not require services pursuant to the IDEA.

For students eligible for services under IDEA, the District shall follow procedures for identification, evaluation, placement, and delivery of services to children with disabilities provided in the state and federal statutes which govern governing special education. Implementation of an Individualized Education Program (IEP) in accordance with the IDEA satisfies the district's obligation to provide a free and appropriate education under Section 504.

The Board directs the superintendent to ensure procedures are in place for the implementation of special education services and that programs are developed to conform to the requirements of state and federal legislation. The superintendent is responsible for appointing a district coordinator for overseeing district fulfillment of its responsibilities regarding handicapped students with disabilities.[1] Among the coordinator's responsibilities shall be ensuring district enforcement of the due process rights of handicapped students with disabilities and their parents.

STUDENT HANDBOOK

It shall be the policy of the Dermott School district that the most recently adopted version of the Student Handbook be incorporated by reference into the policies of this district. In the event that there is a conflict between the student handbook and a general board policy or policies, the more recently adopted language will be considered binding and controlling on the matter provided the parent(s) of the student, or the student if 18 years of age or older have acknowledged receipt of the controlling language.

Principals shall review all changes to student policies and ensure that such changes are provided to students and parents, either in the Handbook or, if changes are made after the handbook is printed, as an addendum to the handbook.

EXPULSION

The Board of Education may expel a student for a period longer than ten (10) school days for violation of the District's written discipline policies. The Superintendent may make a recommendation of expulsion to the Board of Education for student conduct:

- Deemed to be of such gravity that suspension would be inappropriate;
- Where the student's continued attendance at school would disrupt the orderly learning environment; or
- Would pose an unreasonable danger to the welfare of other students or staff.

Expulsion shall not be used to discipline a student in kindergarten through fifth (5^{th}) grade unless the student's behavior:

a. Poses a physical risk to himself or herself or to others;
b. Causes a serious disruption that cannot be addressed through other means; or
c. Is the act of bringing a firearm on school campus.

The Superintendent or his/her designee shall give written notice to the parents, legal guardians, persons having lawful control of the student, or persons standing in loco parentis (mailed to the address reflected on the District's records) that he/she will recommend to the Board of Education that the student be expelled for the specified length of time and state the reasons for the recommendation to expel. The notice shall give the date, hour, and place where the Board of Education will consider and dispose of the recommendation.

The hearing shall be conducted not later than ten (10) school days following the date of the notice, except that representatives of the Board and student may agree in writing to a date not conforming to this limitation.

The President of the Board, Board attorney, or other designated Board member shall preside at the hearing. The student may choose to be represented by legal counsel. Both the district administration and School Board also may be represented by legal counsel. The hearing shall be conducted in open session of the Board unless the parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of the student, person standing in loco parentis, or student if age eighteen (18) or older, requests that the hearing be conducted in executive session. Any action taken by the Board shall be in open session.

During the hearing, the Superintendent, or designee, or representative will present evidence, including the calling of witnesses, who gave rise to the recommendation of expulsion. The student, or his/her representative, may then present evidence including statements from persons with personal knowledge of the events or circumstances relevant to the charges against the student. Formal cross-examination will not be permitted; however, any member of the Board, the Superintendent, or designee, the student, or his/her representative may question anyone making a statement and/or the student. The presiding officer shall decide questions concerning the appropriateness or relevance of any questions asked during the hearing.

Except as permitted by policy 4.22, the Superintendent shall recommend the expulsion of any student for a period of one (1) year for possession of any firearm prohibited on school campus by law. The Superintendent shall, however, have the discretion to modify the expulsion recommendation for a student on a case-by-case basis. Parents, legal guardians, persons having lawful control of a student, or persons standing in loco parentis of a student enrolling from another school after the expiration of an expulsion period for a weapons policy violation shall be given a copy of the current laws regarding the possibility of parental responsibility for allowing a child to possess a weapon on school property. The parents, legal guardians, persons having lawful control of the student, or persons standing in loco parentis shall sign a statement acknowledging that they have read and understand said laws prior to the student being enrolled in school.

The Superintendent and the Board of Education shall complete the expulsion process of any student that was initiated because the student possessed a firearm or other prohibited weapon on school property regardless of the enrollment status of the student.

The District shall establish programs, measures, or alternative means and methods to continue student engagement and access to education during a student's period of expulsion.

TRANSFERS

Transfer applications received by the District shall be placed on the Board's next meeting agenda. At least five (5) days before the meeting where the transfer application appears on the agenda, the superintendent shall notify the Board regarding:

- All transfer applications received since the last meeting; and
- The superintendent's recommendation concerning each transfer application.

Each transfer application shall be considered individually and receive a separate vote by the Board. The parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of the student, or person standing in loco parentis to a student who submits a transfer application shall be given at least five (5) minutes to present the student's case for a transfer to the Board.

The Board may reject a nonresident's application for admission if its acceptance would necessitate the addition of staff or classrooms; exceed the capacity of a program, class, grade level, or school building; or cause the District to provide educational services not currently provided in the affected school. The District shall reject applications that would cause it to be out of compliance with applicable laws and regulations regarding desegregation.

If the superintendent intends to recommend the Board deny the transfer application, the superintendent shall provide a written explanation of the reasons for the recommendation to the Board and the parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of the student, or person standing in loco parentis to the student.

The parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of a student, or person standing in loco parentis to the student who submitted a transfer application that was rejected may appeal the decision of the Board to the State Board of Education.

Any student transferring to a District school shall be evaluated by District staff, including a review of a student's transcript, grades, course credits, and test scores, to determine the student's appropriate grade placement. Any grades, course credits, and/or promotions received by a student while enrolled in the Division of Youth Services system of education shall be considered transferable in the same manner as those grades, course credits, and promotions from other accredited Arkansas public educational entities. A student transferring from home school will be placed in accordance with Policy 4.6—HOME SCHOOLING.

Any person who has been expelled from any other school district shall receive a hearing before the Board at the time the student is seeking enrollment in the District. The Board reserves the right to not allow the enrollment of such students until the time of the person's expulsion has expired following the hearing before the Board.

Except as otherwise required or permitted by law, the responsibility for transportation of any nonresident student admitted to a school in this District shall be borne by the student or the student's parents. The District and the resident district may enter into a written agreement with the student or student's parents to provide transportation to or from the District, or both.

To enroll in a school in the District, the child must:

A. Be a resident of the District as defined in District policy (4.1—RESIDENCE REQUIREMENTS);
B. Meet the criteria outlined in Policy:
    - 4.40—HOMELESS STUDENTS; or
    - 4.52—STUDENTS WHO ARE FOSTER CHILDREN;
C. Be accepted as a transfer student under the provisions of policy 4.4; or
D. Participate under a school choice option and submit the required paperwork as required by the choice option under Policy 4.5.

A student may enter kindergarten if the student:

- Meets one of the requirements for school attendance of A through D above; and
- Falls under one of the following:
    - Will attain the age of five (5) on or before August 1 of the year in which the student is seeking initial enrollment; or
    - Has been enrolled in a state-accredited or state-approved kindergarten program in another state for at least sixty (60) days and:
        - Will become five (5) years old during the year in which the student is enrolled in kindergarten; and
        - Submits a written request for enrollment to the District; or
    - Was enrolled in a state-accredited or state-approved kindergarten program in another state or in a kindergarten program equivalent in another country and:
        - Becomes a resident of this state as a direct result of active military orders or a court-ordered change of custody;
        - Will become five (5) years of age during the year in which the student is enrolled in kindergarten; and
        - Submits a written request for enrollment to the District.

Any child who will be six (6) years of age on or before October 1 of the school year of enrollment and who has not completed a state-accredited kindergarten program shall be evaluated by the district and may be placed in the first grade if the results of the evaluation justify placement in the first grade and the child's parent or legal guardian agrees with placement in the first grade; otherwise the child shall be placed in kindergarten.

Any child may enter first grade in a District school if the child will attain six (6) years of age during the school year in which the child is seeking enrollment and the child has successfully completed a kindergarten program in a public school in Arkansas.

Any child who has been enrolled in the first grade in a state-accredited or state-approved elementary school in another state for a period of at least sixty (60) days, who will become six (6) years of age

during the school year in which the student is enrolled in grade one (1), and who meets the basic residency requirements for school attendance may be enrolled in the first grade.

Students who move into the District from an accredited school shall be assigned to the same grade as they were attending in their previous school (mid-year transfers) or as they would have been assigned in their previous school. Private school students shall be evaluated by the District to determine their appropriate grade placement. Home school students enrolling or re-enrolling as a public school student shall be placed in accordance with policy 4.6—HOME SCHOOLING.

The district shall make no attempt to ascertain the immigration status, legal or illegal, of any student or the student's parent or legal guardian presenting for enrollment.
Prior to the child's admission to a District school:

1. The parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of the student, or person standing in loco parentis shall furnish the child's social security number, or if they request, the district will assign the child a nine (9) digit number designated by the Division of Elementary and Secondary education.
2. The parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of the student, or person standing in loco parentis shall provide the district with one (1) of the following documents indicating the child's age:
    a. A birth certificate;
    b. A statement by the local registrar or a county recorder certifying the child's date of birth;
    c. An attested baptismal certificate;
    d. A passport;
    e. An affidavit of the date and place of birth by the child's parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of the student, or person standing in loco parentis;
    f. United States military identification; or
    g. Previous school records.
3. The parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of the student, or person standing in loco parentis shall indicate on school registration forms whether the child has been expelled from school in any other school district or is a party to an expulsion proceeding. Any person who has been expelled from any other school district shall receive a hearing before the Board at the time the student is seeking enrollment in the District. The Board reserves the right to not allow the enrollment of such students until the time of the person's expulsion has expired following the hearing before the Board.
4. In accordance with Policy 4.57—IMMUNIZATIONS, the child shall be age appropriately immunized or have an exemption issued by the Arkansas Department of Health.

Uniformed Services Member's Children
For the purposes of this policy:

“Activated reserve components” means members of the reserve component of the uniformed services who have received a notice of intent to deploy or mobilize under Title 10 of the United States Code, Title 32 of the United States Code, or state mobilization to active duty.

“Active duty” means full-time duty status in the active, uniformed services of the United States, including without limitation members of The National Guard and Reserve on active duty orders under 10 U.S.C. chapters 1209 and 1211 or 42 U.S.C. § 204.

“Deployment” means a period of time extending from six (6) months before a member of the uniformed services' departure from their home station on military orders through six (6) months after return to the Uniformed Services member’s home station.

"Dual status military technician" means a federal civilian employee who is:

a. Employed under 5 U.S.C. § 3101 or 32 U.S.C. § 709(b);
b. Required as a condition of employment to maintain membership in the Selected Reserve; and
c. Assigned to a civilian position as a technician in the organizing, administering, instructing, or training of the Selected Reserve or in the maintenance and repair of supplies or equipment issued to the Selected Reserve of the United States Armed Forces.

“Eligible child” means the children of:

- Active duty members of the uniformed services;
- Members of the active and activated reserve components of the uniformed services;
- Veterans of the uniformed services who are injured in the line of duty and medically separated or retired;
- Members of the uniformed services who die on active duty or as a result of injuries sustained on active duty;
- Dual status military technicians; and
- Traditional members of the National Guard and reserve components of the armed forces who are relocating to the state for employment or to serve as a member of an Arkansas-based reserve component unit.

"Traditional member of the National Guard or federal reserves" means an active member of the Selected Reserve subject to mobilization and deployment for which the member attends monthly and annual training periods.

“Transition” means the:

- Formal and physical process of transitioning from public school to public school; or
- Period of time in which a student moves from a sending district to a receiving district.

“Uniformed services” means the United States Army, United States Navy, United States Air Force, United States Marine Corps, United States Space Force, United States Coast Guard, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Commissioned Officer Corps, the United States Commissioned Corps of the Public Health Services, and the state and federal reserve components of each of these bodies.

“Veteran” means an individual who served in the uniformed services and who was discharged or released from the uniformed services under conditions other than dishonorable.

The superintendent shall designate an individual as the District’s military education coordinator, who shall serve as the primary point of contact for an eligible child and for the eligible child’s parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of the eligible child, or person standing in loco parentis. The individual the superintendent designates as the District’s military education coordinator shall possess specialized knowledge regarding the educational needs and unique challenges faced by children of uniformed services families.

An eligible child as defined in this policy shall:

1. Be allowed to continue the student’s enrollment at the grade level commensurate with the student’s grade level the student was in at the time of transition from the student’s previous school, regardless of age;
2. Be eligible for enrollment in the next highest grade level, regardless of age if the student has satisfactorily completed the prerequisite grade level in the student’s previous school;
3. Enter the District's school on the validated level from the student’s previous accredited school when transferring into the District after the start of the school year;
4. Be enrolled in courses and programs the same as or similar to the ones the student was enrolled in the student’s previous school to the extent that space is available. This does not prohibit the District from performing subsequent evaluations to ensure appropriate placement and continued enrollment of the student in the courses/and/or programs;
5. Be provided services comparable to those the student with disabilities received in the student’s previous school based on the student’s previous Individualized Education Program (IEP). This does not preclude the District school from performing subsequent evaluations to ensure appropriate placement of the student;
6. Make reasonable accommodations and modifications to address the needs of an incoming student with disabilities, subject to an existing 504 or Title II Plan, necessary to provide the student with equal access to education. This does not preclude the District school from performing subsequent evaluations to ensure appropriate placement of the student;

7. Be enrolled by an individual who has been given the special power of attorney for the student's guardianship. The individual shall have the power to take all other actions requiring parental participation and/or consent;
8. Be eligible to continue attending District schools if the student has been placed under the legal guardianship of a noncustodial parent living outside the district by a custodial parent on active military duty.

Following the receipt of advanced notice and an enrollment application of an eligible student from a military family, the District shall:

- Provisionally enroll, provide placement for, and enter academic course requests on behalf of the incoming student based on the student's education record provided by the student's family or the sending district;
- Provide the uniformed services family with information regarding:
    a. Career-ready pathways and other academic or education programs offered;
    b. Required academic courses for each curriculum and elective course options;
    c. School and community-sponsored extracurricular activities, including without limitation individual and team sports, clubs, junior reserve officer training corps opportunities, and Purple Star School program ambassadors; and
    d. Contact information for the designated military family education coordinator and the Purple Star School program military family education facilitator, if applicable; and
    e. Other relevant information regarding the District.

In the event that official copies of an eligible child's education records are not available at the time the eligible child is transferring, then the District shall:

- Pre-register and place an eligible child based on the eligible child's unofficial education records pending receipt of the eligible child's official records; and
- Request the eligible child's official education records from the sending district.

The District shall not deny the enrollment of a Uniformed Service Member dependent unless the District has reached the maximum student-to-teacher ratio allowed under federal law; state law; the Standards for Accreditation for Public Schools and School Districts; state rules; or other applicable federal regulations, and the District timely notifies the parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of the student, or person standing in loco parentis of the lack of capacity.

The District shall notify a prospective student's family in writing regarding whether the student's enrollment has been accepted or rejected within fifteen (15) calendar days of receiving the student's enrollment application and supporting documentation.

To facilitate a smooth transition between the student's previous coursework and the curriculum best suited to ensure educational success in the student's new school, the District may enroll an inbound transitioning eligible student in digital coursework, if available, at the request of the military family.

The District may request a waiver from the State Board as necessary to accommodate an eligible student.

International Exchange Students

"Host family" means the individual or family with whom an international exchange student is placed by an international student exchange visitor placement organization under the International Student Exchange Visitor Placement Organization Registration Act, § 6-18-1701 et seq..

"International exchange student" means a student who is placed with a host family by an international student exchange visitor placement organization under the International Student Exchange Visitor Placement Organization Registration Act, § 6-18-1701 et seq..

Before an international exchange student may attend a District school, the District requires all international student exchange visitor placement organizations that are placing international exchange students within the District to:

- Be certified by the Council on Standards for International Educational Travel;
- Provide documented proof of the international exchange student's English proficiency; and
- Notify the District at least three (3) weeks before the beginning of the academic semester the international exchange student plans to enroll in the District.

The District shall admit for enrollment and attendance an international exchange student who has been placed with a host family who resides within the District boundaries. The international exchange student shall attend the school in the District based on the attendance zone where the host family resides.

Upon an international exchange student's arrival, the international exchange student may be required to submit to quarantine to prevent the spread of infectious diseases as may be necessary, which shall not exceed seven (7) days unless otherwise recommended by the Arkansas Department of Health or the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

International exchange students are expected to follow the District handbook and student code of conduct as the District has the authority to expel a student for violations of the school district's written student discipline policies or if the international exchange student presents a danger to the District's students or employees.

Statewide assessment results achieved by an international exchange student enrolled in the District shall be included in the District's results on the statewide assessments.
The District shall provide English-language services to international exchange students as necessary.

WITHDRAWALS FROM SCHOOL

If the student has to withdraw from school for any reason, he or she must see the principal or his/her designee who will give the student a withdrawal form. The form must be signed by each of the student's teachers, the librarian, and guidance counselor. The teacher will record that student's checkout grades and signify that all books are turned in and the student's record is clear. The student must take the withdrawal form to the next school in which he or she enrolls. Student records will be forwarded to the new school when requested if the student has properly checked out and paid all fines, etc. If a student's records are not requested from the new school within ten days, the counselor will notify the principal; and the proper authorities will be notified.

PRIVACY OF STUDENTS' RECORDS/DIRECTORY INFORMATION

Except when a court order regarding a student has been presented to the district to the contrary, all students' education records are available for inspection and copying by the parent of his/her student who is under the age of eighteen (18). At the age of eighteen (18), the right to inspect and copy a student's records transfers to the student. A student's parent or the student, if over the age of 18, requesting to review the student's education records will be allowed to do so within no more than forty five (45) days of the request. The district forwards education records, including disciplinary records, to schools that have requested them and in which the student seeks or intends to enroll, or is already enrolled so long as the disclosure is for purposes related to the student's enrollment or transfer.

The district shall receive written permission before releasing education records to any agency or individual not authorized by law to receive and/or view the education records without prior parental permission. The District shall maintain a record of requests by such agencies or individuals for access to, and each disclosure of, personally identifiable information (PII) from the education records of each student. Disclosure of education records is authorized by law to school officials with legitimate educational interests. A personal record kept by a school staff member is **not** considered an education record if it meets the following tests:

- it is in the sole possession of the individual who made it;
- it is used only as a personal memory aid; and
- information contained in it has never been revealed or made available to any other person, except the maker's temporary substitute.

For the purposes of this policy a school official is a person employed by the school as an administrator, supervisor, instructor, or support staff member (including health or medical staff and law enforcement unit personnel); a person serving on the school board; a person or company with whom the school has contracted to perform a special task (such as an attorney, auditor, medical consultant, or therapist); or a parent or student serving on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee, or assisting another school official in performing his or her tasks.

For the purposes of this policy a school official has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibility, contracted duty, or duty of elected office.

In addition to releasing PII to school officials without permission, the District may disclose PII from the education records of students in foster care placement to the student's caseworker or to the caseworker's representative without getting prior consent of the parent (or the student if the student is over eighteen (18)). For the District to release the student's PII without getting permission:

- The student must be in foster care;
- The individual to whom the PII will be released must have legal access to the student's case plan; and
- The Arkansas Department of Human Services, or a sub-agency of the Department, must be legally responsible for the care and protection of the student.

The District discloses PII from an education record to appropriate parties, including parents, in connection with an emergency if knowledge of the information is necessary to protect the health or safety of the student or other individuals. The superintendent or designee shall determine who will have access to and the responsibility for disclosing information in emergency situations.

When deciding whether to release PII in a health or safety emergency, the District may take into account the totality of the circumstances pertaining to a threat to the health or safety of a student or other individuals. If the District determines that there is an articulable and significant threat to the health or safety of a student or other individuals, it may disclose information from education records to any person whose knowledge of the information is necessary to protect the health or safety of the student or other individuals.[2]

For purposes of this policy, the Dermott School District does not distinguish between a custodial and noncustodial parent, or a non-parent such as a person acting in loco parentis or a foster parent with respect to gaining access to a student's records. Unless a court order restricting such access has been presented to the district to the contrary, the fact of a person's status as parent or guardian, alone, enables that parent or guardian to review and copy his child's records.

If there exists a court order which directs that a parent not have access to a student or his/her records, the parent, guardian, person acting in loco parentis, or an agent of the Department of Human Services must present a file-marked copy of such order to the building principal and the superintendent. The school will make good-faith efforts to act in accordance with such court order, but the failure to do so does not impose legal liability upon the school. The actual responsibility for enforcement of such court orders rests with the parents or guardians, their attorneys and the court which issued the order.

A parent or guardian does not have the right to remove any material from a student's records, but such parent or guardian may challenge the accuracy of a record. The right to challenge the accuracy of a record does not include the right to dispute a grade, disciplinary rulings, disability placements, or other such determinations, which must be done only through the appropriate teacher and/or administrator, the decision of whom is final. A challenge to the accuracy of material contained in a student's file must be initiated with the building principal, with an appeal available to the Superintendent or his/her designee. The challenge shall clearly identify the part of the student's record the parent wants changed and specify why he/she believes it is inaccurate or misleading. If the school determines not to amend the record as requested, the school will notify the requesting parent or student of the decision and inform them of their right to a hearing regarding the request for amending the record. The parent or eligible student will be provided information regarding the hearing procedure when notified of the right to a hearing.[3]

Unless the parent or guardian of a student (or student, if above the age of eighteen (18)) objects, "directory information" about a student may be made available to the public, military recruiters, post-secondary educational institutions, prospective employers of those students, as well as school publications such as annual yearbooks and graduation announcements.[4] "Directory information" includes,

but is not limited to, a student's name, address, telephone number, electronic mail address, photograph, date and place of birth, dates of attendance,[5] his/her placement on the honor roll (or the receipt of other types of honors), as well as his/her participation in school clubs and extracurricular activities, among others. If the student participates in inherently public activities (for example, basketball, football, or other interscholastic activities), the publication of such information will be beyond the control of the District. "Directory information" also includes a student identification (ID) number, user ID, or other unique personal identifier used by a student for purposes of accessing or communicating in electronic systems and a student ID number or other unique personal identifier that is displayed on a student's ID badge, provided the ID cannot be used to gain access to education records except when used in conjunction with one or more factors that authenticate the user's identity, such as a personal identification number (PIN), password or other factor known or possessed only by the authorized user.

A student's name and photograph will only be displayed on the district or school's web page(s) after receiving the written permission from the student's parent or student if over the age of 18.

The form for objecting to making directory information available is located in the back of the student handbook and must be completed and signed by the parent or age-eligible student and filed with the building principal's office no later than ten (10) school days after the beginning of each school year or the date the student is enrolled for school. Failure to file an objection by that time is considered a specific grant of permission. The district is required to continue to honor any signed-opt out form for any student no longer in attendance at the district.

The right to opt out of the disclosure of directory information under Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) does not prevent the District from disclosing or requiring a student to disclose the student's name, identifier, or institutional email address in a class in which the student is enrolled.[6]

Parents and students over the age of 18 who believe the district has failed to comply with the requirements for the lawful release of student records may file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education (DOE) at

Student Privacy Policy Office
U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20202

PERMANENT RECORDS

Permanent school records, as required by the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE), shall be maintained for each student enrolled in the District until the student receives a high school diploma or its equivalent or is beyond the age of compulsory school attendance. A copy of the student's permanent record shall be provided to the receiving school district within ten (10) school days after the date a request from the receiving school district is received.

COPIES OF TRANSCRIPTS & PERMANENT RECORDS

Permanent school records, as required by the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE), shall be maintained for each student enrolled in the District until the student receives a high school diploma or its equivalent or is beyond the age of compulsory school attendance. A copy of the student's

permanent record shall be provided to the receiving school district within ten (10) school days after the date a request from the receiving school district is received.

Any person requesting copies of school transcripts, shot records, etc. from permanent records will be charged a $5.00 processing fee. Requests for copies from permanent records will be processed in an orderly manner within 3 to 5 working days from the date of the request.

Each graduating senior will be allowed three final transcripts at no charge.

EXCHANGE STUDENTS

Exchange students shall be subject to all rules and regulations that are followed by the resident students. Exchange students who meet local and state graduation requirements may participate in graduation exercises and may receive a diploma from Dermott High School. Exchange students must contact the counselor by the end of the first semester to make sure he/she meets graduation requirements.

MARRIED STUDENTS

Students who marry must bring proof of change in status to the office for record purposes. Married students have the same rights and privileges as other students and shall be subject to and must abide by the same rules and regulations as all other students in the district.

CAMPUS SECURITY

In order to provide a safe educational environment, Metal Detectors, Video Surveillance Equipment, Security Alarm System and the use of a trained drug dog may be used.

STUDENT DRUG-FREE SCHOOL / DRUG AND ALCOHOL POLICY

An orderly and safe school environment that is conducive to promoting student achievement requires a student population free from the deleterious effects of alcohol and drugs. Their use is illegal, disruptive to the educational environment, and diminishes the capacity of students to learn and function properly in our schools.

Therefore, no student in the Dermott School District shall possess, attempt to possess, consume, use, distribute, sell, buy, attempt to sell, attempt to buy, give to any person, or be under the influence of any substance as defined in this policy, or what the student represents or believes to be any substance as defined in this policy.

This policy applies to any student who:

- Is on or about school property;
- Is in attendance at school or any school sponsored activity;
- Has left the school campus for any reason and returns to the campus; or
- Is on route to or from school or any school sponsored activity.

Prohibited substances shall include, but are not limited to:

- Alcohol, or any alcoholic beverage;
- Inhalants or any ingestible matter that alter a student's ability to act, think, or respond;
- LSD or any other hallucinogen;
- Marijuana;
- Cocaine, heroin, or any other narcotic drug;
- PCP;
- Amphetamines;
- Steroids;
- "Designer drugs";
- Look-alike drugs; or
- Any controlled substance.

The sale, distribution, or attempted sale or distribution of over-the-counter (OTC) medications, dietary supplement or other perceived health remedy not regulated by the US Food and Drug Administration, or prescription drugs is prohibited. The possession or use of OTC medications, dietary supplement or other perceived health remedy not regulated by the US Food and Drug Administration, or prescription drugs is prohibited except as permitted under Policy 4.35—STUDENT MEDICATIONS.

SEARCH, SEIZURE, AND INTERROGATIONS

The District respects the rights of its students against arbitrary intrusion of their person and property. At the same time, it is the responsibility of school officials to protect the health, safety, and welfare of all

students enrolled in the District in order to promote an environment conducive to student learning. The Superintendent, principals, and their designees have the right to inspect and search school property and equipment. They may also search students and their personal property in which the student has a reasonable expectation of privacy, when there is reasonable and individualized suspicion to believe such student or property contains illegal items or other items in violation of Board policy or dangerous to the school community.[1] School authorities may seize evidence found in the search and disciplinary action may be taken. Evidence found which appears to be in violation of the law shall be reported to the appropriate authority.

School property shall include, but not be limited to, lockers, desks, and parking lots, as well as personal effects left there by students. When possible, prior notice will be given and the student will be allowed to be present along with an adult witness; however, searches may be done at any time with or without notice or the student's consent. A personal search must not be excessively intrusive in light of the age and sex of the student and the nature of the infraction.

The Superintendent, principals, and their designees may request the assistance of law enforcement officials to help conduct searches. Such searches may include the use of specially trained dogs.

A school official of the same sex shall conduct personal searches with an adult witness of the same sex present.

State Law requires that Department of Human Services employees, local law enforcement, or agents of the Crimes Against Children Division of the Division of Arkansas State Police, may interview students without a court order for the purpose of investigating suspected child abuse. In instances where the interviewers deem it necessary, they may exercise a "72-hour hold" without first obtaining a court order. Other questioning of students by non-school personnel shall be granted only with a court order directing such questioning, with permission of the parents of a student (or the student if above eighteen [18] years of age), or in response to a subpoena or arrest warrant.

If the District makes a report to any law enforcement agency concerning student misconduct or if access to a student is granted to a law enforcement agency due to a court order, the principal or the principal's designee shall make a good faith effort to contact the student's parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of the student, or person standing in loco parentis. The principal or the principal's designee shall not attempt to make such contact if presented documentation by the investigator that notification is prohibited because a parent, guardian, person having lawful control of the student, or person standing in loco parentis is named as an alleged offender of the suspected child maltreatment. This exception applies only to interview requests made by a law enforcement officer, an investigator of the Crimes Against Children Division of the Division of Arkansas State Police, or an investigator or employee of the Department of Human Services.

In instances other than those related to cases of suspected child abuse, principals must release a student to either a police officer who presents a subpoena for the student, or a warrant for arrest, or to an agent of state social services or an agent of a court with jurisdiction over a child with a court order signed by a judge. Upon release of the student, the principal or designee shall give the student's parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of the student, or person standing in loco parentis notice that the student has been taken into custody by law enforcement personnel or a state's social services agency. If

the principal or designee is unable to reach the parent, he or she shall make a reasonable, good faith effort to get a message to the parent to call the principal or designee, and leave both a day and an after-hours telephone number.

MUSIC PLAYERS, ELECTRONIC GAMES, AND PLAYING CARDS AND LASER POINTERS

Music players, electronic games, laser pointers, and playing cards have no place at school. These items will be confiscated, with return at the discretion of the teacher/principal. The teacher/principal will accept NO responsibility for confiscated articles.

Students shall not possess any hand held laser pointer while in school; on or about school property, before or after school; in attendance at school or any school-sponsored activity; on route to or from school or any school-sponsored activity; off the school grounds at any school bus stop or at any school-sponsored activity or event. School personnel shall seize any laser pointer from the student possessing it and the student may reclaim it at the close of the school year, or when the student is no longer enrolled in the District.

TELEPHONE REGULATIONS

The school telephone is for business calls only. Students are not to be called to the telephone, or to make calls, except in a case of emergency, and then only with the principal's permission. Students may use the office telephone only in the case of sickness or emergency. Students will not be called out of class to take telephone calls, nor will telephone messages be delivered to students except in the case of an emergency. **STUDENTS ARE NOT TO USE ANY PHONE IN ANY BUILDING OTHER THAN THE SCHOOL OFFICE.**

Teachers may use telephones to contact parents, the office and for security purposes. They should be used for no other purposes.

MESSAGES

Medical related, emergency, etc. messages will be delivered to the student by office personnel unless it is necessary for a parent/guardian to see their child in person. Classes will not be disrupted to deliver personal messages such as hair appointments, work request from employers, etc.

ABSENCES

EXCUSED ABSENCES

Excused absences are those where the student was on official school business or when the absence was due to one of the following:

1. The student's illness or when attendance could jeopardize the health of other students. A maximum of six (6) such days are allowed per semester unless the condition(s) causing such absences is of a chronic or recurring nature, is medically documented, and approved by the principal.
2. Death or serious illness in their immediate family;
3. Observance of recognized holidays observed by the student's faith;

4. Attendance at an appointment with a government agency;
5. Attendance at a medical appointment;
6. Exceptional circumstances with prior approval of the principal;

In order for the absence to be considered excused, the student must bring a written statement to the principal or designee upon the student's return to school from the student's parent or legal guardian stating the reason for the student's absence.

A written statement presented or uploaded for an absence having occurred more than five (5) school days prior to its presentation or upload will not be accepted.

UNEXCUSED ABSENCES

Absences that are not defined above; do not have an accompanying note from the parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of the student, or person standing in loco parentis; or have an accompanying note that is not presented or uploaded within the timeline required by this policy; shall be considered as unexcused absences. Students with 10 (ten) unexcused absences in a course in a semester may not receive credit for that course. At the discretion of the principal after consultation with persons having knowledge of the circumstances of the unexcused absences, the student may be denied promotion or graduation. Excessive absences shall not be a reason for expulsion or dismissal of a student.

When a student has 5 (five) unexcused absences, his/her parents, legal guardians, persons with lawful control of the student, or persons standing in loco parentis shall be notified. Notification shall be by telephone or by regular mail with a return address sent no later than the following school day.

Whenever a student exceeds 10 (ten) unexcused absences in a semester, the District shall notify the prosecuting authority and the parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of the student, or persons standing in loco parentis shall be subject to a civil penalty as prescribed by law.

Students who attend in-school suspension shall not be counted absent for those days.

Days missed due to out-of-school suspension or expulsion shall be unexcused absences.

Absences for students enrolled in synchronous digital courses shall be counted in the same manner as for District students attending courses in person.

GUIDELINES FOR HOMEBOUND STUDENTS

The Homebound Program at Dermott Schools is intended to allow students to keep up with schoolwork. Students approved for this program may receive schoolwork to do over an extended period of time.

The appropriate steps to take in order to be approved for and to participate in the Homebound Program are:

1. The affected student and/or parent/guardian should bring a letter from a medical doctor stating the condition of the student and the recommendation to not attend school. This letter should specify

the time period that the student would be unable to attend classes. This letter should be presented to the principal for his/her approval.
2. Lessons are to be picked up on Friday at the Principal's office.
3. Completed lessons are to be returned on the following Wednesday to the Principal's office.
4. When the student is ready to return to school, a letter from the medical doctor giving his/her release for the student to return to school should be presented to the Principal's office.

MAKE-UP WORK

Students who miss school due to an excused absence shall be allowed to make up the work they missed during their absence under the following rules:

1. Students are responsible for asking the teachers of the classes they missed what assignments they need to make up.
2. Teachers are responsible for providing the missed assignments when asked by a returning student.
3. Students are required to ask for their assignments on their first day back at school or their first class day after their return.
4. Make-up tests are to be rescheduled at the discretion of the teacher, but must be aligned with the schedule of the missed work to be made up.
5. Students shall have one class day to make up their work for each class day they are absent.
6. Make-up work which is not turned in within the make-up schedule for that assignment shall receive a zero.
7. Students are responsible for turning in their make-up work without the teacher having to ask for it.2
8. Students who are absent on the day their make-up work is due must turn in their work the day they return to school whether or not the class for which the work is due meets the day of their return.
9. As required/permitted by the student's Individual Education Program or 504 Plan.

Work may not be made up for credit for unexcused absences **unless** the unexcused absences are part of a signed agreement as permitted by policy 4.7—ABSENCES.

Work for students serving an out-of-school suspension or expulsion shall be in accordance with the District's programs, measures, or alternative means and methods to continue student engagement and access to education during the student's period of suspension or expulsion.

In lieu of the timeline above, assignments for students who are excluded from school by the Arkansas Department of Health during a disease outbreak are to be made up as set forth in Policy 4.57—IMMUNIZATIONS.

In addition to the make-up work process above, at the conclusion of a pregnancy-related or parenting-related period of absence, a student may choose from various options to make up missed work, including without limitation:

a. Retaking a semester at the District school where the student is enrolled;
b. Participating in an online course credit recovery program;
c. Being granted six (6) weeks to continue at the same pace and finish the semester at a later date, provided that the student may:
    - Complete the student's coursework within the current school year; or
    - Attend previously scheduled summer school classes made available by the District Where the student is enrolled; and
d. Receiving home-based instruction services.

Work may not be made up for credit for unexcused absences

Elementary students will receive their makeup work from their assigned teachers.

TARDY POLICY

A student is considered tardy if he/she is not in his/her assigned classroom when the tardy bell rings.

HIGH SCHOOL:
Consequences for Tardies
1st Tardy in a Class Period – Verbal Warning
2nd Tardy in a Class Period – Written Warning
3rd Tardy in a Class Period – Student conference/ Parent will be notified
4th Tardy in a Class Period – 1 Day of ISS/Will turned over to the Truancy officers
Additional tardies in a Class Period - 1 Day of ISS

ELEMENTARY: Consequences for Times Tardy

1st Tardy – Verbal Warning
2nd Tardy – Written Warning
3rd Tardy – Parent/ Student Conference
4th Tardy – Written Notification to parent
5th Tardy – 1 Absent will be documented

*The process will repeat after an absence is documented for tardies. After 3 absences that result from tardies, the truant office will be notified.

There are no excused tardy times with the exception of a teacher approved note. Excessive tardiness will be cause for referral to the truant officer.

CLOSED CAMPUS POLICY

All schools in the District shall operate closed campuses. Students are required to stay on campus from their arrival until dismissal at the end of the regular school day unless given permission to leave the campus by a school official. Students must sign out in the office upon their departure. Students may not

check out only for the lunch period. If a student must check out and return during the lunch period, a student must have prior approval from an administrator. Anyone checking out just for the lunch period who does not have prior approval from an administrator will be assigned ISS.

CONTACT WITH STUDENTS WHILE AT SCHOOL

CONTACT BY PARENTS

Parents wishing to speak to their children during the school day shall register first with the office.

CONTACT BY NON-CUSTODIAL PARENTS

If there is any question concerning the legal custody of the student, the custodial parent shall present documentation to the principal or the principal's designee establishing the parent's custody of the student. It shall be the responsibility of the custodial parent to make any court ordered "no contact" or other restrictions regarding the non-custodial parent known to the principal by presenting a copy of a file-marked court order. Without such a court order on file, the school will release the child to either of his/her parents. Non-custodial parents who file with the principal a date-stamped copy of current court orders granting unsupervised visitation may eat lunch, volunteer in their child's classroom, or otherwise have contact with their child during school hours and the prior approval of the school's principal. Such contact is subject to the limitations outlined in Policy 4.16, Policy 6.5, and any other policies that may apply.

Arkansas law provides that, in order to avoid continuing child custody controversies from involving school personnel and to avoid disruptions to the educational atmosphere in the District's schools, the transfer of a child between his/her custodial parent and non-custodial parent, when both parents are present, shall not take place on the school's property on normal school days during normal hours of school operation. The custodial or non-custodial parent may send to/drop off the student at school to be sent to/picked up by the other parent on predetermined days in accordance with any court order provided by the custodial parent or by a signed agreement between both the custodial and non-custodial parents that was witnessed by the student's building principal.[1] Unless a valid no-contact order has been filed with the student's principal or the principal's designee, district employees shall not become involved in disputes concerning whether or not that parent was supposed to pick up the student on any given day.

CONTACT BY LAW ENFORCEMENT, SOCIAL SERVICES, OR BY COURT ORDER

State Law requires that Department of Human Services employees, local law enforcement, or agents of the Crimes Against Children Division of the Division of Arkansas State Police may interview students without a court order for the purpose of investigating suspected child abuse. In instances where the interviewers deem it necessary, they may exercise a "72-hour hold" without first obtaining a court order. Except as provided below, other questioning of students by non-school personnel shall be granted only with a court order directing such questioning, with permission of the parents of a student (or the student if above eighteen (18) years of age), or in response to a subpoena or arrest warrant.

If the District makes a report to any law enforcement agency concerning student misconduct or if access to a student is granted to a law enforcement agency due to a court order, the principal or the principal's designee shall make a good faith effort to contact the student's parent, legal guardian, or other person having lawful control by court order, or person acting in loco parentis identified on student enrollment forms. The principal or the principal's designee shall not attempt to make such contact if presented

documentation by the investigator that notification is prohibited because a parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of the student, or person standing in loco parentis is named as an alleged offender of the suspected child maltreatment. This exception applies only to interview requests made by a law enforcement officer, an investigator of the Crimes Against Children Division of the Division of Arkansas State Police, or an investigator or employee of the Department of Human Services.

In instances other than those related to cases of suspected child abuse, principals must release a student to either a police officer who presents a subpoena for the student, or a warrant for arrest, or to an agent of state social services or an agent of a court with jurisdiction over a child with a court order signed by a judge. Upon release of the student, the principal or designee shall give the student's parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of the student, or person standing in loco parentis notice that the student has been taken into custody by law enforcement personnel or a state's social services agency. If the principal or designee is unable to reach the parent, he or she shall make a reasonable, good faith effort to get a message to the parent to call the principal or designee, and leave both a day and an after-hours telephone number.

CONTACT BY PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE STANDARDS BOARD INVESTIGATORS

Investigators for the Professional Licensure Standards Board may meet with students during the school day to carry out the investigation of an ethics complaint.

STUDENT VISITORS

The board strongly believes that the purpose of school is for learning. Social visitors, generally, disrupt the classroom and interfere with learning that should be taking place. Therefore, visiting with students at school is strongly discouraged, unless approved by the principal and scheduled in advance. This includes visits made by former students, friends, and/or relatives of teachers or students. Any visitation to the classroom shall be allowed only with the permission of the school principal and all visitors must first register at the office.

CHECK OUT PROCEDURE

Students are not allowed to leave campus during the school day without first checking out with the school's office. Only those adults who are listed on the school's contact list are allowed to check a student out. Parents/guardians must come to the office *in person* to check their child out. Students must leave campus with their parents/guardians.

Students eighteen (18) or older may check themselves out of school for medical appointments, court dates, funerals, or other emergency situations approved by the administration.

INCLEMENT WEATHER

Students/parents/guardians should listen to the local radio, (KVSA 1220) and television stations for school announcements to see if school will be cancelled or postponed due to inclement weather. When weather is threatening, parents/guardians should listen to local radio and television stations concerning early dismissal of school. If school should dismiss early due to emergency situations, the student may remain in the building or a designated area until he or she can be safely picked up.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND MOMENT OF SILENCE

The Pledge of Allegiance shall be recited:

1. During the first class period of each school day;
2. At the commencement of each school-sanctioned after-school assembly; and
3. At the commencement of each school-sanctioned sporting event; however, if two (2) or more school-sanctioned sporting events occur on the same day at the same school, then the Pledge may be recited at only one (1) of the school-sanctioned sporting events.

Students choosing to participate in the recitation of the Pledge shall do so by facing the flag with their right hands over their hearts, or in an appropriate salute if in uniform, while reciting the Pledge. Students choosing not to participate either stand or sit quietly while the other students recite the Pledge.

Students shall not be compelled to recite the Pledge, but students who choose not to recite the Pledge shall not disrupt those students choosing to recite the Pledge. Students choosing not to recite the Pledge who do not disrupt those students who choose to recite the Pledge shall not be subject to any comments, retaliation, or disciplinary action.

Following the recitation of the Pledge, there shall be an observance of one (1) minute of silence. During the one (1) minute of silence, each student may reflect, pray, meditate, or engage in any other silent activity that is not likely to interfere with or distract another student. Students who do not disrupt the one (1) minute of silence shall not be subject to any comments, retaliation, or disciplinary action.

ASSEMBLIES

Assemblies will be announced in the Student Bulletin. Students will be dismissed by class and will sit with their class and teacher during assemblies. Respect shall be shown at all times for the performers and speakers. No one will be permitted to leave the assembly except in case of an emergency. Students are to remain seated until they are dismissed.

To ensure the safety of the Dermott Student Body, all school functions (pep assemblies, school plays, etc.) held during school hours are closed to the public. Exceptions MAY be made for immediate family members of participants in the school activity after checking into the appropriate office.

LUNCH

Dermott Public Schools strive to provide a well-balanced breakfast and lunch every day. Breakfast will be free for all students and cost $ 2.00 for staff. Lunch will be free for all students and cost $3.25 for faculty/ staff.

The lunchroom management and your fellow students will appreciate your cooperation in:

1. Depositing all lunch litter in a wastebasket.
2. Leaving the table and floor around your place in a clean condition for others.
3. No food or milk may be taken from the cafeteria.
4. Respect should be shown for fellow students by not running or cutting in the lunch line.
5. Noise should be kept to a minimum.

SCHOOL LUNCH SUBSTITUTIONS

The district only provides substitute modified meal components on menus to accommodate students with handicapping conditions meeting the definition of a disability as defined in USDA regulations. A parent/guardian wishing to request such a dietary accommodations for their student with a disability must

submit to the district's Director of Child Nutrition a medical statement completed by a State licensed healthcare professional, which includes:[2]

- Physicians, including those licensed by:
    - The Arkansas State Medical Board;
    - The Arkansas State Board of Chiropractic Examiners (Chiropractors);
    - The Arkansas Board of Podiatric Medicine (Podiatrists);
- Nurse Practitioners (APRNs in family or pediatric practice with prescriptive authority); ● Physician Assistants (PAs who work in collaborative practice with a physician); and ● Dentists.

The medical statement should include:

1. A description of the student's disability that is sufficient to understand how the disability restricts the student's diet;
2. An explanation of what must be done to accommodate the disability, which may include: a. Food(s) to avoid or restrict;

b. Food(s) to substitute;
c. Caloric modifications; or
d. The substitution of a liquid nutritive formula.

If the information provided in the medical statement is unclear, or lacks sufficient detail, the district's Director of Child Nutrition shall request additional information so that a proper and safe meal can be provided.

When choosing an appropriate approach to accommodate a student's disability, the District will consider the expense and efficiency of the requested accommodations. The District will offer a reasonable modification that effectively accommodates the child's disability and provides equal opportunity to participate in or benefit from the program, which may include a generic version of a product.

Parents may file a grievance regarding the request for accommodations with the District's 504 Coordinator, who will schedule a hearing on the grievance to be held as soon as possible. The 504 coordinator shall provide a copy of the procedures governing the hearing, including that the parent has the right to be accompanied by counsel, and the appeal process upon request.

The district will not prepare meals outside the normal menu to accommodate a family's religious or personal health beliefs.

FOOD AND/OR BEVERAGE ITEMS DURING THE SCHOOL DAY

According to the Arkansas Department of Education's Rules Governing Nutrition and Physical Activity Standards in Arkansas Public Schools (Ark. Code Ann. 20-7-133, 20-7-134, and 20-7-135), students may be given any food and/or beverage items during the school day for up to nine different events each school year to be determined and approved by school officials. These items may not be given during meal times in the areas where school meals are being served or consumed.

At designated special events food items must be purchased from a restaurant or store in its' original packaging. NO HOME MADE FOODS OR TREATS WILL BE ALLOWED.

FOOD SHARING AND ITS REMOVAL FROM FOOD SERVICE AREA

Food Sharing (Procedures for Grades K – 6)
Remember that your child may not share treats/food with other students. Therefore, we ask that parents send only the amount of food that your child can consume during their lunch period. Please remember that a large bag of chips cannot be consumed by one child for lunch. We encourage parents to place a small amount into a small bag or lunchbox rather than sending a large bag of chips. NOTE: Dermott teachers and staff may take any food away from a student that is sharing with others, even if it is intended for their lunch. The food may be returned after school.

FOOD SHARING TABLE
In an effort to reduce wasted food and to provide students access to healthy foods when possible, the District shall have in the district cafeteria a food sharing table located at the end of the service line. Prior to leaving the service line, students may place on or retrieve items from the table, at no additional charge, any of the following:

- Raw whole fruit traditionally eaten without the peel (e.g. bananas and oranges);
- Raw whole fruit traditionally eaten with the peel provided the fruit is wrapped to prevent contamination (e.g. apples and grapes);
- Raw whole vegetables provided the vegetable is wrapped to prevent contamination (e.g. carrot sticks);
- Milk; and Juice.

Fruit and vegetables to be shared are to be placed into a designated container on the table. Milk and juice to be shared are to be placed in an ice-filled cooler. Milk and juice may not be taken by another student unless the carton is unopened and was completely covered by ice while in the cooler. A student may not return to the table to place an item for sharing after the student has left the service line.

At all times, the sharing table will be under the supervision of the food service staff. Remaining items should be discarded at the end of the meal period, and no item may remain on the table for longer than four (4) hours.

REMOVING FOOD ITEMS FROM THE FOOD SERVICE AREA
No student shall remove school provided food items from the food service area at the end of the meal period, especially milk, juice, and other items requiring temperature controlled environments.

Except for food service workers as required by their job duties, District employees may only remove school provided food items from the food service area when required by a 504 plan or a student's IEP.

SENIOR HIGH ACADEMICS

The Dermott School District offers students diverse curricular opportunities. The minimum academic offerings are correlated with the requirements established by Arkansas law and meet all legal requirements. In order to meet minimum graduation requirements, a student must complete 22 acceptable units. Students who complete the minimum requirements for graduation will receive the General Diploma. To participate in graduation ceremonies seniors must have completed all requirements for graduation.

Students desiring to complete the college core track must have a minimum GPA of 2.75 and complete the specific course requirements. Such a student will be distinguished as a "Completer" and will receive a gold seal on the diploma and the transcript.

Students are encouraged to pursue more challenging academic goals and may qualify as an Honor Graduate by meeting additional requirements. (See Honor Diploma/ Advanced Honor Diploma requirements.)

GRADE CLASSIFICATION

High school students will be classified at the end of the year based on number of credits earned.

The following are the number of credits each student must have earned by the end of each grade.

At the end of 9th Grade – 4 credits including English and Math
At the end of 10th Grade – 9 credits
At the end of 11th Grade – 15 credits
At the end of 12th Grade – Meet Graduation Requirements

GRADING

Parents or guardians shall be kept informed concerning the progress of their student. Parent-teacher conferences are encouraged and may be requested by parents, guardians, or teachers. If the progress of a student is unsatisfactory in a subject, the teacher shall attempt to schedule a parent-teacher conference. In the conference, the teacher shall explain the reasons for difficulties and shall develop, cooperatively with the parents, a plan for remediation which may enhance the probability of the student succeeding. The school shall also send timely progress reports and issue grades for each nine-week grading period* to keep parents/guardians informed of their student's progress.

The evaluation of each student's performance on a regular basis serves to give the parents/guardians, students, and the school necessary information to help effect academic improvement. Students' grades shall reflect only the extent to which a student has achieved the expressed educational objectives of the course.

The grading scale for all schools in the district shall be as follows.

A =100 – 90
B = 89 – 80
C = 79 – 70
D = 69-60
F = 59 and below

An "I" may be given for incomplete work, and may be used when a student misses a class or classes for 10 days or more due to an excused absence. However, at the discretion of the principal, more time may be given.

A student will have four weeks to complete work. In the event the work is not completed, the "I" will become an "F".

In the Elementary School the following grade scales are also used:

Satisfactory	"S"
Needs Improvement	"N"
Unsatisfactory	"U"
Credit	"CR"
No Credit	"NC"

For the purpose of determining grade point averages, the numeric value of each letter grade shall be

A = 4 points
B = 3 points
C = 2 points
D = 1 point
F = 0 points

The final grades of students who transfer in for part of a semester will be determined by blending the grades earned in the district with those earned outside the district. Each final grade will be the sum of the percentage of days in the grading period transferred from outside the district times the transferred grade from outside the district plus the percentage of days in the grading period while in the district times the grade earned in the district.

For example: The grading period had 40 days. A student transferred in with a grade of 83% earned in 10 days at the previous school. The student had a grade of 75% in our district's school earned in the remaining 30 days of the grading period. 10 days is 25% of 40 days while 30 days is 75% of 40 days. Thus the final grade would be .25 (83) + .75 (73) = 75.5%.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT, INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE, AND HONORS COURSES

A ninth (9^{th}) through twelfth (12^{th}) grade student who successfully completes a college course(s) from an institution of higher education (IHE) approved by the Division of Higher Education (DESE) shall be given credit toward high school grades and graduation at the rate of one (1) high school credit for each three (3) semester hours of college credit. A student who takes a three (3) semester hour remedial/developmental education course shall receive a half (1/2) credit for a high school career focus elective. The remedial/developmental education course cannot be used to meet core subject area/unit requirements.

Students will retain credit, including any weighted credit, earned as a concurrent credit course or as a dual enrollment course that was applied to a student's transcript from a previously attended, accredited, public school.

Concurrent Credit Courses

A student's participation in the concurrent high school and college credit program must be either:

1. Documented by a written agreement between:
- The student;
- The student's parent(s), legal guardian(s), person(s) standing in loco parentis to the student, or person(s) having lawful control of the student if the student is under the age of eighteen (18);
- The District; and
- The publicly supported community college, technical college, four-year college or university, or private (IHE) the student attends to take the concurrent credit course; or
2. Taken through the Arkansas Course Choice Program.

While students Students are ultimately responsible for having the transcript for the concurrent credit course(s) they've taken sent to their school in order to receive credit for the course(s), the District shall work with the IHE(s) to establish a process for the District to receive student transcripts. Credit for concurrent credit courses will not be given until a transcript is received. Students may not receive credit for the course(s) they took or the credit may be delayed if the transcripts are not received at all or in a timely manner; this may jeopardize students' eligibility for extracurricular activities; graduation; awarding of a diploma of merit or a diploma of distinction; or _____.
A student or a student's parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of the student, or person standing in loco parentis to the student shall not be responsible for tuition, fees, or materials for participation in a concurrent credit course.

The District shall work with the IHE to ensure that a student receives any accommodations for a concurrent credit course that are required by the student's Individual Education Program (IEP) or 504 Plan.

Dual Enrollment Courses

Dual enrollment courses are college courses that are:

- Taken at an IHE the District does not have an agreement with;
- Taken at an IHE the District has an agreement with but are beyond the number of courses a student is allowed to take per year under the agreement with the IHE;
- Taken at an IHE the District has an agreement with but is a course offered by the IHE that is outside of the course list included in the agreement with the IHE; or
- not taken through the Arkansas Course Choice Program.

Unless approved by the school's counselor, prior to enrolling for the course, dual enrollment courses shall be applied toward the student's graduation requirements as an elective.

Students are responsible for having the transcript for the dual enrollment course(s) they've taken sent to their school in order to receive credit for the course(s). Credit for dual enrollment courses will not be given until a transcript is received. Students may not receive credit for the course(s) they took or the credit may be delayed if the transcripts are not received at all or in a timely manner; this may

jeopardize students' eligibility for extracurricular activities; graduation; awarding of a diploma of merit or a diploma of distinction; or _____.
A student or a student's parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of the student, or person standing in loco parentis to the student are solely responsible for tuition, fees, or materials for participation in a dual enrollment course.
The student's parent, legal guardian, person standing in loco parentis to the student, or the person having lawful control of the student or the student if the student is eighteen (18) years of age or older are responsible for working with the IHE to ensure that the student receives any necessary accommodations for a dual enrollment course.

PROCEDURE FOR CALCULATING 9 WEEKS AND SEMESTER GRADES (GRADES K – 12)

Report cards will be issued twice each semester: at the end of each nine weeks and at the end of a semester.

9 Weeks Grades will be calculated as follows:

9 Weeks Grade	
Homework/ Classwork/ Quizzes/ Other	40 %
Assessments	60%

Semester Grades will be calculated as follows:

1st Semester Grade		*2nd Semester Grade*	
1st Nine Weeks	40%	3rd Nine Weeks	40%
2nd Nine Weeks	40%	4th Nine Weeks	40%
Semester Exam	20%	Semester Exam	20%

CREDIT FOR COURSES

To receive credit for a course, a student is required to complete a minimum of 120 clock hours of student teacher interaction time.

PROGRESS REPORTS

Progress reports will be given to parents of all students at the end of each 4 ½ week of the (9 weeks) grading period during the first and second semester. In addition to the regular progress report at mid semester, additional contact will be made with parents of students not making progress.

When progress reports are distributed to students, students are asked to take the reports home to their parents in order that the parents will be informed of their child's progress and so that the parents may sign the reports. Any parent desiring a conference with a teacher concerning such should contact the principal or counselor's office at their discretion.

REPORT CARDS

Report cards will be issued at the end of every nine weeks of school. These reports carry an achievement grade in all subjects.

The Counselor's office keeps a copy of the high school student's official transcript in the student's permanent folder. The permanent records of the grades made by all students who are enrolled in Dermott Schools are kept confidential in the main office under the supervision of the principal.

HONOR ROLL

HONOR ROLL

Students in kindergarten through grade six (K-6) who maintain a ___ grade point average (GPA) for the grading period will be recognized as honor roll students for that grading period. Semester grades will determine the honor roll at the end of each semester.

Students in grades seven through twelve (7-12) who maintain a ___ GPA for the grading period will be recognized as honor roll students for that grading period. Semester grades will determine the honor roll at the end of each semester.

Students in grades K-6 who maintain all As or all As & Bs in core areas for the grading period will be recognized as honor roll students for that grading period. Semester grades will determine the honor roll at the end of each semester.

Students in grades 7-12 who maintain all As or all As & Bs for the grading period will be recognized as honor roll students for that grading period. Semester grades will determine the honor roll at the end of each semester.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

The number of units students must earn to be eligible for high school graduation is to be earned from the categories listed below. A minimum of twenty-two (22) units is required for graduation for a student participating in either the Smart Core or Core curriculum.

All students must receive a passing score on the Arkansas Civics Exam in order to graduate.

Students shall be trained in quality psychomotor skill bases in cardiopulmonary resuscitation and the use of automated external defibrillators in order to graduate.

All students shall receive credit in a course covering the Personal and Family Finance Standards in order to graduate.

SMART CORE: Sixteen (16) units

English: four (4) units – 9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th

Oral Communications: one-half (½) unit

Mathematics: four (4) units (all students under Smart Core must take a mathematics course in grade 11 or 12 and complete Algebra II.)

1) Algebra I;

2) Geometry;
3) Algebra II; and
4) Either:
   - A math unit approved by DESE beyond Algebra II; or
   - A computer science flex credit may be taken in the place of a fourth math credit.

Natural Science: three (3) units
a. DESE approved biology – 1 credit;
b. DESE approved physical science – 1 credit; and
c. Either:
   - An additional science credit approved by DESE; or
   - A computer science flex credit may be taken in the place of a third science credit.

Social Studies: three (3) units
- Civics - one-half (½) unit
- World History - one unit
- American History - one unit
- Economics – one-half (½) Unit

Physical Education: one-half (½) unit
Note: While one-half (½) unit is required for graduation, no more than one (1) unit may be applied toward fulfilling the necessary units to graduate.

Health and Safety: one-half (½) unit

Fine Arts: one-half (½) unit

CAREER FOCUS: - Six (6) units
All career focus unit requirements shall be established through guidance and counseling based on the student's contemplated work aspirations. Career focus courses shall conform to the curriculum policy of the district and reflect state curriculum frameworks through course sequencing and career course concentrations where appropriate.

ARKANSAS COURSE CHOICE PROGRAM
District students in grades six through twelve (6-12) are eligible to take courses through the Arkansas Course Choice Program (ACCP) if the student is:

- Seeking to take a course not offered by the District; or
- Attending a District school that received a school letter grade of D or F and the course is required for graduation.

The ACCP course catalog shall be made available to all students during student course selection. The District shall not actively discourage, intimidate, or threaten a student during course selection to not take a course through the ACCP.

A student attending courses through the ACCP shall enroll in at least one (1) course at the District, which may be either in person or a digital course offered by the District.

A District student attending courses through the ACCP is entitled to the following services as if the student were attending courses at the District:

1. Required assessments, including without limitation:
    a. Statewide assessments;
    b. Advanced Placement; and
    c. International Baccalaureate;
2. Participation in extracurricular or cocurricular activities; and
3. Special education services pursuant to the student's individualized education program.

Credits earned through the ACCP shall appear on a student's official transcript and count fully towards the student's graduation requirements.

DIPLOMAS

Students having successfully completed all of the requirements for a diploma will be allowed to participate in graduation and other end of school activities provided they make their intentions known to the principal or counselor by the end of first semester.

SENIOR INFORMATION

These recommendations are made to assure adequate control and to provide a dignified ceremony for all students and patrons of our school. We encourage courteous support of our graduates. However, any action that embarrasses or detracts from each student receiving proper recognition cannot be condoned.

GRADUATION CEREMONY REQUIREMENTS

Students: Seniors must observe the following to participate in class day, graduation, and receive a diploma following the graduation ceremony:

1. All course requirements completed (22 units).
2. Attendance at all practices.
3. The school rules must be observed and obeyed.
4. Disruptive or distractive behavior at class day or graduation will not be tolerated. Some examples of disruptive behavior are listed below:
    a. Drinking or under the influence of alcohol or drugs.
    b. Cursing.
    c. Refusing to obey and/or follow directions of teachers, sponsors, and administrators.
    d. Inappropriate talking, laughing, and inattentiveness during practices, class day, or graduation.
    e. Any inappropriate behavior which calls attention to you (loud boisterous behavior, dancing, shuffling, jumping up and down, arms raised up and down, high five's inappropriate handshake, running, etc.).
5. Diplomas may be held if there are fees and fines owed by the student.

NOTE: Beginning with the 1995-96 school year, the state seal will be attached to the transcript and diploma for all students with a 2.75 grade point average or above and complete a required course of study.

HONOR GRADUATES

Students who have successfully completed the minimum core of courses recommended for preparation for college as defined by the Higher Education Coordinating Board and the State Board of Education and have a cumulative GPA of ___ will be designated as honor students. The GPA shall be derived from courses taken in public schools in grades nine (9) through twelve (12).

VALEDICTORIAN AND SALUTATORIAN

The honor student with the highest GPA and who has been enrolled in public school for the entirety of the student's high school career and in High School for the student's entire final year shall serve as the valedictorian of the student's graduating class. Students who finished their grade nine (9), grade ten (10), or grade eleven (11) enrolled in a high school which has been closed due to consolidation/annexation with the Dermott District shall be selected valedictorian on the basis of the criteria in existence in their high school at the time of the closure and their subsequent academic achievement in High School. Their selection shall be separate from and in addition to selection of the valedictorian from non-consolidated/annexed students enrolled in High School.

The honor student with the second highest GPA and who has been enrolled in public school for the entirety of the student's high school career and in High School for the student's entire final year shall serve as the salutatorian of the student's graduating class. Students who finished grade nine (9), grade ten (10), or grade eleven (11) enrolled in a high school which has been closed due to consolidation/annexation with the District shall be selected salutatorian on the basis of the criteria in existence in their high school at the time of the closure and their subsequent academic achievement in High School. Their selection shall be separate from and in addition to selection of the salutatorian from non-consolidated/annexed students enrolled in High School.

DERMOTT HIGH SCHOOL COURSE OFFERINGS

CAREER & TECHNICAL

MEDICAL PROFESSIONS
Foundations of Health Care
Medical Specialties (CNA)
Human Anatomy and Physiology

HOME ECONOMICS
Food, Nutrition, and Safety
Housing and Interior Design
Child Development and Parenting
Financial Literacy

BUSINESS APPLICATIONS
Computerized Accounting I
Computerized Accounting II
Computerized Business Apps.
Social Media and Communications
Business Procedures

FINE ARTS
Art I, II, III
Band I, II, III, IV
Choir I, II, III, IV
Visual Art Appreciation
Art Appreciation(Concurrent Credit)

FOREIGN LANGUAGE
Spanish I, II
Spanish I and II (Concurrent Credit)
French I, II
American Sign Language

HEALTH & PHYS ED
Health and Safety
Physical Education
Personal Fitness for Life
Recreational Sports and Activity

SOCIAL STUDIES
American History
African American History
Civics
AP US History
World History
Psychology
Sociology
World Geography
World Civilizations (Concurrent Credit)

SCIENCE
Biology
Chemistry
Physical Science
Physics
Anatomy & Physiology
Environmental Science
AP Chemistry

MATH
Algebra I, II
Bridge to Algebra II
Geometry
Pre Calculus
Transition Math Ready
Survey of Math/ College Algebra (Concurrent Credit)
AP Calculus AB

LANGUAGE ARTS
AP English Literature/ Composition
AP English Language/ Composition
Drama
English I, II, III, IV
Journalism I
Oral Communications
Speech (Concurrent Credit)
Composition I, II (Concurrent Credit)

The following courses may be taken in the eighth grade for credit toward graduation:

- Algebra I
- Spanish I

An 8th grade student enrolled in the above courses must make a passing grade to receive credit. A student not passing a course for credit will retake the course at the 9-12 level.

SCHEDULE CHANGES / DROPPING COURSES

Any student who finds it necessary to change his/her schedule must schedule an appointment with their class advisor and obtain a schedule form. Unless extenuating circumstances exist, schedule changes will not be made after the first two weeks of a semester. Students who drop a class after the first two week of

the semester may receive a failing grade for that course. The changing or dropping of courses may result in a change of the graduation status for students.

Adding Virtual Arkansas classes after May 31st of the previous school year will result in a $25 fee for each class added. The student will be responsible for any fee incurred before the schedule will be changed. Exceptions will be made for new students entering the district after the deadline.

STUDENT ACCELERATION

The Board believes that acceleration is an effective and research-based intervention for the academic growth of students who are ready for an advanced or faster-paced curriculum. Acceleration can allow a student to move through the traditional educational setting more rapidly, based on assessed readiness, capability, and motivation. At the same time, the Board understands that acceleration is not a replacement for gifted education services or programs.

Generally, acceleration can occur through one of two broad categories: content based and grade based. Grade based acceleration shortens the number of years a student would otherwise spend in K-12 education, while content based acceleration occurs within the normal K-12 time span. Either form of acceleration can be triggered by either a parent/guardian, student, or community member's request or by the referral of school personnel.

Elementary School Students

The process of determining the appropriateness of a request for an elementary school student to receive acceleration shall be under the direction of the district/school Gifted and Talented Program Coordinator. The district/school Gifted and Talented Program Coordinator shall convene the Acceleration Placement Committee and communicate with the individuals necessary for the Acceleration Placement Committee to make an informed decision, which shall include the student's parents or guardians.
While the needs of the student should dictate when acceleration decisions are considered, the Board believes the optimal time for referrals is in the spring, which gives adequate time for working through the determination process and for preparing those concerned for a smooth transition to the acceleration beginning in the following school-year.

The District's Gifted and Talented (GT) Program Coordinator will create a written format to govern the referral and determination for elementary school studentsprocess, which shall be made available to any parent or staff member upon request.

The parents/guardians of any elementary school student whose request for acceleration has been denied may appeal the decision, in writing to the District's GT Coordinator. The Districts GT Coordinator and the Acceleration Placement Committee will again thoroughly review the case study that was completed on the student. Upon completion of the review, the Committee will either request additional new testing be conducted to help the Committee make its determination or it will uphold the initial decision. The Committee's decision may not be further appealed.

Course Selection Students

District students who attend a District school that authorizes the student to select individual courses shall have acceleration options provided to them by the counselor during the course selection process. The course selection process shall be part of the Student Success Plan created and modified in accordance with Policy 4.55—STUDENT PROMOTION AND RETENTION.

PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES

Parent/Teacher Conferences are held at least two times a year. They are scheduled during the evening to allow parents ample time to visit with teachers.

Additional conferences may be requested by the parent or teacher at any time. Please make arrangements in advance for conferences. A time will be set up when the teacher is not on duty, such as during recess, before/after school, or during the teacher's conference period.

SEMESTER TEST EXEMPTION POLICY

There will be no semester test exemptions first semester.

Students (grades 7-12) may be exempt from second semester tests in each course if they qualify in the following manner: Students with an A average or higher in a class for the semester and no more than five (5) absences of any kind including In-School Suspension in a semester in that class. Students with a B average or higher in a class for the semester and no more than (3) absences of any kind including In-School Suspension in a semester in that class.
If a student is suspended out of school, he/she will NOT be eligible for exemption in the second semester.
If a student who qualifies for exemption chooses to take the semester exam, he/she may do so without penalty of the grade being reduced.

PROMOTION/RETENTION

A disservice is done to students through social promotion and is prohibited by state law. The District shall, at a minimum, evaluate each student annually in an effort to help each student who is not performing at grade level. Parents, legal guardians, persons having lawful control of the student, or persons acting in loco parentis shall be kept informed concerning the progress of their student(s). Notice of a student's possible retention or required retaking of a course shall be included with the student's grades sent home to each parent/guardian or the student, if 18 or older. Parent-teacher conferences are encouraged and may be held as necessary in an effort to improve a student's academic success.

At least once each semester, the Parents, legal guardians, persons having lawful control of the student, or persons acting in loco parentis, and teacher(s) of a student in kindergarten through eighth (8^{th}) grade shall be notified in writing of the student's independent grade-level-equivalency in reading.

For grades K-8, the teacher may recommend retention. The assignment shall be made only with the approval of the principal following a review of the individualized case. When retention of a student is being considered, teachers, if possible, will confer with the student's parents or guardian.

1. Kindergarten- The decision to promote or retain students will be made jointly by the teacher, principal, and parent. This decision will be based upon the student's performance on instructional management plan objectives and the student's readiness for grade 1.
2. Students in grades 1-6 shall make passing grades in Reading, Math, and Language Arts to be promoted to a higher-grade level. The student must also meet the school's requirement of attendance and minimum competencies.
3. Students in grades 7-8 must pass three (3) core academic classes (English, Math, Science, Social Studies) or 6 semesters of the core academic classes. The student must also meet the school's requirement for attendance to be promoted to the next grade.
4. Students in grades 1-8 who do not meet the above criterion may be promoted to the next grade if the teachers and principal that it is in the child's best interest for him/her to be promoted determine it. The reason(s) for such a promotion will be documented. The student must also meet the school's requirement on attendance and minimum competencies.

Promotion or retention of students, or their required retaking of a course shall be primarily based on the following criteria. If there is doubt concerning the promotion or retention of a student or his/her required retaking of a course, a conference shall be held before a final decision is made that includes the following individuals:

a. The building principal or designee;
b. The student's teacher(s);
c. School counselor;
d. A 504/special education representative (if applicable); and
e. The student's parents, legal guardians, persons having lawful control of the student, or persons standing in loco parentis.

The conference shall be held at a time and place that best accommodates those participating in the conference. The school shall document participation or non-participation in required conferences. If the conference attendees fail to agree concerning the student's placement or receipt of course credit, the final decision shall rest with the principal or the principal's designee.

STUDENT SUCCESS PLAN

Each student shall have a student success plan (SSP) developed by school personnel in collaboration with the student's parents and the student that is reviewed and updated annually. A student's SSP shall use multiple academic measures to personalize learning in order for students to achieve their grade-level expectations and individual growth. The SSP will identify if the student needs additional support or acceleration. Academic measures to be used in creating and updating a student's SSP shall include, but are not limited to:

- Statewide student assessment results;
- Subject grades;
- Student work samples; and
- Local assessment scores.

By the end of grade eight (8), the student's SSP shall:

- Guide the student along pathways to graduation;
- Address accelerated learning opportunities;
- Address academic deficits and interventions; and
- Include college and career planning components.

Based on a student's score on the college and career assessment:

- The student's SSP will be updated in order to assist the student with college and career readiness skills, course selection in high school, and improved academic achievement; and
- Provide a basis for counseling concerning postsecondary preparatory programs.

An SSP shall be created:

1. By no later than the end of the school year for a student in grade eight (8) or below who enrolls in the District during the school year; or
2. As soon as reasonably possible for a student in grade nine (9) or above who enrolls in the District at the beginning or during the school year.

HOMEWORK POLICY

Homework is considered to be part of the educational program of the Dermott School District. Assignments shall be an extension of the teaching/learning experience that promotes the student's educational development. As an extension of the classroom, homework must be planned and organized and should be viewed by the students as purposeful.

Teachers should be aware of the potential problem students may have completing assignments from multiple teachers and vary the amount of homework they give from day to day.

Parents shall be notified of this policy at the beginning of each school year.

This is the homework policy, but it may vary in each class based on principal's discretion. Homework in grades K – 12 will be assigned in accordance with the following guidelines:

- Assignments will be assigned to provide practice for a skill/concept in order to achieve a high degree of mastery; thus promoting maximum retention and recall of a previously learned skill/concept.
- Assignments will not involve skills/concepts which have not been taught.
- Maximum use of classroom time for supervised study and input should be planned for each lesson.
- Assignments will be made only when additional practice is necessary for mastery.
- Staff should implement plans for feedback to the learner.
- Homework assignments will be considered the same as class work and may be recorded. Failure to turn in homework assignments in accordance with classroom rules may result in a zero being recorded for that assignment.
- Homework will count as follows:
    - Grades K – 6: Included in total points
    - Grades 7 – 12: 40% of a nine-week grade
- Homework should never be assigned as punishment.

Copying of homework will not be tolerated. Loss of credit will result for the student who is copying and for the student who is allowing his work to be copied.

TEXTBOOKS

Students in grades K-12 will be furnished free textbooks by the state. Books will be issued to the student upon enrolling in each class. Students are responsible for proper care of these books. Books will be turned in at the end of each school year. Students will be charged for lost or damaged books based on the number of years left in the adoption period. Grades may be withheld until fine for lost or damaged books is paid. Books are not to be written in unless given permission by a teacher.

Students in some classes may be required to purchase workbooks or some materials for class projects. When the teacher assigns such projects, the students will be responsible for getting these supplies.

LIBRARY INFORMATION AND REGULATIONS

Students leaving class to work on assignments in the library must have a pass from their teacher. The library must not be abused by student play or by visiting. If a student disruption occurs, the student will be warned, and if he/she persists in the disruption, the student will be sent back to class. Any student abusing library privileges will lose library privileges for a minimum of two weeks.

All library fines must be paid in order for a student to receive his/her grade report. Fines must be paid before additional material may be checked out of the library.

GUIDANCE /COUNSELING SERVICE

The guidance program is an organized effort to serve as a supportive service of the educational process. The program emphasizes the importance of recognizing and providing for the individual needs, interests, aptitudes, and abilities of students in achieving their maximum potential from their school experience. The program offers both direct and indirect help to students through specific guidance services. Services include:

- Orientation is to assist students in making adjustments and moving with ease through unfamiliar situations such as moving from one school to another and to provide information needed to be successful in the new setting.
- Individual Appraisal is to obtain personal/social, educational, and vocational information about each student through student records and student academic progress.
- Testing Programs are to get information about students through standardized tests.
- Placement Input is to assist the student in selecting curriculum.
- Individual counseling helps the student gain insight into his/her potential for dealing with self and others in order to facilitate a better understanding and acceptance.
- Group Counseling is sessions that deal with topics such as self-concept, peer relations, death, divorce, drugs, etc.
- Group Guidance is conducted in the classroom offering information to students.
- Resource Center is to provide personal/social, educational and vocational information for students.
- Career Awareness Education is to assist the student in choosing, preparing for, and entering the world of work.
- Consultation with School Staff and Parents is to promote a better understanding of the students in order to arrive at a workable solution to problems and enable the student to show academic progress.

- Community Awareness is achieved by disseminating information concerning school activities to the community.

Students and parents are encouraged to consult with the counselor's office. If the students or parents would like an appointment, they may check by the counselor's office or call the school and an appointment will be scheduled. This will enable the counselor to provide parents and students with a more effective service. Parents and students will find that the counselor will carefully consider their ideas.

INSURANCE

Student insurance is provided by the Dermott School District for all students in grades K–12 for all sports including football. This policy provides protection for your students to, from, and during the regular school day. It also covers the students participating in school sponsored and supervised activities after school. This insurance is secondary to your primary coverage. Claims must be submitted within 90 days of any accident.

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

DEFINITIONS

"Academic Courses" are those courses for which class time is scheduled, which can be credited to meet the minimum requirements for graduation, which is taught by a teacher required to have State licensure in the course or is otherwise qualified under Arkansas statute, and has a course content guide which has been approved by the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE). Any of the courses for which concurrent high school credit is earned may be from an institution of higher education recognized by DESE. If a student passes an academic course offered on a block schedule, the course can be counted twice toward meeting the requirement for students to pass four (4) academic courses per semester as required by this policy.

"Extracurricular activities" are defined as: any school sponsored program where students from one or more schools meet, work, perform, practice under supervision outside of regular class time, or are competing for the purpose of receiving an award, rating, recognition, or criticism, or qualification for additional competition. Examples include, but are not limited to, inter/intrascholastic athletics, cheerleading, band, choral, math, or science competitions, field trips, and club activities.

"Field Trips" are when individual students or groups of students are invited to programs or events when there is no competition and the students are not interacting with each other for the purpose of planning, qualifying, or arranging for future programs or for the purpose of receiving recognition.

"Interscholastic Activities" means athletic or non-athletic/academic activities where students compete on a school vs. school basis.[1]

"Intrascholastic Activities" means athletic or non-athletic/academic activities where students compete with students from within the same school.[1]

"Supplemental Improvement Program (SIP)" is an additional instructional opportunity for identified students outside of their regular classroom and meets the criteria outlined in the current Arkansas Activities Association (AAA) Handbook.

EXTRACURRICULAR ELIGIBILITY

The Board believes in providing opportunities for students to participate in extracurricular activities that can help enrich the student's educational experience. At the same time, the Board believes that a student's participation in extracurricular activities cannot come at the expense of his/her classroom academic achievement. Interruptions of instructional time in the classroom are to be minimal and absences from class to participate in extracurricular activities shall not exceed one per week per extracurricular activity (tournaments excepted)[2]. Additionally, a student's participation in, and the District's operation of, extracurricular activities shall be subject to the following policy. All students are eligible for extracurricular activities unless specifically denied eligibility on the basis of criteria outlined in this policy.

Any student who refuses to sit for a Statewide assessment or attempts to boycott a Statewide assessment by failing to put forth a good faith effort on the assessment as determined by the assessment administrator/proctor, or whose parents do not send their student to school on the dates the assessments are administered or scheduled as make-up days shall not be permitted to participate in any non-curriculum related extracurricular activity. The student shall remain ineligible to participate until the student takes the same or a following statewide assessment, as applicable. The superintendent or designee may waive this paragraph's provisions when the student's failure was due to exceptional or extraordinary circumstances.[3] Students falling under the provisions of this paragraph shall be permitted to attend curriculum related field trips occurring during the school day.[4]

A student who enrolls in the district and meets the definition of "eligible child" in Policy 4.2—ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS shall be eligible to try out for an extracurricular activity regardless of the date the student enrolls in the District so long as the student meets all other eligibility requirements and the extracurricular activity is still ongoing.

A student and the parent or legal guardian of the student shall sign and return an acknowledgement of receipt and review of an information sheet regarding signs and symptoms of sudden cardiac arrest before the student may participate in an athletic activity and before each school year the student participates in an athletic activity.

No student shall be required to pay for individual or group instruction in order to participate in an extracurricular activity.

INTERSCHOLASTIC ACTIVITIES

Each school in the District shall post on its website its schedule of interscholastic activities, including sign-up, tryout, and participation deadlines, at least one semester in advance of those activities. A hard copy of the schedule shall be available upon request.[5]

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS: Junior High

A student promoted from the sixth to the seventh grade automatically meets scholarship requirements. A student promoted from the seventh to the eighth grade automatically meets scholarship requirements for the first semester. The second semester eighth-grade student meets the scholarship requirements for junior high if he/she has successfully passed four (4) academic courses the previous semester.

The first semester ninth-grade student meets the scholarship requirements for junior high if he/she has successfully passed four (4) academic courses the previous semester.

The second semester ninth-grade student meets the scholarship requirements for junior high if he/she has successfully passed (4) academic courses the previous semester which count toward his/her high school graduation requirements.

Ninth-grade students must meet the requirements of the senior high scholarship rule by the end of the second semester in the ninth grade in order to be eligible to participate in the fall semester of their tenth-grade year.

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS: Senior High

In order to remain eligible for competitive interscholastic activity, a student must have passed (4) academic courses the previous semester and either:

1. Have earned a minimum Grade Point Average (GPA) of 2.0 from all academic courses the previous semester; or
2. If the student has passed four (4) academic courses the previous semester but does not have a 2.0 GPA the student must be enrolled and successfully participating in an SIP to maintain their competitive interscholastic extracurricular eligibility.

STUDENTS WITH AN INDIVIDUAL EDUCATION PROGRAM

In order to be considered eligible to participate in competitive interscholastic activities, students with disabilities must pass at least four (4) courses per semester as required by their individual education program (IEP).

ARKANSAS ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION

In addition to the foregoing rules, the district shall abide by the rules of AAA governing interscholastic activities. AAA provides catastrophic insurance coverage for students participating in AAA governed extracurricular activities who are enrolled in school. As a matter of District policy, no student may participate in a AAA governed extracurricular activity unless he or she is enrolled in a district school, to ensure all students are eligible for AAA catastrophic insurance.[6]

Students participating in intrascholastic extracurricular activities that would be governed by AAA if they were to occur between students of different schools shall meet all interscholastic activity eligibility requirements to be eligible to participate in the comparable intrascholastic activity. The District will abide

by the AAA Handbook for such activities to ensure District students are not disqualified from participating in interscholastic activities.[7]

NON-AAA GOVERNED ACTIVITIES

Unless made ineligible by District policies, all students shall be eligible to participate in non-AAA governed intrascholastic extracurricular activities. Intrascholastic activities designed for a particular grade(s) or course(s) shall require the student to be enrolled in the grade(s) or course(s).

ATHLETIC PHYSICAL ELIGIBILITY

A physical examination is required before a student is allowed to participate in any athletic practice.

In order to participate in athletics, a student must meet the minimum academic standards as set forth by the Arkansas Activities Association and the Department of Education. A senior athlete must be enrolled in four academic classes.

ATHLETIC EVENTS

Students are expected to abide by all rules and regulations of Dermott School District at any athletic event, at home or away from home. All faculty members have the authority to discipline students for misbehavior at all school-sponsored activities.

Young adults, students, and patrons (men and women) are required to wear socially accepted attire (clothing) when attending school or any school sponsored function. The dress code shall be enforced at all athletic events. The administration will decide on proper activity dress.

Children who are elementary age and below will not be admitted into an athletic event without a parent or adult.

A parent cannot overrule a doctor's note. In order for the student to participate in any athletic events, he/she must be released by the doctor(with a doctor's note)

Senior Night
In order for a student to participate in Senior Night, he/she must be on the AAA roster as well as complete the season

If a student checks out or does not attend school, he or she cannot participate in the athletic event on that day

DISTRIBUTION OF LITERATURE

STUDENT MEDIA

All student media that are supported financially by the school or by use of school facilities, or are produced in conjunction with a class shall be considered school-sponsored media. School-sponsored media does not provide a forum for public expression. Student media, as well as the content of student

expression in school-sponsored activities, shall be subject to the editorial review of the District's administration, whose actions shall be reasonably related to legitimate pedagogical concerns and adhere to the following limitations:

1. Advertising may be accepted for media that does not condone or promote products that are inappropriate for the age and maturity of the audience or that endorses such things as tobacco, alcohol, or drugs.
2. Media may be regulated to prohibit communications determined by the appropriate teacher, student media advisor, and/or administrator to be ungrammatical; poorly written; inadequately researched; biased or prejudiced; vulgar or profane; or unsuitable for immature audiences.
3. Media may be regulated to prohibit the dissemination of material that may reasonably be perceived to advocate drug or alcohol use; irresponsible sex; conduct that is otherwise inconsistent with the shared values of a civilized social order; or to associate the school with any position other than neutrality on matters of political controversy.
4. Prohibited media includes those that:
    a. Are obscene as to minors;
    b. Are libelous or slanderous, including material containing defamatory falsehoods about public figures or governmental officials, and made with knowledge of their falsity or a reckless disregard of the truth;
    c. Constitute an unwarranted invasion of privacy as defined by state law;
    d. Suggest or urge the commission of unlawful acts on the school premises;
    e. Suggest or urge the violation of lawful school regulations;
    f. Attacks ethnic, religious, or racial groups; or
    g. Harass, threaten, or intimidate a student.

STUDENT MEDIA ON SCHOOL WEB PAGES

Student media displayed on school web pages shall follow the same guidelines as listed above and shall:

1. Not contain any non-educational advertisements.
2. Adhere to the restrictions regarding use of Directory Information as prescribed in Policy 4.13 including not using a student's photograph when associated with the student's name unless written permission has been received from the student's parent or student if over the age of 18.
3. State that the views expressed are not necessarily those of the School Board or the employees of the district.

STUDENT DISTRIBUTION OF NON-SCHOOL LITERATURE, PUBLICATIONS, AND MATERIALS

A student or group of students who distribute ten (10) or fewer copies of the same non-school literature, publications, or materials (hereinafter "non-school materials"), shall do so in a time, place, and manner that does not cause a substantial disruption of the orderly education environment. A student or group of students wishing to distribute more than ten (10) copies of non-school materials [1] shall have school authorities review their non-school materials at least three (3) school days in advance of their desired time of dissemination. School authorities shall review the non-school materials, prior to their distribution and will bar from distribution those non-school materials that are obscene, libelous, pervasively indecent, or advertise unlawful products or services. Material may also be barred from distribution if there is evidence that reasonably supports a forecast that a substantial disruption of the orderly operation of the school or educational environment will likely result from the distribution.[4] Concerns related to any denial of distribution by the principal shall be heard by the superintendent, whose decision shall be final.

SELECTION OF LIBRARY/MEDIA CENTER MATERIALS

The ultimate authority for the selection and retention of materials for the schools' media centers rests with the Board of Education which shall serve as a final arbiter in resolving a challenge to any media center materials. Licensed media center personnel shall make the initial selections in consultation with school and district licensed staff. Materials selected shall be in accordance with the guidelines of this policy.

The purpose of the schools' libraries/media centers is to supplement and enrich the curriculum and instruction offered by the District. Promoting the dialogue characteristic of a healthy democracy necessitates the maintenance of a broad range of materials and information representing varied points of view on current and historical issues. In the selection of the materials and resources to be available in each library/media center consideration will be given to their age appropriateness. Materials should be available to challenge the different interests, learning styles, and reading levels of the schools' students and that will help them attain the District's educational goals.

Selection Criteria

The criteria used in the selection of media center materials shall be that the materials:

1. Support and enhance the curricular and educational goals of the district;
2. Are appropriate for the ages, learning styles, interests, and maturity of the schools' students, or parents in the case of parenting literature;
3. Contribute to the examination of issues from varying points of view and help to broaden students understanding of their rights and responsibilities in our society;
4. Help develop critical thinking skills;
5. Are factually and/or historically accurate, in the case of non-fiction works and/or serve a pedagogical purpose;
6. Have literary merit as perceived by the educational community; and
7. Are technically well produced, physically sound (to the extent appropriate), and represent a reasonably sound economic value.

Retention and Continuous Evaluation

Media center materials shall be reviewed regularly to ensure the continued appropriateness of the center's collection to the school's curriculum and to maintain the collection in good repair. Those materials no longer meeting the selection criteria, have not been used for a long period of time, or are too worn to be economically repaired shall be withdrawn from the collection and disposed of. A record of withdrawn media materials including the manner of their disposal shall be maintained for a period of three years.

Gifts

Gifts to the media centers shall be evaluated to determine their appropriateness before they are placed in any media center. The evaluation shall use the same criteria as for all other materials considered for inclusion in the media centers. Any items determined to be unacceptable shall be returned to the donor or

disposed of at the discretion of the media specialist. The media centers shall have a list of desired items to give to prospective donors to aid them in their selection of materials to donate.

Challenges

The parent of a student affected by a media selection or a District employee may formally challenge the appropriateness of a media center selection by following the procedure outlined in this policy. The challenged material shall remain available throughout the challenge process.

Before any formal challenge can be filed, the individual contesting (hereinafter complainant) the appropriateness of the specified item shall request a conference through the principal's office with a licensed media center employee. The complainant shall be given a copy of this policy and the *Request for Formal Reconsideration Form* prior to the conference. The meeting shall take place at the earliest possible time of mutual convenience, but in no case later than (5) working days from the date of the request unless it is by the choice of the complainant.

CHALLENGE TO INSTRUCTIONAL/SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS

Instructional and supplemental materials are selected for their compatibility with the District's educational program and their ability to help fulfill the District's educational goals and objectives.
Individuals wishing to challenge or express concerns about instructional or supplemental materials may do so by filling out a *Challenge to Instructional Material* form available in the school's office.

The contesting individual may present a copy of the form to the principal and request a conference be held at a time of mutual convenience. Prior to the conference, the principal shall consult with the teacher regarding the contested material. In the conference, the principal shall explain to the contesting individual the criteria used for the selection of the material and its relevancy to the educational program as well as any other pertinent information in support of the use of the material.

SCHOOL TRIPS

All students involved in extracurricular activities are expected to ride the bus to and from an event sponsored by the school (example: football game, basketball game, band trip, etc.). No student will be allowed to return from a school-sponsored trip in a car of a boyfriend, girlfriend, etc. Parents/guardians of a student who personally see the person in charge of such a group may receive permission to bring their child home with them. Parents/guardians of a student may also make prior arrangements in the high school office in person to have another adult bring their child home. A letter of permission will be kept on file in the office.

Students with excessive discipline referrals may be denied the opportunity to attend field trips.

HOMECOMING COURT ELIGIBILITY

Maids must meet the following requirements to be eligible for the Homecoming Court:

1. Enrollment in DHS

2. All court participants must have a 2.0 Grade Point Average to be eligible for the court.
3. The high school (9-12) will vote on those students to determine the queen. The student receiving the second highest number of votes will be Maid of Honor. The remaining two will be the 12th grade maids.
4. There will be nominations for each class (9th , 10th, and 11th). Students in each class will vote for two maids.
5. Participants must attend all practices in order to participate.
6. First grade court attendants will accompany the queen only. The attendants must have been enrolled in DES for the entire kindergarten and first grade years and will be chosen by the queen.
7. If you choose to participate in DHS Homecoming, the sponsor will determine the colors to be worn from year to year.
8. The Sweetheart will be chosen by the senior basketball team, and must meet all previous requirements, and be a player on the senior girls basketball team. In the event there is not a member of the senior girls' basketball team who is a senior a junior may be chosen.
9. All those selected for Homecoming Court must not have been assigned OSS at any time during 1st semester. If a selected participant receives OSS at any time during the school year before the ceremony, an alternate will be chosen. The alternate chosen will be the student with the next highest number of votes.
10. The dress must be approved by the Homecoming Sponsor by two weeks prior to Homecoming.
11. If the dress is not approved by the Homecoming Sponsor by the two weeks, there will be an alternate chosen.

Escorts must meet the following requirements to be eligible for the Homecoming Court:

a. Enrollment in DHS
b. All court participants must have a 2.0 Grade Point Average.
c. No suspensions
d. Participants must attend all practices in order to participate.
e. All those selected for Homecoming Court must not have been assigned OSS at any time during 1st semester. If a selected participant receives OSS at any time during the school year before the ceremony, an alternate will be chosen. The alternate chosen will be the student with the next highest number of votes.
f. Tuxedos must be approved by the Homecoming Sponsor.

PROM POLICY

Only students in the 11th and 12th grades will be allowed to purchase prom tickets. They may invite guests who are 10th, 11th, or 12th grade at Dermott High School or grades 10-12 from another high school, **or a high school graduate of the previous year**. All dates must be approved by the Dermott High School principal and are required to follow the Dermott High School rules. Any exceptions to these rules will be made by the principal and or sponsor. In order to participate in prom activities, students **MUST** attend school for one half day (which is four periods).

TRANSPORTATION

STUDENT VEHICLES

A student, who has presented a valid driver's license and proof of insurance to the appropriate office personnel, may drive his/her vehicle to school. Vehicles driven to school shall be parked in the area

designated for student parking. Parking on school property is a privilege which may be denied to a student for any disciplinary violation, at the discretion of the student's building principal.

Students are not permitted to loiter in parking areas and are not to return to their vehicles during the school day for any reason unless given permission to do so by school personnel.

It is understood that there is no expectation of privacy in vehicles in parking areas. Drivers of vehicles parked on a school campus will be held accountable for illegal substances or any other item prohibited by District policy found in their vehicle. The act of a student parking a vehicle on campus is a grant of permission for school or law enforcement authorities to search that vehicle.

BUSES

RIDING THE BUS IS A PRIVILEGE AND NOT A RIGHT!

The District's Student Code of conduct applies to students while traveling to and from school or to and from a school activity to the same extent as if the students were on school grounds. Appropriate disciplinary actions may be taken against commuting students who violate the District's Student Code of Conduct.

The preceding paragraph also applies to student conduct while on school buses. Students shall be instructed in safe riding practices. The driver of a school bus shall not operate the school bus until every passenger is seated. In addition to other disciplinary measures provided for violations of the District's Student Code of Conduct, the student's bus transportation privileges may be suspended or terminated for violations of the Student Code of Conduct related to bus behavior. The transportation to and from school of students who have lost their bus transportation privileges is the responsibility of the student's parent or guardian.

A system of free transportation has been provided for students of the school district in a manner prescribed by the Board of Education based upon funds available.

While riding the bus, students are under the supervision of the driver and must obey the driver at all times. After following due process, the driver has the authority to recommend to the appropriate principal temporary suspension from riding the bus.

At the discretion of the bus driver, students riding the bus will be assigned seats. All school rules, expectations, and consequences will serve as bus rules, expectations, and consequences as well.

BUS RIDER RULES

1. Students are to conduct themselves in a manner such that will not distract the attention of their driver or disturb others riding the bus.
2. Students should be on time at the designated school bus stops and should wait until the bus comes to a complete stop before attempting to enter.
3. While on the bus, students should keep hands and heads inside the bus at all times. Loud talking and laughing is prohibited since these actions divert the driver's attention and make safe driving difficult.
4. Horseplay of any type is not permitted on or around the school bus.

5. Bus riders should never tamper with the bus.
6. Students are not to leave books, lunches, or other articles on the bus.
7. Students are not to throw anything out of the bus windows.
8. Bus riders are not permitted to leave their assigned seats while the bus is in motion.
9. Bus riders are to be absolutely quiet when the bus is approaching a railroad crossing.
10. Bus riders are expected to be courteous to fellow pupils and to the bus driver.
11. Bus students are not allowed to get on or off the bus except at their designated stop unless written permission from a principal is presented to the bus driver beforehand.
12. Tobacco use is prohibited by law.
13. No food is allowed on the bus.
14. Students may not ride any bus except their own without written permission from the principal and parent. Students may not ride early buses unless the early bus is their regularly scheduled bus.

BUS DISCIPLINE

STUDENTS ARE SUBJECT TO ALL RULES OF THE SCHOOL.

In extreme disciplinary cases for chronic offenses, the administration reserves the right to permanently suspend the bus riding privileges of any student.

CHANGES IN TRANSPORTATION

The following procedure is for grades K – 6. Due to recent increased safety concerns and to protect instructional time, changes in transportation will not be accepted over the phone. Changes in transportation may be made in one of two ways:

1. Changes in transportation may be made in person in the office. These changes will be recorded and a signature will be required.
2. A written note may be sent to the student's teacher, no later than the morning of the change. This note must be signed and dated with an updated contact phone number to be valid.

IMMUNIZATIONS

Definitions

"In process" means the student has received at least one dose of the required immunizations and is waiting the minimum time interval to receive the additional dose(s).

"Serologic testing" refers to a medical procedure used to determine an individual's immunity to Hepatitis B, Measles, Mumps, Rubella and Varicella.

General Requirements

Unless otherwise provided by law or this policy, no student shall be admitted to attend classes in the District who has not been age appropriately immunized against:

- Poliomyelitis;
- Diphtheria;
- Tetanus;
- Pertussis;

- Red (rubeola) measles;
- Rubella;
- Mumps;
- Hepatitis A;
- Hepatitis B;
- Meningococcal disease;
- Varicella (chickenpox); and
- Any other immunization required by the Arkansas Department of Health (ADH).

HEALTH ROOM POLICIES

The Health Room is available during the day. Services include:

1. First Aid.
2. Evaluation of ailing students.
3. Maintenance of state required immunization records and health records.
4. Annual screening for vision/hearing in grades K, 2, 4, 6, 8, and Special Services. Annual screening for Body Mass Index (BMI) in grades K, 2, 4, 6, 8 and 10. Annual screening for Scoliosis is conducted in 6th and 8th grades for girls and 8th grade for boys.
5. Parents must send a written request in the form of a note to the principal if they DO Not want their student screened.
6. If a student fails a screening, the parent will receive a referral to the doctor.
7. Educational material and in-services provided to parents and students as needed.

MEDICATION POLICY

1. A Medication Administration Release Form is required before medication can be administered. This form will include a request for medication to be given, the student's name, grade, medication, and dosage plus time to be given: what the medication is for; and emergency numbers in case the child has a reaction to the medication. Allergies must be included on form. The consent form must be signed before any medication will be given at school. The proper forms are available in the nurse's office. Handwritten notes are not acceptable.
2. Medication must be in the original container with the child's name on the prescription. The container must state the name of the drug, physician, and pharmacist, the dosage and time to be given, and the recommended interval between doses.
3. Medication to be given three (3) times daily will have the noon dose administered at school, and the other 2 doses at home.
4. Any medication not used during the school year must be picked up within 10 days of the end of the school year by the parent. The parent is required to sign on the form stating name of medication, pick up date and amount of the medication.
5. Parents are requested not to send over-the-counter drugs, except for cough drops. If deemed necessary by the nurse, the student may receive cough drops and tums for minor ailments.
6. Permission for long-term medication must be reviewed at the beginning of each semester.
7. Only minor first aid will be administered at school. Any serious illness or injury will be referred to parents. In case of emergency situations and no parent can be contacted, referral will be made to the family doctor. The parents should notify the school when their telephone number changes in case the student becomes ill.

Self-Administration of Medication

Students who have written permission from their parent or guardian and a licensed health care practitioner on file with the District may:

1) Self-administer either a rescue inhaler or auto-injectable epinephrine;
2) Perform his/her own blood glucose checks;
3) Administer insulin through the insulin delivery system the student uses;
4) Treat the student's own hypoglycemia and hyperglycemia; or
5) Possess on his or her person:
   a) A rescue inhaler or auto-injectable epinephrine; or
   b) the necessary supplies and equipment to perform his/her own diabetes monitoring and treatment functions.

PHYSICAL EXAMINATIONS OR SCREENINGS

The district conducts routine health screenings such as hearing, vision, and scoliosis due to the importance these health factors play in the ability of a student to succeed in school. The intent of the exams or screenings is to detect defects in hearing, vision, or other elements of health that would adversely affect the student's ability to achieve to his/her full potential.

The rights provided to parents under this policy transfer to the student when he/she turns eighteen (18) years old.

Except in instances where a student is suspected of having a contagious or infectious disease, parents shall have the right to opt their student out of the exams or screenings by using form 4.41F or by providing certification from a physician that he/she has recently examined the student.

STUDENT ILLNESS/ACCIDENT

If a student becomes too ill to remain in class and/or could be contagious to other students, the principal or designee will attempt to notify the student's parent or legal guardian. The student will remain in the school's health room or a place where he/she can be supervised until the end of the school day or until the parent/legal guardian can check the student out of school.

If a student becomes seriously ill or is injured while at school and the parent/legal guardian cannot be contacted, the failure to make such contact shall not unreasonably delay the school's expeditious transport of the student to an appropriate medical care facility. The school assumes no responsibility for treatment of the student. When available, current, and applicable, the student's emergency contact numbers and medical information will be utilized. Parents are strongly encouraged to keep this information up to date.

COMMUNICABLE DISEASES AND PARASITES

Students with communicable diseases or with human host parasites that are transmittable in a school environment shall demonstrate respect for other students by not attending school while they are capable of transmitting their condition to others. Students whom the school nurse determines are unwell or unfit for school attendance or who are believed to have a communicable disease or condition will be required to be picked up by their parent or guardian. Specific examples include, but are not limited to: Varicella

(chicken pox), measles, scabies, conjunctivitis (Pink Eye), impetigo/MRSA (Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus), streptococcal and staphylococcal infections, ringworm, mononucleosis, Hepatitis A, B, or C, mumps, vomiting, diarrhea, and fever (100.4 F when taken orally).[1] A student who has been sent home by the school nurse will be subsequently readmitted, at the discretion of the school nurse, when the student is no longer a transmission risk. In some instances, a letter from a health care provider may be required prior to the student being readmitted to the school.

SPECIAL HEALTH NEEDS

Students who have special health needs or health problems which could require special services are required to make school personnel aware of such situations. Students who need special rest room privileges are required to have documentation from a physician on file in the principal's office. A student who has special health problems which may result in the student needing emergency services must document in writing such problems and suggested steps to be taken when such problems arise. The doctor's name and telephone number must be listed along with emergency numbers to get in touch with the parent/guardian. When emergency situations arise at school, the Dermott School District has full authority to take proper steps to ensure the safety of the students. Parental requests will be honored if possible. Adequate information from the parent/guardian about the special health needs of the student will certainly help school personnel make critical decisions. However, when an emergency arises in which it is believed that a student's life is in danger; all certified personnel have the authority to send for emergency officials immediately. If the situation is not life-threatening, the building administrator will be sent for. After the arrival of the building administrator, he or she will be the person in charge and will be responsible for making critical decisions. Immediately after sending for the building principal, the school nurse will be sent for. The building principal may wait for the nurse or may decide that immediate medical attention is needed. After the nurse arrives, the building principal may rely on the nurse's expertise, but the principal shall have the responsibility of sending for additional services.

Parents of students who require emergency services will be responsible for all bills.

The Dermott School District will not be held responsible for any problems resulting from the medication.

STUDENT WELFARE

The Dermott School Board directs full compliance by the district with the child-abuse and neglect reporting laws. Any school official or employee who knows or has reasonable cause to suspect that a child has been subjected to physical or sexual abuse or neglect, or who observes the child being subjected to conditions or circumstances which would reasonably result in abuse or neglect, shall immediately report or cause a report to be made to the building principal or his/her designee, who will then become responsible for making a report immediately by telephone to the Department of Human Services. The school official will then call the school nurse to document any marks.
It will not be the responsibility of the school official or employee who initiated the report to prove that the child has been abused or neglected.

COMPUTER USE POLICY

The Dermott School District makes computers and/or computer Internet access available to students, to permit students to perform research and to allow students to learn how to use computer technology. Use of district computers is for educational and/or instructional purposes only. It is the policy of this school district to equip each computer with Internet filtering software designed to prevent users from accessing material that is harmful to minors. For the purposes of this policy "harmful to minors" is defined as any picture, image, graphic image file, or other visual depiction that--

(A) taken as a whole and with respect to minors, appeals to a prurient interest in nudity, sex, or excretion;

(B) depicts, describes, or represents, in a patently offensive way with respect to what is suitable for minors, an actual or simulated sexual act or sexual contact, actual or simulated normal or perverted sexual acts, or a lewd exhibition of the genitals; and

(C) taken as a whole, lacks serious literary, artistic, political, or scientific value as to minors.

No student will be granted Internet access until and unless a computer-use agreement, signed by both the student and the parent or legal guardian (if the student is under the age of eighteen [18]) is on file. The current version of the computer use agreement is incorporated by reference into board policy and is considered part of the student handbook.

Student use of computers shall only be as directed or assigned by staff or teachers; students are advised that they enjoy no expectation of privacy in any aspect of their computer use, including email, and that monitoring of student computer use is continuous. Students must not disable or bypass security procedures, compromise, attempt to compromise, or defeat the district's technology network security or Internet filtering software, alter data without authorization, or disclose passwords to other students. Students who misuse district-owned computers or Internet access in any way, including using computers to violate any other policy or contrary to the computer use agreement, or using the computers to access or create sexually explicit or pornographic text or graphics, will face disciplinary action, as specified in the student handbook and/or computer use agreement.

In an effort to help protect student welfare when they navigate the Internet, the district will work to educate students about appropriate online behavior, including interacting with other individuals on social networking websites and in chat rooms and cyberbullying awareness and response.

The following are not permitted:

- Sending or displaying offensive messages or pictures
- Using obscene language
- Harassing or insulting messages
- Damaging computers, computer systems or computer networks
- Violating copyright laws
- Using others' passwords
- Trespassing in others' folders, work or files
- Intentionally wasting limited resources
- Employing the network for commercial purposes
- Visiting sites that are prohibited

Software not provided by the district may not be used by students and/or staff.

SANCTIONS

Students violating rules may forfeit use of the internet.

- Additional disciplinary action may be determined at the building level in line with existing practice regarding inappropriate language or behavior.
- When applicable, law enforcement agencies may be involved.

WEBSITE PRIVACY POLICY

The Dermott School District operates and maintains a web site for the purpose of informing the citizens of the district about its activities. The web site neither does not use "cookies" or an ISP address to collect or retain personally identifying information about visitors to its web site nor is any information given to "third parties." Any data collected is used solely for the purpose of monitoring site activity to help the district improve the usefulness of the site to its visitors.

The site serves no commercial purpose and does not collect any information from individuals for such purpose.

Photographs of students, when associated with the student's name, shall not be displayed on any page of the district's web site without the prior written consent of the parent (or the student if 18 or older).

The site provides for email communication between the District and individuals for the purpose of exchanging information regarding the District and its activities or between teachers and their students. The site may also provide for password protected communication between the District and its staff.

CRISIS INTERVENTION PLANS

1. Contact Parents (Principal)
2. Emergency Code: (Secretary)
    a. Fire Alarm System or 3 short rings
    b. Tornado 3 long rings
    c. Earthquake 2 short rings
3. Turn bells off or ring bells if students are not in class (Secretary)
4. Convene Crisis Team in designated area (Counselor)
5. Secure all doors. Post person at front doors. (Principal)
6. Message to staff (Principal)
7. If school is not in session when a crisis situation occurs, the Phone Tree will be used to contact staff members. Students will be admitted to the building upon arrival when school resumes. A normal bell schedule will be followed. Teachers will remain with classes. Details will come from the principal. The Care Team will be Remove all students from area (Teachers)
8. Contact principal's office (Teachers)
9. Call: (Secretary)
    a. Ambulance
    b. Superintendent's Office

Police/Sheriff is available for students and staff in need. All media requests and requests for information will be referred to the superintendent's office.

EMERGENCY DRILLS

All schools in the District shall conduct fire drills at least monthly. Tornado drills shall also be conducted not fewer than three (3) times per year Students who ride school buses, shall also participate in emergency evacuation drills at least twice each school year.

The District shall annually conduct a lockdown drill ~~r~~ at all schools in the District in collaboration with local law enforcement and emergency management personnel. The lockdown drill training will include use of the District's emergency communication method with law enforcement. Students will be included in the drills to the extent that is developmentally appropriate for the age of both the students and grade configuration of the school.

Drills may be conducted during the instructional day or during non-instructional time periods.

Other types of emergency drills may also be conducted to test the implementation of the District's emergency plans in the event of violence, terrorist attack, natural disaster, other emergency, or the District's emergency communication with law enforcement method. Students shall be included in the drills to the extent practicable.

SEVERE WEATHER AND/OR EARTHQUAKE

CONDITION I ALERT:

- Administration will monitor the situation and inform key personnel.

CONDITION II ALERT:

- Restrict all movement of students. The changing of classes will be done only under orders. IGNORE BELLS!

CONDITION III ALERT:

- Students are to be evacuated to pre-designated areas. Keep students away from windows, from outer walls, and from beneath any overhead objects.
- Students should crouch on their knees, face down, with fingers interlocked covering their head. Eyeglasses or any item that may cause physical damage (including gum, paper, etc. from their mouths) should be removed.
- In the event a storm or an earthquake was to strike without warning, students are to seek shelter under desks immediately.
- In the event of a storm, teachers will keep the students in ALERT III until informed that the alert has been lifted.
- In the event of an earthquake, after the initial tremor has ended, teachers will escort the students out of the buildings to a safe location.

BOILER PLATE FOR ANNUAL NOTIFICATION TO PUBLIC

The Dermott Special School District has complied with federal regulations in developing a Management Plan to handle Asbestos Containing Building Materials that have been found in the school district. This Management Plan is on file in the Administration Office and is available for public viewing.

There has been no Asbestos Removal Project planned for the school year 2026-2027.

The necessary 6 month surveillance checks for 2026 – 2027 will be done in accordance with federal regulations. These reports are on file and available for public viewing.

There was a 3 year re-inspection done on all asbestos containing buildings In May 2022. This report is on file in the Administration Office of the Dermott Special School District and is available for public viewing.

If there are any questions in regards to this matter, contact Wilbert Easterling at 870-538-1000.

STUDENT DISCIPLINE

The Dermott Board of Education has a responsibility to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the District's students and employees. To help maintain a safe environment conducive to high student achievement, the Board establishes policies necessary to regulate student behavior to promote an orderly school environment that is respectful of the rights of others and ensures the uniform enforcement of student discipline. Students are responsible for their conduct that occurs:

- At any time on the school grounds;
- Off school grounds at a school sponsored function, activity, or event; and
- Going to and from school or a school activity.

The District's administrators may also take disciplinary action against a student for off-campus conduct occurring at any time that would have a detrimental impact on school discipline, the educational environment, or the welfare of the students and/or staff. A student who has committed a criminal act while off campus and whose presence on campus could cause a substantial disruption to school or endanger the welfare of other students or staff is subject to disciplinary action up to and including expulsion. Such acts could include, but are not limited to:

- A felony or an act that would be considered a felony if committed by an adult;
- An assault or battery;
- Drug law violations; or
- Sexual misconduct of a serious nature.

Any disciplinary action pursued by the District shall be in accordance with the student's appropriate due process rights.
The District shall incorporate the District's multi-tiered behavioral intervention procedures in accordance with Policy 4.60 in the application of student discipline.

The District's personnel policy committees shall annually review the District's student discipline policies, including State and District student discipline data, and may recommend changes in the policies to the Dermott School Board. The Board has the responsibility of determining whether to approve any recommended changes to student discipline policies.

The District's student discipline policies shall be distributed to each student during the first week of school each year and to new students upon their enrollment. Each student's parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of the student, or person standing in loco parentis shall sign and return to the school an acknowledgement form documenting that they have received the policies.

The District shall develop and provide programs, measures, or alternative means and methods for continued student engagement and educational access during periods of suspension or expulsion.

The superintendent is authorized to modify the penalties set forth in the District's student discipline policies on a case-by-case basis.

It is required by law that the principal or the person in charge report to the police any incidents the person has personal knowledge of or has received information leading to a reasonable belief that a person has committed or threatened to commit an act of violence or any crime involving a deadly weapon on school property or while under school supervision. If the person making the report is not the Superintendent, that person shall also inform the Superintendent of the incident. Additionally, the principal shall inform any school employee or other person who initially reported the incident that a report has been made to the appropriate law enforcement agency. The Superintendent or designee shall inform the Board of Directors of any such report made to law enforcement.

The superintendent shall make a report annually to the Board of Directors on student discipline data, which shall include, without limitation, the number of incidents of bullying reported and the actions taken regarding the reported incidents of bullying.

STANDARDS OF CONDUCT

The following activities are considered major infractions of proper conduct and will subject the student to disciplinary action including, but not limited to, suspension or expulsion from school, and /or notification of law enforcement officials. A violation of the rule occurs whether the conduct takes place on the school grounds, at a school-sponsored activity or event, or en-route to and from school.

Prohibited behaviors include, but shall not be limited to the following.

1. Disrespect for school employees and failing to comply with their reasonable directions or otherwise demonstrating insubordination;
2. Disruptive behavior that interferes with orderly school operations;
3. Willfully and intentionally assaulting or threatening to assault or physically abusing any student or school employee;

4. Possession of any weapon that can reasonably be considered capable of causing bodily harm to another individual;
5. Possession or use of tobacco in any form on any property owned or leased by any public school;
6. Willfully or intentionally damaging, destroying, or stealing school property;
7. Possession of any paging device, beeper, or similar electronic communication devices on the school campus during normal school hours unless specifically exempted by the administration for health or other compelling reasons;
8. Possession, selling, distributing, or being under the influence of an alcoholic beverage, any illegal drug, unauthorized inhalants, or the inappropriate use or sharing of prescription or over the counter drugs, or other intoxicants, or anything represented to be a drug;
9. Sharing, diverting, transferring, applying to others (such as needles or lancets), or in any way misusing medication or any medical supplies in their possession;
10. Inappropriate public displays of affection;
11. Cheating, copying, or claiming another person's work to be his/her own;
12. Gambling;
13. Inappropriate student dress;
14. Use of vulgar, profane, or obscene language or gestures;
15. Truancy;
16. Excessive tardiness;
17. Engaging in behavior designed to taunt, degrade, or ridicule another person on the basis of race, ethnicity, national origin, sex, or disability;
18. Possess, view, distribute or electronically transmit sexually explicit or vulgar images or representations, whether electronically, on a data storage device, or in hard copy form;
19. Hazing, or aiding in the hazing of another student;
20. Gangs or gang-related activities, including belonging to secret societies of any kind, are forbidden on school property. Gang insignias, clothing, “throwing signs” or other gestures associated with gangs are prohibited;
21. Sexual harassment;
22. Bullying.; and
23. Operating a vehicle on school grounds while using a wireless communication device.

DISCIPLINE POLICY DEFINITIONS

Expulsion: Prohibition of a student from entering the school or school grounds (except for a prearranged conference with an administrator) until the end of a semester, the end of the offense, with loss of academic credit. This action shall be taken by the Board of Education only.

Out of School Suspension (OSS): Prohibition of a student from entering the school or school grounds (except for a prearranged conference with an administrator) for a period set by the principal of the school or the superintendent. Suspensions normally will not be longer than ten (10) school days including the day on which the offense occurred unless it is deemed a long-term suspension, which must be determined by the board of education only. Suspension does not carry with it loss of credit for the semester; however, make-up work shall not be allowed.

Probation: When a student is placed on probation, that student must obey all school rules and regulations for the rest of the year. If the student breaks probation, expulsion will be recommended.

Parent: The term "parent" shall include every parent, guardian, or person in parental relation having control or charge of any student in attendance in the schools of this district.

In-School Suspension (ISS): The placing of a student in a confined area so as not to interact with other students for a specified period of time.

Student Conference: A meeting between the student and/or faculty member/principal to discuss the student's behavior/actions and the consequences of such behavior/actions.

Parent Conference: A meeting between the student and/or the student's parent/guardian and the principal to discuss the student's behavior/actions and the consequences of the student's behavior/actions.

Equal educational opportunity: The Board of Education believes that every child, regardless of race, creed, color, sex, religious, cultural or economic background, or disability, should be given the opportunity to develop and achieve to the maximum extent possible. To provide equal educational opportunity, all programs offered by schools within the district will be open to all students.

Rights and responsibilities: Students, as well as parents and school personnel, are guaranteed full rights of citizenship by the United States Constitution; and those rights cannot be denied except through due process of law. In order for others to enjoy citizenship rights, it is necessary for students to behave in such a way that others are treated equally and with respect.

Due process: To guarantee that a student will not have his/her rights taken away unfairly, there are established procedures which school personnel must follow.

Insubordination: The term is used to describe a state of being disobedient, resistant to authority, or unwilling to follow directions.

Reasonable Suspicion: School personnel who have reason to believe that a search will produce evidence that a student has violated or is violating the school rules or the law may conduct a search.

Reasonable Force: School personnel may apply the minimum amount of force necessary to stop or restrain a student from conducting himself/herself in such a way that could result in physical injury to himself/herself or to others. Dermott School authorizes the use of reasonable force by any certified employee in the exercise of lawful authority to restrain a student, to protect a student from harm, or to maintain order at any school sponsored event.

Extended Time-Out (ETO): A principal may assign ETO for a portion of the day as a consequence. During ETO, the student completes regular class assignments and is monitored by a district employee.

Contraband: Any articles which are illegal or articles which a student possesses illegally.

Disruptive Conduct: Behavior which includes defiant and hostile acts; acts involving moral turpitude; and disrespect for authority in the school buildings, on school grounds, or at school-sponsored events.

Detention: Loss of recess assigned by a staff member as a consequence for unacceptable behavior.

Assault: The willful attempt or threat to inflict injury upon the person of another, coupled with apparent present ability to do so. Any display of force that would give the victim reason to fear bodily harm is assault, even if touching or striking does not occur.

Battery: Battery is similar to assault, but requires un-excused physical touching or injury.

Abuse: Abuse means to wrong in speech, reproach coarsely, disparage, revile, or malign. Use of profanity or vulgar expression directed at another person is considered abuse.

Act of Violence: any violation of Arkansas Law where a person purposely or knowingly causes or threatens to cause death or serious physical injury to another person. (Act 1520 of 1999)

Deadly Weapon: A) A firearm or anything manifestly designed, made, or adapted for the purpose of inflicting death or serious injury; or B) Anything that in the manner of its use or intent is capable of causing death or serious injury. (Act 1520 of 1999)

Firearm: Any device designed, made, or adapted to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive or any device readily convertible to that use, including such a device that is not loaded or lacks a clip or other component to render it immediately operable, and components that can be readily assembled into such a device. (Act 1520 of 1999)

DISCIPLINE POLICY

DISCIPLINE: Introduction & Purpose

The primary objective of Dermott School Discipline Policy is to teach students to be responsible for their own behavior. Students will behave appropriately while at school. Students will not allow students to stop the teacher from teaching or prevent other students from learning. The choice of behavior is the student's. The school staff has the authority and responsibility to take fair and responsible measures to maintain proper control and discipline among students placed in their care. Due process shall be given to all students prior to punishment.

The rules listed should not be thought of as all inclusive. Any conduct that tends to disrupt the educational programs will be grounds for disciplinary actions. All students in the Dermott School District shall comply with the policies in this handbook and any other reasonable instructions while on the school campus, on or off the grounds at a school sponsored event, or enroute to and from school.

The disciplinary actions in the Dermott School District will range from a verbal reprimand to expulsion from school.

GENERAL RULES

Discipline in the Dermott Schools is the responsibility of all teachers and administrative personnel working together. Teachers will handle most of their discipline problems by using reasonable approaches that produce positive results. They may include student-teacher conferences, principal-teacher-parent conferences, and corporal punishment. Suspension may result if violations are repeated or in the case of serious misconduct by a student. Suspension will be administered by the principal or superintendent. The suspension period will range from one (1) to ten (10) days depending on the severity of the offense and if it is a repeated offense.

Severe Clause: If a student commits any of the following acts they may be removed from the classroom at that time:

- Commits or threatens to commit physical harm on another student or adult.
- Damages or destroys student, teacher, or school property.
- Refuses to do assigned work.
- Engages in behavior that keeps the classroom from functioning.

REGULATIONS

The following regulations are designed to protect all the members of the educational community in the exercise of their rights and duties:

1. IDENTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS: Upon request, all persons must identify themselves to school employees.
2. STUDENTS: Students must obey the reasonable instructions of school employees.
3. OFF CAMPUS EVENTS: Students at school sponsored events shall be governed by school district rules, regulations, and personnel. Violations of the rules or refusal to obey reasonable instructions of school personnel may result in the loss of privilege to attend the events and may result in disciplinary action applicable under the regular school program.
4. FREEDOM OF SPEECH AND ASSEMBLY: Students are entitled to verbal expressions of their personal opinions as long as the rights of others are not violated and the expression does not cause disruption of the educational process. Obscenities are prohibited. Students are allowed to assemble peaceably. To avoid disruption of the educational process, all student meetings must function as a part of the educational process or as authorized by the principal. Meetings that interfere with the operation of the school are prohibited. Demonstrations and disorderly activities on the part of the students at any time on school grounds will not be tolerated. Participation in such demonstration activities, no matter how well intended, shall bring suspension.
5. SEARCH AND SEIZURE: School personnel may legally search desk, backpacks, lockers, automobile, and students using the following guidelines. A search shall be conducted upon receipt of information that the search would produce evidence indicating the student has violated the law or school rules. Students should be so informed that school authorities have equal access to lockers and/or desks and may inspect them at any time. Items that may be reasonably determined to be a threat to the safety of others, or that are used to disrupt the educational process, may be removed from the student's possession.
6. PERSONAL SEARCH: Personal searches are discouraged; however, in the event that there is reason to believe that a student has stolen property, contraband, or a weapon on his/her person, a

personal search by a faculty member of the same sex is authorized. By law, school officials need not obtain a warrant before searching a student who is under their authority. The search of a student by a school official will be justified where there is reasonable suspicion that the search will turn up evidence that the student has violated the law or rules of the school and is reasonably related to the objective of the search and not excessively intrusive in light of the age and sex of the students and the nature of the infraction. The following guidelines will be followed: A student will be asked to empty his/her pockets and possibly remove his/her shoes and socks. A pat down search of a student's person shall be done by a school official of the same sex. An adult witness shall be present when a personal search is conducted.

7. FREEDOM OF PUBLICATION AND DISTRIBUTION: Students are entitled to publish and distribute materials, provided that the students assume the responsibility for the contents. They are responsible for cleaning up any litter that may result. (ACT 1109)
8. FIREARMS/WEAPONS PARENTAL RESPONSIBILITY: In accordance with Act 1150 of 1999, the superintendent of any school district shall recommend the expulsion of any student from school for a period of not less than one year for possession of any firearm or other weapon prohibited upon the school campus, at school bus stops, or at school-sponsored events by law: provided, however, that the superintendent shall have discretion to modify such expulsion requirement for a student on a case by case basis. (The expulsion shall be noted on the student's permanent school record.) The Dermott School District will require parents, guardians, or other persons in loco parentis of a student expelled for a firearm or other weapon to sign a statement acknowledging that the parents have read and understand current laws regarding the possibility of parental responsibility for allowing a child to possess a weapon on school property. The statement shall be signed by the parents, guardians, or other persons in loco parentis prior to readmitting a student or enrolling a student in any public school, immediately after the expiration of an expulsion period.

UNACCEPTABLE ITEMS

- Any item which attacks ethnic or religious groups.
- Pornography or obscenity.
- Materials derogatory to specific individuals.
- Materials designed to solicit funds (unless approved by the principal.) ● Literature which favors or opposes the candidacy of any candidate for election.
- Publications that are libelous or slanderous.
- Publications that incite students to create a dangerous, hostile, or violent disruption to the orderly operation of school.
- Private invitations and/or gifts unless provided for an entire classroom with permission from the teacher.
- Hand held laser pointers (without the supervision of a parent, guardian, or teacher) Act 1408 of 1999

CORPORAL PUNISHMENT

Option 1

The Dermott School Board authorizes the use of corporal punishment to be administered in accordance with this policy by the Superintendent or the superintendent's designated staff members who are required to have a state-issued license as a condition of their employment.

Prior to the administration of corporal punishment, the student receiving the corporal punishment shall be given an explanation of the reasons for the punishment and be given an opportunity to refute the charges.

All corporal punishment shall be administered privately, i.e. out of the sight and hearing of other students, shall not be excessive, or administered with malice, and shall be administered in the presence of another school administrator or designee who shall be a licensed staff member employed by the District.

Corporal punishment shall not be used as a form of discipline for a student who is intellectually disabled, non-ambulatory, non-verbal, or autistic.

DISCIPLINE FOR HANDICAPPED

Handicapped students who engage in misbehavior are subject to normal school disciplinary rules and procedures so long as such treatment does not abridge the right of free, appropriate public education. The individualized education plan (IEP) team for a handicapped student should consider whether particular discipline procedures should be adopted for the student and included in the IEP. The building principal shall deal with any grievance relating to handicapped students. Any action and procedure shall be in accordance with Public Law 94-142 and Act 102 of 1973 as amended.

IN-SCHOOL SUSPENSION

In order to provide an additional alternative for discipline, a program has been developed which should eliminate most out-of-school suspensions. Instead of reporting to regular classes, students assigned will report to ISS for a period of time designated by the Administration. The length of the assignment period may vary from one to several days, depending upon the reason for the referral. While assigned to the ISS Center, the student will work on class assignments prepared and graded by his/her regular classroom teacher and other assignments as directed by ISS Supervisor. Days assigned to ISS will not count as absences from school. One day in ISS will be computed as one entire school day (8:00 a.m. – 3:15 p.m.) for all students. In-School Suspension may be meted out from 1 day up to a maximum of 10 ISS days. Students who have been assigned In-School Suspension for 10 days may face (ALE) – Alternative Learning Environment or out-of-school suspension (OSS) or possible expulsion for further ISS offenses.

Students assigned to ISS will comply with the rigid expectations. Failure to report to the center upon the specified time, or tardiness, may result in the student being assigned additional days to ISS by the administration. Failure to comply with rules and regulations of the center or failure to comply with directives of the ISS Supervisor may result in suspension or expulsion from school as determined by the administration.

Privileges normally enjoyed by the students will not be granted to students assigned to ISS. *Students assigned to ISS are not allowed to enter any school building or be on any school campus except ISS at any time.* Students assigned ISS may bring their lunch or buy their lunch in the school cafeteria. All ISS students will sit in a designated area for lunch. Students assigned to ISS are not permitted to participate in

school activities or to attend any school activity. Participation in all school activities will resume after the student has completed his/her ISS obligation.

Assignment of students to ISS by school district administration is not subject to appeal or review to the Dermott School District Board of Directors.

If a student refuses ISS, he will be suspended out-of-school. Upon return of the student, he may be placed in ISS for the specified number of days at the discretion of the principal.

RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR HIGH SCHOOL IN-SCHOOL SUSPENSION

- Isolation from the rest of the Student Body.
- No talking at any time to other students.
- All assignments must be completed and turned in triplicate (1 copy ISS, 1 copy Principal, 1copy teacher).
- Report to ISS on time.
- Cooperate with the ISS Supervisor at all times.
- May not sit and do nothing.
- Students will have one restroom break in the morning and one in the afternoon.
- Students may buy their lunch in the school cafeteria from the main menu line or bring their lunch from home.
- Students will sit in a designated area in the cafeteria (If allowed to eat in cafeteria at all).
- Students will not get out of their desks unless given permission by the supervisor.
- Students will not mark on the desks or walls and will maintain the room in a clean and orderly fashion.
- No drink, food, candy, gum, or tobacco will be allowed in the center.
- Students are required to bring all textbooks to the center and have adequate pen/pencils and paper.
- Students **will not** be allowed to attend or participate in pep rallies, assemblies, athletic contest, or any school activity on Dermott School property while assigned to the Center.
- Students are not permitted to be in any school building or on any school campus other than the ISS Center (except for the school cafeteria at designated times).
- ISS rules are posted in the ISS Center.
- Students will copy ISS rules once.
- Failure to abide by the rules of ISS will result in the student being suspended from school. The student will serve the remainder of the days upon his return.
- Students placed in ISS will have to complete their class work in triplicate before release from ISS.

RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR ELEMENTARY IN-SCHOOL SUSPENSION

- ISS time is 8:00 AM - 3:10 PM, students cannot be on campus unattended.
- Students must report directly to the ISS room. If they ride the bus, they are not to enter the elementary building but report to the ISS room door. If they are a car rider, they are not to enter the elementary building & the parent must drop them off at the ISS room door before 8 AM.
- Any student that arrives more than 10 minutes after 8 AM for ISS will be assigned another day.
- Any student that is assigned to ISS and miss days due to illness, out-of-school suspension, or any unexcused reasons will make up those assigned days upon returning to school.

- Any student that receives ISS is not allowed to participate in any extracurricular activities until they have completed ISS. Students are not allowed in assemblies or attend any sporting event being held by the school.
- Students are required to bring all materials assigned by their teachers to ISS such as pencils/pens, worksheets, books, etc. All assigned work will be completed in ISS. If a student completes work assigned to them, the ISS instructor will assign extra work until the end of the day or if instructors assign more work.
- Students will not be allowed to communicate with other students while in ISS. They will be separated in order to ensure there is no talking. Students will raise their hands and wait to be called on if they have a question. A student repeatedly talking without permission will result in the following:
  - A verbal warning
    - A 2nd verbal warning
    - A parent call & extra work
  - A written referral and/or notification to the office
  - Written referral may result in out-of-school suspension
- ISS students will be given 3 bathroom breaks during the day unless they have a noted medical condition that requires more bathroom breaks. Notes must be provided in advance through the nurse's office.
- ISS students will not eat in the cafeteria. Breakfast and lunch trays will be picked up in the cafeteria and students will bring trays back to the ISS room.
- Students are expected to follow all other handbook policies during ISS assignment. For example, no food, gum, drinks, no cell phone use, etc.

BULLYING

“Attribute” means an actual or perceived personal characteristic including without limitation race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, socioeconomic status, academic status, disability, gender, gender identity, physical appearance, health condition, or sexual orientation;

“Bullying” means the intentional harassment, intimidation, humiliation, ridicule, defamation, or threat or incitement of violence by a student against another student or public school employee by a written, verbal, electronic, or physical act that:

1. May address an attribute of the other student, public school employee, or person with whom the other student or public school employee is associated;
2. Involves an actual or reasonably perceived power imbalance;
3. Is repeated or has a high likelihood of repetition; and
4. Causes or creates actual or reasonably foreseeable:
    - Physical harm to a public school employee or student or damage to the public school employee's or student's property;
    - Substantial interference with a student's education or with a public school employee's role in education;

- A hostile educational environment for one (1) or more students or public school employees due to the severity, persistence, or pervasiveness of the act; or
- Substantial disruption of the orderly operation of the school or educational environment.

Examples of "Bullying" include, but are not limited to, a pattern of behavior involving one or more of the following:

1. Cyberbullying;
2. Sarcastic comments "compliments" about another student's personal appearance or actual or perceived attributes;
3. Pointed questions intended to embarrass or humiliate;
4. Mocking, taunting or belittling;
5. Non-verbal threats and/or intimidation such as "fronting" or "chesting" a person;
6. Demeaning humor relating to a student's actual or perceived attributes;
7. Blackmail, extortion, demands for protection money or other involuntary donations or loans;
8. Blocking access to school property or facilities;
9. Deliberate physical contact or injury to person or property;
10. Stealing or hiding books or belongings;
11. Threats of harm to student(s), possessions, or others;
12. Sexual harassment, as governed by policy 4.27, is also a form of bullying; and/or
13. Teasing or name-calling related to sexual characteristics or the belief or perception that an individual is not conforming to expected gender roles or conduct or is homosexual, regardless of whether the student self-identifies as homosexual or transgender (Examples: "Slut", "You are so gay.", "Fag", "Queer").

"Cyberbullying" means any form of communication by electronic act that is sent with the purpose to:

- Harass, intimidate, humiliate, ridicule, defame, or threaten a student, school employee, or person with whom the other student or school employee is associated; or
- Incite violence towards a student, school employee, or person with whom the other student or school employee is associated.

  Cyberbullying of School Employees includes, but is not limited to:

  a. Building a fake profile or website of the employee;
  b. Posting or encouraging others to post on the Internet private, personal, or sexual information pertaining to a school employee;
  c. Posting an original or edited image of the school employee on the Internet;

d. Accessing, altering, or erasing any computer network, computer data program, or computer software, including breaking into a password-protected account or stealing or otherwise accessing passwords of a school employee;
e. Making repeated, continuing, or sustained electronic communications, including electronic mail or transmission, to a school employee;
f. Making, or causing to be made, and disseminating an unauthorized copy of data pertaining to a school employee in any form, including without limitation the printed or electronic form of computer data, computer programs, or computer software residing in, communicated by, or produced by a computer or computer network;
g. Signing up a school employee for a pornographic Internet site; or
h. Without authorization of the school employee, signing up a school employee for electronic mailing lists or to receive junk electronic messages and instant messages.

Cyberbullying is prohibited whether or not the cyberbullying originated on school property or with school equipment, if the cyberbullying results in the substantial disruption of the orderly operation of the school or educational environment or is directed specifically at students or school personnel and maliciously intended for the purpose of disrupting school and has a high likelihood of succeeding in that purpose.

“Harassment” means a pattern of unwelcome verbal or physical conduct relating to another person's constitutionally or statutorily protected status that causes, or reasonably should be expected to cause, substantial interference with the other's performance in the school environment.

“Substantial disruption” means without limitation that any one or more of the following occur as a result of the bullying:

- Necessary cessation of instruction or educational activities;
- Inability of students or educational staff to focus on learning or function as an educational unit because of a hostile environment;
- Severe or repetitive disciplinary measures are needed in the classroom or during educational activities; or
- Exhibition of other behaviors by students or educational staff that substantially interfere with the learning environment.

Respect for the dignity of others is a cornerstone of civil society. Bullying creates an atmosphere of fear and intimidation, robs a person of dignity, detracts from the safe environment necessary to promote student learning, and will not be tolerated by the Board of Directors. Students who bully another person shall be held accountable for their actions whether they occur on school equipment or property; off school property at a school sponsored or approved function, activity, or event; going to or from school or a school activity in a school vehicle or school bus; or at designated school bus stops.

Students are encouraged to report behavior they consider to be bullying, including a single action which if allowed to continue would constitute bullying, to their teacher or the building principal. The report may be made anonymously. Teachers and other school employees who have witnessed, or are reliably informed that, a student has been a victim of behavior they consider to be bullying, including a single action which if allowed to continue would constitute bullying, shall report the incident(s) to the building principal, or designee, as soon as possible. Parents or legal guardians may submit written reports of incidents they feel constitute bullying, or if allowed to continue would constitute bullying, to the building principal, or designee.

The person or persons reporting behavior they consider to be bullying shall not be subject to retaliation or reprisal in any form.

A. A building principal, or designee, who receives a credible report or complaint of bullying shall:
    1. As soon as reasonably practicable, but by no later than the end of the school day following the receipt of the credible report of bullying:
        a. Report to a parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of a student, or person standing in loco parentis of a student that their student is the victim in a credible report of bullying; and
        b. Prepare a written report of the alleged incident of bullying;
    2. Promptly investigate the credible report or complaint of bullying, which shall be completed by no later than the fifth (5th) school day following the completion of the written report.
    3. Notify within five (5) days following the completion of the investigation the parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of a student, or person standing in loco parentis of a student who was the alleged victim in a credible report of bullying whether the investigation found the credible report or complaint of bullying to be true and the availability of counseling and other intervention services.
    4. Notify within five (5) days following the completion of the investigation the parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of the student, or person acting in loco parentis of the student who is alleged to have been the perpetrator of the incident of bullying:
        a. That a credible report or complaint of bullying against their student exists;
        b. Whether the investigation found the credible report or complaint of bullying to be true;
        c. Whether action was taken against their student upon the conclusion of the investigation of the alleged incident of bullying; and

   d. Information regarding the reporting of another alleged incident of bullying, including potential consequences of continued incidents of bullying;
5. Make a written record of the investigation, which shall include:
   a. A detailed description of the alleged incident of bullying, including without limitation a detailed summary of the statements from all material witnesses to the alleged incident of bullying;
   b. Any action taken as a result of the investigation; and
6. Discuss, as appropriate, the availability of counseling and other intervention services with students involved in the incident of bullying.

Students found to be in violation of this policy shall be subject to disciplinary action up to and including expulsion. In determining the appropriate disciplinary action, consideration may be given to other violations of the student handbook which may have simultaneously occurred. In addition to any disciplinary actions, the District shall take appropriate steps to remedy the effects resulting from bullying.

Notice of what constitutes bullying, the District's prohibition against bullying, and the consequences for students who bully shall be conspicuously posted in every classroom, cafeteria, restroom, gymnasium, auditorium, and school bus. Parents, legal guardians, person having lawful control of a student, persons standing in loco parentis, students, school volunteers, and employees shall be given copies of the notice annually.

The superintendent shall make a report annually to the Board of Directors on student discipline data, which shall include, without limitation, the number of incidents of bullying reported and the actions taken regarding the reported incidents of bullying.

To prevent multiple, simultaneous investigations into the same alleged conduct, if the facts that support an alleged incident of bullying may also constitute a violation of another District policy; State or Federal law; State rule; or Federal regulation, then the District shall investigate and dispose of the alleged incident of bullying in accordance with the other applicable District policy; State or Federal law; State rule; or federal regulation in lieu of the requirements of this policy.
Copies of this policy shall be available upon request.

SUSPENSION FROM SCHOOL

Students who are not present at school cannot benefit from the educational opportunities the school environment affords. Administrators, therefore, shall strive to find ways to keep students in school as participants in the educational process. There are instances, however, when the needs of the other students or the interests of the orderly learning environment require the removal of a student from school. The Board authorizes school principals or their designees to suspend students for disciplinary reasons for a period of time not to exceed ten (10)
school days, including the day upon which the suspension is imposed. The suspension may be in school or out of school. Students are responsible for their conduct that occurs:

- At any time on the school grounds;
- Off school grounds at a school-sponsored function, activity, or event; and
- Going to and from school or a school activity.

A student may be suspended for behavior including, but not limited to, that:

1. Is in violation of school policies, rules, or regulations;
2. Substantially interferes with the safe and orderly educational environment;
3. School administrators believe will result in the substantial interference with the safe and orderly educational environment; and/or
4. Is insubordinate, incorrigible, violent, or involves moral turpitude.

Out-of-school suspension (OSS) shall not be used to discipline a student in kindergarten through fifth (5^{th}) grade unless the student's behavior:

a. Poses a physical risk to himself or herself or to others;
b. Causes a serious disruption that cannot be addressed through other means; or
c. Is the act of bringing a firearm on school campus.

OSS shall not be used to discipline a student for skipping class, excessive absences, or other forms of truancy.

The school principal or designee shall proceed as follows in deciding whether or not to suspend a student:

1. The student shall be given written notice or advised orally of the charges against him/her;
2. If the student denies the charges, he/she shall be given an explanation of the evidence against him/her and be allowed to present his/her version of the facts; and
3. If the principal finds the student guilty of the misconduct, he/she may be suspended.

When possible, notice of the suspension, its duration, and any stipulations for the student’s re-admittance to class will be given to the parent(s), legal guardian(s), person(s) with lawful control of the student, person(s) standing in loco parentis, or to the student if age eighteen (18) or older prior to the suspension. Such notice shall be handed to the parent(s), legal guardian(s), person(s) having lawful control of the student, person(s) standing in loco parentis, or to the student if age eighteen (18) or older or mailed to the last address reflected in the records of the school district.

Generally, notice and hearing should precede the student's removal from school, but if prior notice and hearing are not feasible, as where the student's presence endangers persons or property or threatens disruption of the academic process, thus justifying immediate removal from school, the necessary notice and hearing should follow as soon as practicable.

It is the responsibility of a student's parents, legal guardians, person having lawful control of the student, or person standing in loco parentis to provide current contact information to the district, which the school shall use to immediately notify the parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of a student, or person standing in loco parentis upon the suspension of a student. The notification shall be by one of the following means, listed in order of priority:

- A primary call number;
    - The contact may be by voice, voice mail, or text message.
- An email address;
- A regular first class letter to the last known mailing address.

The district shall keep a log of contacts attempted and made to the parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of the student, or person standing in loco parentis.

The District shall establish programs, measures, or alternative means and methods to continue student engagement and access to education during a student's period of OSS.

During the period of their suspension, students serving OSS are not permitted on campus except to attend a student/parent/administrator conference or when necessary as part of the District's engagement or access to education program.
During the period of their suspension, students serving in-school suspension shall not attend or participate in any school-sponsored activities during the imposed suspension.

Suspensions initiated by the principal or his/her designee may be appealed to the Superintendent, but not to the Board.

Suspensions initiated by the Superintendent may be appealed to the Board.

LONG-TERM SUSPENSION/EXPULSION

The Board of Education may expel a student for a period longer than ten (10) school days for violation of the District's written discipline policies. The Superintendent may make a recommendation of expulsion to the Board of Education for student conduct deemed to be of such gravity that suspension would be inappropriate, or where the student's continued attendance at school would disrupt the orderly learning environment or would pose an unreasonable danger to the welfare of other students or staff

The Superintendent or his/her designee shall give written notice to the parents or legal guardians (mailed to the address reflected on the District's records) that he/[1] she will recommend to the Board of Education that the student be expelled for the specified length of time and state the reasons for the recommendation to expel. The notice shall give the date, hour, and place where the Board of Education will consider and dispose of the recommendation.

The hearing shall be conducted not later than ten (10) school days following the date of the notice, except that representatives of the Board and student may agree in writing to a date not conforming to this limitation.

The President of the Board, Board attorney, or other designated Board member shall preside at the hearing the student may choose to be represented by legal counsel. Both the district administration and School Board also may be represented by legal counsel. The hearing shall be conducted in open session of the Board unless the parent requests that the hearing be conducted in executive session. Any action taken by the Board shall be in open session.

During the hearing, the Superintendent, or designee, or representative will present evidence, including the calling of witnesses, that gave rise to the recommendation of expulsion. The student, or his/her representative, may then present evidence including statements from persons with personal knowledge of the events or circumstances relevant to the charges against the student. Formal cross-examination will not be permitted. However, any member of the Board, the Superintendent, or designee, the student, or his/her representative may question anyone making a statement and/or the student. The presiding officer shall decide questions concerning the appropriateness or relevance of any questions asked during the hearing.

Except as permitted by policy, the Superintendent shall recommend the expulsion of any student for a period of not less than one (1) year for possession of any firearm prohibited on school campus by law. The Superintendent shall, however, have the discretion to modify the expulsion recommendation for a student on a case-by-case basis. Parents or legal guardians of a student enrolling from another school after the expiration of an expulsion period for a weapons policy violation shall be given a copy of the current laws regarding the possibility of parental responsibility for allowing a child to possess a weapon on school property. The parents or legal guardians shall sign a statement acknowledging that they have read and understand said laws prior to the student being enrolled in school.

The Superintendent and the Board of Education shall complete the expulsion process of any student that was initiated because the student possessed a firearm or other prohibited weapon on school property regardless of the enrollment status of the student.

The school board may expel a student for the remainder of the semester, for a time designated by the school board, or permanently for conduct it deems to be of such seriousness as to make a suspension inappropriate and where it finds that the student's continued attendance at school would be unacceptably disruptive to the education program or would be attended with unreasonable danger to other students and faculty members.

VIOLATIONS AND CONSEQUENCES

Rule 1. Insubordination

Students are expected to obey any rules or reasonable requests of school employees. Students who fail to follow a teacher's directions will be subject to disciplinary measures. Continued offenses will be considered insubordination.

Insubordination toward a teacher or other staff member will not be tolerated. Insubordination shall be defined as total disrespect of authority to school personnel.

- Minimum: Reprimand
- Maximum: Recommendation for Expulsion

Rule 2. Disorderly Conduct

A person commits the offence of disorderly conduct if, with purpose to cause public inconvenience, annoyance, or recklessly creating a risk by:

- engaging in fighting
- makes unreasonable or excessive noise
- uses abusive or obscene language, obscene gesture in a manner likely to provoke a violent or disorderly response
- disrupts a lawful assembly
- obstructs vehicular or pedestrian traffic
- creates a hazardous or physically offensive condition
- in a public place exposes his/her private parts

Students may be assigned corporal punishment, ISS, Suspended from school, or recommended for suspension or expulsion.

No student shall by the use of violence, force, noise, coercion, threat, intimidation, fear, passive resistance, or any other conduct, intentionally cause the disruption of any lawful mission, process, or function of the school, or engage in any such conduct for the purpose of causing disruption or obstruction of any lawful mission, process, or function. Nor shall any student encourage any other student to engage in such activities.

Disorderly activities by any student or group of students that adversely affect the school's orderly educational environment shall not be tolerated at any time on school grounds.

Teachers may remove from class and send to the principal or principal's designee office a student whose behavior is so unruly, disruptive, or abusive that it seriously interferes with the teacher's ability to teach the students, the class, or with the ability of the student's classmates to learn. Students who refuse to leave the classroom voluntarily will be escorted from the classroom by the school administration.

- Minimum: Reprimand/Citations may be written(depending on the severity)
- Maximum: Recommendation for Expulsion

Rule 3. Truancy

A student shall not be absent from school without parental knowledge and consent. After arrival on campus, a student absent from his/her assigned learning station without permission from school authorities shall be considered truant. (Ark. Stat. 80-1509, 80-1512) Students shall not leave campus once arriving on campus arriving by bus, car, or on foot without administrative approval.

Students found off the school premises during school hours may be reported to law enforcement officers and subject to questioning by the police.

During school hours of each day through the school year, excepting Saturdays, Sundays, and legal school holidays, law enforcement officers of the police department shall attempt to locate school-age students in

its jurisdiction who are off school premises and who do not have on their persons valid documentation provided by the District excusing his/her presence.

Any certified law enforcement officer of the police department shall be empowered to stop and detain any unsupervised school-age student located off school premises during school hours and request the student to produce the District's documentation excusing his/her presence from school.

Proper documentation will be provided for any student that is permitted to leave campus for school business.

Upon failure of any student to produce sufficient documentation, the law enforcement officer may take the student into custody and transport the student to the District's truancy reception center, which is the Dermott School principal's office.

Leaving school grounds without permission, not coming to school for unexcused reasons, or skipping classes are three ways to break the rules on Truancy.

- Minimum: Detention Hall
- Maximum: ISS

Rule 4. Profanity

Inappropriate language or gestures.

- Minimum: Reprimand
- Maximum: 10 Days out-of-school suspension

Rule 5. Theft and Extortion

Causing or attempting to cause damage, stealing or attempting to steal the property of another student or any other person, or obtaining or attempting to obtain something of value from another person by either physical force or threats.

- Minimum: Suspension
- Maximum: Recommendation for expulsion and police notification.

Rule 6. Immorality

Immorality, refractory conduct, insubordination, infectious disease, habitual uncleanliness, or other conduct that would impair the discipline of the school or harm pupils, regardless of whether the student's conduct occurs on or off campus and during or between school terms and regardless of whether or not a specific prohibition of the conduct is contained in this handbook

- Minimum: Suspension
- Maximum: Expulsion

Rule 7. Indecent Exposure

A person commits indecent exposure if, he/she exposes himself / herself with purpose to arouse or gratify the sexual desire:

- In a public place, public view, on the school campus, attending a school function: or
- Under circumstances in which he/she knows his /her conduct is likely to cause affront or alarm

- Minimum: Suspension
- Maximum: A student may be expelled for these acts. (ACT 1150 of 1999)

Rule 8. Display of Affection.

- Minimum: Verbal warning and documentation
- Maximum: Out-of-school suspension

Rule 9. Walkouts and Boycotts

A student shall not participate in a school walkout or boycott.

- Minimum: 3-5 Days ISS and mandatory parent conference
- Maximum: 10 Days out-of-school suspension and recommendation for expulsion

Rule 10. Violation of Parking and Driving Regulations

A student using any type of vehicle (bicycle, motorcycle, automobile, truck) as means of transportation to and from school shall not violate the rules and regulations set forth by the principal of the school. Students using any type of motor vehicle shall have a valid driver's license, register the vehicle in the principal's office and park in their assigned area. Students are to get out of their vehicles and leave the parking area upon arrival to school. There must be no sitting in, loitering in or around cars, or on parking lots at any time. Arkansas State Laws specify that speed limits in school zone are not to exceed 20 m.p.h.

Students are not to go back to vehicles during the school day.

- Minimum: Loss of driving privileges for up to ten days
- Maximum: Loss of driving privileges for the remainder of the school year.

The parents will be notified and informed of the consequences for each violation.

Rule 11. Gum Chewing and Eating:

Students shall not chew gum or eat food in any instructional building classrooms during the school day.

- Minimum: Reprimand
- Maximum: 10 Days out- of- school suspension

Rule 12. Cafeteria Conduct

Students shall always keep their place in the lunch line. Serious altercations often develop as a result of this infraction. Other cafeteria infractions will result in disciplinary actions.

- Minimum: Student will eat last for ten days.
- Maximum: Student will be suspended from the cafeteria for the remainder of the school year. Arrangements will be made for the student to eat elsewhere.

Rule 13. Possession or Use of Any Tobacco Products

Smoking or use of tobacco or products containing tobacco in any form (including, but not limited to, cigarettes, cigars, chewing tobacco, and snuff) in or on any real property owned or leased by a District school, including school buses owned or leased by the District, is prohibited. Students who violate this policy may be subject to legal proceedings in addition to student disciplinary measures.

With the exception of recognized tobacco cessation products, this policy's prohibition includes any tobacco or nicotine delivery system or product. Specifically, the prohibition includes any product that is manufactured, distributed, marketed, or sold as e-cigarettes, e-cigars, e-pips, jewels(vapors) or under any other name or descriptor.

- Minimum---**Suspensions**
- Maximum: Recommendation for expulsion and police notification

Rule 14. Gambling

A student shall not participate in any activity which may be termed gambling or wagering where the stakes are money or any other object of value.

- Minimum: ISS
- Maximum: Suspension

Rule 15. Disrespect to Teachers

Any person who shall abuse or insult a public school teacher, dean of students, principal, or superintendent while that individual is performing normal and regular or assigned school responsibilities shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction shall be liable for a fine of not less than $100, but not more than $1500.) Arkansas law 6-17-106

- Minimum: Suspension and parent notification/Citation may be written(depending on the severity)
- Maximum: Expulsion and notification of police.

Rule 16. Fireworks

A student shall not possess, handle or store firecrackers, smoke bombs, cherry bombs, or any other kind of fireworks that reasonably could be a danger to oneself or other students, or that could cause damage to school property or that could be disruptive to the learning climate of the school.

- Minimum: ISS
- Maximum: Out of school suspension

Rule 17. Pulling the Fire Alarm

Pulling the fire alarm or handling the fire extinguisher unless instructions to do so have been given by staff member.

- Minimum: 3 Days out of school suspension and police will be called
- Maximum: Recommendation for expulsion

Rule 18. Possession and Use of Electronic Devices including Cell Phones, Music Players, etc.

Definitions
"Emergency" means a serious, unexpected, and dangerous situation that requires immediate action, including without limitation:

- An active fire;
- An active tornado or earthquake;
- An active shooter;
- An evacuation of school grounds; or
- A medical emergency

"Personal electronic device" means without limitation a:

a. Cellular telephone;
b. Paging device;
c. Beeper;
d. Mobile telephone that offers advanced computing and internet accessibility;
e. Digital media player;
f. Portable game console;
g. Tablet, notebook, or laptop computer;
h. Digital camera;
i. Digital video or audio recorder;
j. Smart watch; and
k. Device that can connect and transmit data through Bluetooth technology.

"School day" means from the time students are required to be at school until the time students are dismissed from school.

"Special school events" may include:

- Activities held during the school day that occur outside of the standard in-class curriculum, which may include any of the following activities:
    - Pep rallies;
    - Interscholastic activities;
    - Concerts and performances;
    - Art shows and science fairs;
    - School sponsored events held off campus; and
    - Graduation ceremonies; or
- Regular school activities where the public is invited.

Possession of Personal Electronic Device
Except as permitted under this policy, a student shall not be in possession of a personal electronic device during the school day. A student may possess a personal electronic device during the school day if:

- The personal electronic device is required by the student's individual education plan (IEP), 504 Plan, or Individual Health Plan for health reasons;
- The possession of the personal electronic device is during an emergency as defined by this policy;
- The personal electronic device is issued by the District for the student's use during the school day;
- The possession of the personal electronic device is by a student enrolled in an endorsed concurrent enrollment course at an institution of higher education in order to utilize two-factor authentication to access course work and resources for the endorsed concurrent enrollment course; or
- The possession of the personal electronic device is during a special event during the school day.2

A student shall be deemed to not be in possession of a personal electronic device if:

Use Of Personal Electronic Device
Except as permitted by this policy, a student shall not use a personal electronic device during the school day. A student may use a personal electronic device during the school day if:

- The personal electronic device is required by the student's individual education plan (IEP), 504 Plan, or Individual Health Plan for health reasons;

- The use of the personal electronic device is during an emergency as defined by this policy;
- The personal electronic device is issued by the District for the student's use during the school day;
- The use of the personal electronic device is by a student enrolled in an endorsed concurrent enrollment course at an institution of higher education in order to utilize two-factor authentication to access course work and resources for the endorsed concurrent enrollment course; or
- The use of the personal electronic device is during a special event during the school day.

A student may possess and use a personal electronic device at a special school event for the purpose of taking photographs. The District shall inform the students and students' parents, legal guardians, persons having lawful control of the student, and persons standing in loco parentis the following before a special school event takes place:

- When and where the special school event will take place;
- Whether or not personal electronic devices shall be allowed at the special school event; and
- Where personal electronic devices may be used at the special school event.

The use of personal electronic devices at school sponsored functions outside the regular school day is permitted to the extent and within the limitations allowed by the event or activity the student is attending.

Misuse of Personal Electronic Devices
Even if a student is allowed to possess or use a personal electronic device under this policy, the misuse of a personal electronic device is prohibited. Misuse of personal electronic devices includes, but is not limited to:

1. Using personal electronic devices issued by the District during class time in any manner other than specifically permitted by the classroom instructor;
2. Permitting any audible sound to come from the personal electronic device when not being used for reason #1 above;
3. Engaging in academic dishonesty, including cheating, intentionally plagiarizing, wrongfully giving or receiving help during an academic examination, or wrongfully obtaining test copies or scores;
4. Using the personal electronic device to record audio or video or to take photographs in areas where a general expectation of personal privacy exists, including but not limited to locker rooms and bathrooms;
5. Creating, sending, sharing, viewing, receiving, or possessing an indecent visual depiction of oneself or another person regardless of whether the image is real or created through the use of artificial intelligence;

6. Using a personal electronic device issued by the District in a manner that violates the Electronic Device and Internet Use Agreement regardless of whether the violation occurred on or off campus;
7. Using a personal electronic device at an event during the school day that was not designated as a special school event or in a manner or location that was not authorized as part of the special school event;
8. Using personal electronic devices issued by the District while driving any vehicle at any time; or
9. Using a personal electronic device for the purposes of browsing the internet; composing or reading emails and text messages; or making or answering phone calls while driving a motor vehicle that is in motion and on school property.

Discipline
A student may have a personal electronic device confiscated if:

- The student is found to possess or use a personal electronic device when the use or possession is not authorized by this policy and the personal electronic device was not issued by the District;
- The student misuses a personal electronic device as defined by this policy; or
- The student's parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of the student, or person standing in loco parentis uses the remote recording or listening capabilities of a personal electronic device, either through an app installed on the personal electronic device or the built-in capacity of the personal electronic device, except when authorized by the District.,

Confiscated personal electronic devices may be picked up at the school's administration office by the student's parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of the student, or person standing in loco parentis . Students have no right of privacy as to the content contained on any personal electronic devices that have been confiscated. A search of a confiscated device shall meet the reasonable individualized suspicion requirements of Policy 4.32—SEARCH, SEIZURE, AND INTERROGATIONS.

A student and the student's parents, legal guardians, persons having lawful control of the student, or persons standing in loco parentis expressly assume any risk associated with a student's possession or use of a student's personal electronic device that is not issued by the District. The District shall not be liable for a personal electronic device that is confiscated if the personal electronic device is lost, stolen, or damaged.

In addition to the confiscation of a personal electronic device for a violation of this policy, a student may be subject to the following discipline:

To protect the integrity of the administration of the assessments under the Arkansas Educational Support and Accountibility Act, a student who is found to be in possession of or to use a personal electronic device during the administration of a statewide assessment that is not required by the student's IEP, 504 Plan, or issued by the District shall have the discipline the student is subject to increased by an additional level.

Consequences for violating the cell phone policy:

- 1st Offense: **The student's electronic device will be confiscated for a full week (seven days)**. The parent will be called and the electronic device must be picked up by a parent or guardian only at the end of the seven days.
- 2nd Offense: **The electronic device will be confiscated and stored for a whole month (30 days) and a fine of $25 will be assessed.** The fine must be paid upon parent or guardian picking up the phone at the end of the 30 days.
- 3rd Offense: **The electronic device will be confiscated and stored until the end of the semester and a fine of $35 will be assessed.** The fine must be paid upon parent or guardian picking up the phone at the end of the semester.
- 4th Offense: **The electronic device will be confiscated, citation(s) will be issued by SRO, and a fine of $45.00 will be assessed.** The fine must be paid upon parent or guardian picking up the phone.

Rule 19. Sexual Harassment Or Discrimination By Staff Or Student

The Dermott School District is committed to having an academic environment in which all students are treated with respect and dignity. Student achievement is best attained in an atmosphere of equal educational opportunity that is free of discrimination. Sexual harassment is a form of discrimination that undermines the integrity of the educational environment and will not be tolerated.

Believing that prevention is the best policy, the District will periodically inform students and employees about the nature of sexual harassment, the procedures for registering a complaint, and the possible redress that is available. The information will stress that the district does not tolerate sexual harassment and that students can report inappropriate behavior of a sexual nature without fear of adverse consequences. The information will take into account and be appropriate to the age of the students.

It shall be a violation of this policy for any student to be subjected to, or to subject another person to, sexual harassment as defined in this policy. Any student found, after an investigation, to have engaged in sexual harassment will be subject to disciplinary action up to, and including, expulsion.

Sexual harassment refers to unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, or other personally offensive verbal, visual, or physical conduct of a sexual nature made by someone under any of the following conditions:

1. Submission to the conduct is made, either explicitly or implicitly, a term or condition of an individual's education;
2. Submission to, or rejection of, such conduct by an individual is used as the basis for academic decisions affecting that individual; and/or

3. Such conduct has the purpose or effect of substantially interfering with an individual's academic performance or creates an intimidating, hostile, or offensive academic environment.

The terms "intimidating," "hostile," and "offensive" include conduct of a sexual nature which has the effect of humiliation or embarrassment and is sufficiently severe, persistent, or pervasive that it limits the student's ability to participate in, or benefit from, an educational program or activity.

Actionable sexual harassment is generally established when an individual is exposed to a pattern of objectionable behaviors or when a single, serious act is committed. What is, or is not, sexual harassment will depend upon all of the surrounding circumstances. Depending upon such circumstances, examples of sexual harassment include, but are not limited to: unwelcome touching; crude jokes or pictures; discussions of sexual experiences; pressure for sexual activity; intimidation by words, actions, insults, or name calling; teasing related to sexual characteristics or the belief or perception that an individual is not conforming to expected gender roles or conduct or is homosexual, regardless of whether or not the student self-identifies as homosexual; and spreading rumors related to a person's alleged sexual activities.

Students who believe they have been subjected to sexual harassment, or parents of a student who believes their child has been subjected to sexual harassment, are encouraged to file a complaint by contacting a counselor, teacher, Title IX coordinator, or administrator who will assist them in the complaint process. Under no circumstances shall a student be required to first report allegations of sexual harassment to a school contact person if that person is the individual who is accused of the harassment.

To the extent possible, complaints will be treated in a confidential manner. Limited disclosure may be necessary in order to complete a thorough investigation. Students who file a complaint of sexual harassment will not be subject to retaliation or reprisal in any form.

Students who knowingly fabricate allegations of sexual harassment shall be subject to disciplinary action up to and including expulsion.

Individuals who withhold information, purposely provide inaccurate facts, or otherwise hinder an investigation of sexual harassment shall be subject to disciplinary action up to and including expulsion.

Rule 20. Student Assault and Battery

A student shall not threaten, physically abuse, attempt to physically abuse, or behave in such a way as to be perceived to threaten bodily harm to any other person (student, school employee, or school visitor). Any gestures; vulgar, abusive, or insulting language; taunting, threatening, harassing, or intimidating remarks by a student toward another person that threatens their well-being is strictly forbidden. This includes, but is not limited to, fighting, racial, ethnic, religious, or sexual slurs.

Furthermore, it is unlawful, during regular school hours, and in a place where a public school employee is required to be in the course of his or her duties, for any person to address a public school employee using language which, in its common acceptation, is calculated to:

a. Cause a breach of the peace;

b. Materially and substantially interfere with the operation of the school; or
c. Arouse the person to whom it is addressed to anger, to the extent likely to cause imminent retaliation.

Students guilty of such an offense may be subject to legal proceedings in addition to any student disciplinary measures.

- Minimum: Suspension
- Maximum: Expulsion

Rule 21. Physical Abuse, Assault, Death Threat, Profane Language, or Harassment

Any student involved in the harassment, assault, and/or the physical abuse of any faculty member or school district employee, on or off the school premises, at any time shall be subject to immediate and permanent dismissal and reported to authorities Ark. Law 6-17-106.

- Minimum: Suspension
- Maximum: Expulsion

Rule 22. Student Identification

All students shall upon request, properly identify themselves to school personnel on school property and all school functions at home or away from home. Failure to comply will result in disciplinary action.

- Minimum: ISS
- Maximum: 10 Days out-of-school suspension and recommendation for expulsion

Rule 23. Fighting

Acts of violence will not be tolerated. A student who physically strikes another student shall be suspended and if there is a weapon involved, the penalty will be recommendation for expulsion for the remainder of the term, and/or year.

A student is considered to be fighting when he or she is attempting to hit, kick, or cause bodily harm to other individuals or each other. They both (or all) may be considered as taking part in the fight regardless of who passes the first lick. Alternate punishment may be applied with regards to actual involvement after investigation is completed. The prosecuting attorney may be notified. (Ark State. 41-2908)

If you become physically involved in any way, you are considered to be fighting and consequences will be enforced

- Minimum: Suspension (OSS)— : Citations may be written(depending of severity)
  - 1st fight---5 days
  - 2nd fight---10 days

    - 3rd fight--- Maximum
- Maximum: Expulsion

Rule 24. Identified Instigators

Identified instigators causing a disruption which results in an altercation or other disruptive actions will be treated as an active participant in the event and punished accordingly. This punishment will be the same as those involved in the altercation.

Rule 25. Forgery

Forgery of another person's name to any pass or student scheduling information, or falsifying telephone numbers and addresses on general information forms.

- Minimum: ISS
- Maximum: 10 Days out-of-school suspension and recommendation for expulsion

Rule 26. Academic Dishonesty

Any attempt to obtain credit for work done by another person is totally unacceptable at Dermott Schools. This includes cheating on tests, copying work of others, copying word-for-word from published works (plagiarism), and similar activities. Cheating is defined as **ANY** effort to give aid or receive aid during an assessment. Assessments may include tests, homework, lab work, skill evaluations and other assignments.

When a student participates in a form of academic dishonesty:

- First Offence: A zero will be assigned as a grade, no extra credit work will be given to raise the grade, and parents will be notified.
- Second Offence: Same as above and ISS.

Rule 27. Bomb Threats

Threatening verbally, in writing, or by telephone a bomb threat, or placing explosive devices on school property and/or any other threat - false alarms to the health and safety of students and employees-will be referred to legal authorities and recommended for expulsion.

Rule 28. Arson

The internal setting of fires and/or any other threat to the health and safety of students and employees will be referred to the legal authorities and students will be suspended and recommended for expulsion.

Rule 29. Gangs

The Board is committed to ensuring a safe school environment conducive to promoting a learning environment where students and staff can excel. An orderly environment cannot exist where unlawful acts

occur causing fear, intimidation, or physical harm to students or school staff. Gangs and their activities create such an atmosphere and shall not be allowed on school grounds or at school functions.

Students found to be in violation of this policy shall be subject to disciplinary action up to and including expulsion.

Students arrested for gang related activities occurring off school grounds shall be subject to the same disciplinary actions as if they had occurred on school grounds.

The Dermott Public Schools prohibit gangs, hazing, and secret societies. The Dermott Board of Education issues this policy to prohibit such behavior and membership in non-school sponsored organizations in the Dermott School District while individual(s) are at school, traveling to and from school, or while attending school-sponsored events. When there is a question as to whether the behavior of any student is associated with membership in gangs or any such prohibited organization, the determination shall be made by the principal, subject to appeal to the superintendent of schools. After such steps, further appeal may be made to the Dermott Board of Education. Prohibited activities include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Soliciting and/or recruiting others for membership
2. Participating in and/or inciting physical violence
3. Extorting or soliciting money or services and/or requesting any person to pay for protection, insurance, or payment of dues
4. Coercing, harassing, and/or otherwise intimidating, threatening, or causing harm to any person
5. Wearing, possessing, using, displaying in any manner, distributing, or selling any clothing, jewelry, emblem, badge, symbol, sign or other item commonly associated with membership in or affiliation with a gang or secret society.
6. Using any communication, verbal or non-verbal, (gestures, handshakes, etc.) Suggesting or showing membership in or affiliation with a gang or secret society
7. Engaging in any activity intended to promote or further the interests of any gang or secret society activity, including distributing literature, drawing or displaying unauthorized symbols on any surface, teaching others to “represent”, or acting like a member of a gang
8. Engaging in hazing activities by one student, acting alone or with others, on or off the property of the Dermott School District including:
    a. Any willful act directed at any student which subjects the student to social exclusion, embarrassment, shame, or disgrace with fellow students
    b. Playing abusive tricks or cruel tricks upon another student to frighten or scare the student
    c. Any willful act directed against any student for the purpose of humbling the pride, stifling the ambition, impairing the courage, or discouraging the student from remaining in the Dermott School District, or causing the attacked student to leave the Dermott School District rather than to submit to such acts

Any act or activity, which furthers the interests of the gang/secret society, gang/secret society member, or hazing activity (by one (1) student acting alone or with others) on the property of the Dermott School District which violates local, state, or federal laws or Dermott Board Policies shall be suspended and/or recommended for expulsion. Such membership or behavior will be reported to appropriate authorities for

possible criminal and/or civil prosecution. Violations of this policy will result in a 10 days suspension for the first offence and a recommendation of expulsion the second violation.

Rule 30. Weapons and Dangerous Instruments

Definitions

“Firearm" means any device designed, made, or adapted to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive or any device readily convertible to that use.

“Possession” means having a weapon on the student’s body or in an area under the student’s control.

“Weapon” means any:

- Firearm;
- Knife;
- Razor;
- Ice pick;
- Dirk;
- Box cutter;
- Nunchucks;
- Pepper spray, mace, or other noxious spray;
- Explosive;
- Taser or other instrument that uses electrical current to cause neuromuscular incapacitation; or
- Any other instrument or substance capable of causing bodily harm.

No student, except for Military personnel (such as ROTC cadets) acting in the course of their official duties or as otherwise expressly permitted by this policy, shall possess a weapon, display what appears to be a weapon, or threaten to use a weapon before or after school while:

- In a school building;
- On or about school property;
- At any school sponsored activity or event;
- On route to or from school or any school sponsored activity; or
- Off the school grounds at any school bus stop.

If a student discovers prior to any questioning or search by any school personnel that he/she has accidentally brought a weapon, other than a firearm, to school on his/her person, in a book bag/purse, or in his/her vehicle on school grounds, and the student informs the principal or a staff person immediately, the student will not be considered to be in possession of a weapon unless it is a firearm.

The weapon shall be confiscated and held in the office until such time as the student's parent/legal guardian shall pick up the weapon from the school's office. Repeated offenses are unacceptable and shall be grounds for disciplinary action against the student as otherwise provided for in this policy.

Except as permitted in this policy, students found to be in possession on the school campus of a firearm shall be recommended for expulsion for a period of one (1) year. The superintendent shall have the discretion to modify such expulsion recommendation for a student on a case-by-case basis.[1]

Parents or legal guardians of students expelled under this policy shall be given a copy of the current laws regarding the possibility of parental responsibility for allowing a child to possess a firearm on school property. Parents or legal guardians shall sign a statement acknowledging that they have read and understand said laws prior to readmitting the student. Parents or legal guardians of a student enrolling from another school after the expiration of an expulsion period for a firearm policy violation shall also be given a copy of the current laws regarding the possibility of parental responsibility for allowing a child to possess a firearm on school property. The parents or legal guardians shall sign a statement acknowledging that they have read and understand said laws prior to the student being enrolled in school.

The mandatory expulsion requirement for possession of a firearm does not apply to a firearm brought to school for the purpose of participating in activities approved and authorized by the district that include the use of firearms. Such activities may include ROTC programs; hunting safety or military education; or before or after-school hunting or rifle clubs. Firearms brought to school for such purposes shall be brought to the school employee designated to receive such firearms. The designated employee shall store the firearms in a secure location until they are removed for use in the approved activity.

The district shall report any student who brings a firearm to school to the criminal justice system or juvenile delinquency system by notifying local law enforcement.

Rule 31. Loitering by Suspended Students

A student who is suspended or expelled is prohibited from being in a school building or on a school campus for the specified period of time and shall not enter such building or be present on school grounds. This includes all school related activities.

Additional days will be added to the suspension and a mandatory parent conference will be held. Student may be arrested and charged in accordance with Arkansas Law {Act75 of 1971.} [Ark. Stat. 41-2914, 80-1906, 80-1915}

Rule 32. Alcohol and Drugs

An orderly and safe school environment that is conducive to promoting student achievement requires a student population free from the deleterious effects of alcohol and drugs. Their use is illegal, disruptive to

the educational environment, and diminishes the capacity of students to learn and function properly in our schools.

Therefore, no student in the Dermott School District shall possess, attempt to possess, consume, use, distribute, sell, buy, attempt to sell, attempt to buy, give to any person, or be under the influence of any substance as defined in this policy, or what the student represents or believes to be any substance as defined in this policy. This policy applies to any student who: is on or about school property; is in attendance at school or any school sponsored activity; has left the school campus for any reason and returns to the campus; or is on route to or from school or any school sponsored activity.

Prohibited substances shall include, but are not limited to: alcohol, or any alcoholic beverage; inhalants or any ingestible matter that alter a student's ability to act, think, or respond; LSD, or any other hallucinogen; marijuana, cocaine, heroin, or any other narcotic drug; PCP; amphetamines; steroids; "designer drugs"; look-alike drugs; or any controlled substance.

- Minimum: 10 Days out-of-school suspension and the police will be notified. Additional criminal charges may be filed.
- Maximum: Recommendation for expulsion.

Rule 33. Damage, Destruction or Theft of School Property

A student shall not cause or attempt to cause damage to school property or steal or attempt to steal school property. Any students or other person who shall willfully destroy, or injure any school building, or any furniture, fixtures, or who shall deface, mar, or disfigure any such building, furniture, or fixtures by writing, cutting, painting thereon shall be subject to a fine in accordance with State Law. (Section 80-1903) The Dermott School is entitled to recover damages from the student(s) destroying school property. Parents of any minor student under the age of 18 will be liable for damages caused by said minor.

- Minimum: Suspension
- Maximum: 10 Days out-of-school suspension and recommendation for expulsion

Rule 34. Threatening Remarks to Students or Teachers

A student on school property or attending a school function shall not threaten to cause a death, serious injury, or substantial property damage to another student or school district employee. This rule includes threats communicated from off campus to another student or school district employee on campus. Threats can be verbal, visual or written and include those that are not directly communicated to the intended victim or victims. Visual threats are symbolic signs or gestures that are widely known to communicate a threat of death, physical injury or substantial property damage.

All threats directed to students or teachers will be taken seriously. Depending upon the threat, criminal misdemeanor charges or criminal felony charges may be filed in accordance with state law. Violations of this rule will be reported to local authorities.

- Minimum: Suspension

- Maximum: Recommendation for expulsion

Rule 35. Off-Campus Events and Activities

Students at school-sponsored off-campus events or other activities shall be governed by the rules and regulation of the school and are subject to disciplinary action, suspension, or expulsion for violations of such rules and regulations.

Rule 36. Student Conduct in Assemblies or Meetings

Assemblies have a threefold purpose: To instruct, to inspire, and to entertain. Some assemblies may stress all three purposes while some have a single purpose. Students will refrain from loud talking and disruptions during assemblies and meetings.

- Minimum: Reprimand
- Maximum: Recommendation for expulsion.

Rule 37. Adults, Non-students, Other Visitors and Extra-Curricular Activities

A person ejected from any school event, whether an adult, non-student, or other visitor and any person on school property exhibiting misconduct of any kind will not be allowed to attend any other extracurricular school activity for a minimum of one (1) calendar year. Permission for re-admittance must be granted by the administrator of his designee who has imposed the suspension. All applicable state laws, local laws, school rules, and Arkansas Activities Association rules and regulations will apply.

Rule 38. Failure to Report To ISS

Failure to report to assigned ISS will result in the following consequences:

- Minimum: Extra days assigned
- Maximum: Suspension

Rule 39. Appearance Code

- Dress and grooming should be clean, safe, and school appropriate. Dress and grooming must not substantially disrupt the educational process of the school.
- Shirts should cover a student's chest and midriff, and should cover at least three fingers' width of the shoulder, from front to back.
- Spandex/leggings are **not** to be worn **unless** the leggings are worn with a dress, skirt, or shorts/pants of appropriate length.
- Students may not wear head coverings within the school building.
- Sunglasses are not permitted to be worn within the school building.
- Students are not to have hair picks or combs in their hair.
- Students cannot wear house shoes or pajamas of any kind to school.

- Dresses, shorts and skirts must conform to the following standard: when the student is standing straight, the length of the garment cannot be shorter than 3 inches above the knee.

The administration will decide if a student is wearing appropriate attire and accessories not listed here. A student will not be allowed to attend class until he/she is in compliance with the dress code.

- **Minimum: Verbal warning and student will be placed in ISS until he/she changes into school appropriate clothes.**
- **Maximum: Suspension and recommendation for expulsion.**

Rule 40. Sagging

Sagging is strictly prohibited. Students who break this rule will be subject to the following consequences:

- Minimum: Suspension
- Maximum: Recommendation for Expulsion

Rule 41. Persistent Disregard for School Rules:

A student who persists in acts of misconduct after reasonable efforts have been made by the school to secure the student's adherence to the established rules shall be recommended for expulsion. Efforts toward behavior modification will be made prior to recommendation for expulsion except when very serious offences have been committed. A student exhibiting abnormal or irrational behavior may be temporarily suspended from school. A report from a physician will be required for readmittance.

Rule 42. Possession of Obscene or Pornographic Materials

A student may not possess or distribute obscene or pornographic materials on school grounds or while at school or school functions. Students who break this rule will be placed in **ISS/OSS or** recommended for **Expulsion.**

Rule 43. Video Surveillance

The Board of Directors has a responsibility to maintain discipline, protect the safety, security, and welfare of its students, staff, and visitors while at the same time safeguarding district facilities, vehicles, and equipment. As part of fulfilling this responsibility, the board authorizes the use of video/audio surveillance cameras, automatic identification technology, data compilation devices, and technology capable of tracking the physical location of district equipment, students, and/or personnel.

The placement of video/audio surveillance cameras shall be based on the presumption and belief that students, staff and visitors have no reasonable expectation of privacy anywhere on or near school property, facilities, vehicles, or equipment, with the exception of places such as rest rooms or dressing areas where an expectation of bodily privacy is reasonable and customary.

Signs shall be posted on campus buildings and in district vehicles to notify students, staff, and visitors that video cameras may be in use. Parents and students shall also be notified through the student handbook that cameras may be in use in school buildings, on school grounds and in school vehicles. Students will be held responsible for any violations of school discipline rules caught by the cameras and other technologies authorized in this policy.

The district shall retain copies of video recordings until they are erased which may be accomplished by either deletion or copying over with a new recording. Other than video recordings being retained under the provisions of this policy's following paragraph, the district's video recordings may be erased any time greater than 45 days after they were created.

Videos, automatic identification, or data compilations containing evidence of a violation of student conduct rules and/or state or federal law shall be retained until the issue of the misconduct is no longer subject to review or appeal **;** any release or viewing of such records shall be in accordance with current law.

Students who vandalize, damage, disable, or render inoperable (temporarily or permanently) surveillance cameras and equipment, automatic identification, or data compilation devices shall be subject to appropriate disciplinary action and referral to appropriate law enforcement authorities.

Rule 44. Medication and Medical Supplies

Sharing, diverting, transferring, applying to others (such as needles or lancets), or in any way misusing medication or any medical supplies in the possession of students is forbidden.

- Minimum: Reprimand
- Maximum: Suspension and Recommendation for Expulsion

Rule 45. Behavior Not Covered Above

Dermott Schools reserves the right to pursue disciplinary or legal action for behavior which is subversive to good order and discipline in the schools even though such behavior is not specified in the preceding written rules.

If extenuating circumstances occur, it will be at the discretion of the administrator to modify the consequences.

Dermott Discipline Guide

In School Suspension (ISS) assignments will be made by the Student-Parent Facilitator, Principal Designee, or Principal only.

MINOR OFFENSES - These are offenses by students that can be handled by the teachers themselves. In most cases retraining the students in procedures will be sufficient. A student is not to be sent to the office for these offenses until proper steps have been followed. These offenses are assumed to be of a minor nature. Teachers should follow the minor offense referral procedures established by the building Principal. If one of the offenses becomes a serious problem, the teacher would have exhausted many classroom management/discipline techniques including contact of parents, before sending them to the office:

- Possession of gum, candy, toys, etc.
- Failure to follow procedures
- Failure to bring appropriate materials to class
- Petty conflicts among students o Disruptive behavior in the classroom, which is of a minor nature o Missing assigned teacher detention the first scheduled time o Not working in class after parent contact

MAJOR OFFENSES - These are offenses by students that will result in being sent automatically to the office for discipline - NO EXCEPTIONS:

- Missing detention twice after parent contact
- Theft
- Leaving class without permission
- Obscene language, gesture, pictures or literature o Fighting
- Vandalism
- Smoking and/or possession of smoking materials or tobacco
- Possession, consumption, sale, or being under the influence of alcohol or drugs o Possession of fireworks, matches, lighter, or other caustic device
- Using electronic telecommunication devices without permission. (Send device to office) o Verbal abuse of adults or students o Open defiance/insubordination
- Threats by word or deed

HOLIDAY/SPECIAL OCCASION DELIVERIES

Deliveries may be made to students on holidays and special occasions provided that they follow these guidelines.

1. No Balloons
2. No Glass
3. Deliveries will be accepted between 1:30 p.m. and 2:00 p.m. on school days at the school office.
4. The office will notify the student as to when the delivery may be picked up.

DETENTION HALL

Teacher detention can be given for classroom and handbook violations and assigned for before school, at noon, or after school (TEACHER CHOICE).

PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS OF TEACHERS

Any parent/guardian of a student in the Dermott School District may request information regarding the professional qualifications of your child's teacher(s). Interested parents/guardians should complete a *Parent Request for Teacher Information form*, available in the Dermott School District administration building, 525 East Speedway, Dermott, Arkansas between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Mondays- Fridays from the date of the request.

Link to the Code of Ethics for Educators on the Arkansas Department of Education website

http://www.arkansased.gov/divisions/educator%20effectiveness/plsb-professional-ethics-discipline/code-of-ethics-for-arkansas-educators

The Complaint form is attached in the registration packet and you can also pick up a form at the administration office.

STUDENT SEXUAL HARASSMENT

The Dermott School District is committed to providing an academic environment that treats all students with respect and dignity. Student achievement is best attained in an atmosphere of equal educational opportunity that is free of discrimination. Sexual harassment is a form of discrimination that undermines the integrity of the educational environment and will not be tolerated.

The District believes the best policy to create an educational environment free from sexual harassment is prevention; therefore, the District shall provide informational materials and training to students, parents/legal guardians/other responsible adults, and employees on sexual harassment. The informational materials and training on sexual harassment shall be age appropriate and, when necessary, provided in a language other than English or in an accessible format. The informational materials and training shall include, but are not limited to:

- the nature of sexual harassment;
- The District's written procedures governing the formal complaint grievance process;[1]
- The process for submitting a formal complaint of sexual harassment;
- That the district does not tolerate sexual harassment;
- That students can report inappropriate behavior of a sexual nature without fear of adverse consequences;
- The supports that are available to individuals suffering sexual harassment; and
- The potential discipline for perpetrating sexual harassment.

Definitions

"Complainant" means an individual who is alleged to be the victim of conduct that could constitute sexual harassment.

"Education program or activity" includes locations, events, or circumstances where the District exercised substantial control over both the respondent and the context in which the sexual harassment occurs.

"Formal complaint" means a document filed by a complainant or signed by the Title IX Coordinator alleging sexual harassment against a respondent and requesting an investigation of the allegation of sexual harassment.

"Respondent" means an individual who has been reported to be the perpetrator of conduct that could constitute sexual harassment.

"Sexual harassment" means conduct on the basis of sex that satisfies one or more of the following:

1. A District employee:
    a. Conditions the provision of an aid, benefit, or service of the District on an individual's participation in sexual conduct;[2] or
    b. Uses the rejection of sexual conduct as the basis for academic decisions affecting that individual;[2]
2. The conduct is:
    a. Unwelcome; and
    b. Determined by a reasonable person to be so severe, pervasive, and objectively offensive that it effectively denies a person equal access to the District's education program or activity; or
3. Constitutes:
    a. Sexual assault;
    b. Dating violence
    c. Domestic violence; or
    d. Stalking.

"Supportive measures" means individualized services that are offered to the complainant or made available to the respondent designed to restore or preserve equal access to the District's education program or activity without unreasonably burdening the other party. The supportive measures must be non-disciplinary and non-punitive in nature; offered before or after the filing of a formal complaint or where no formal complaint has been filed; and offered to either party as appropriate, as reasonably available, and without fee or charge. Examples of supportive measures include, but are not limited to: measures designed to protect the safety of all parties or the District's educational environment, or deter sexual harassment; counseling; extensions of deadlines or other course-related adjustments; modifications of work or class schedules; campus escort services; mutual restrictions on contact between the parties; changes in work or class locations; leaves of absence; and increased security and monitoring of certain areas of the campus.

Within the educational environment, sexual harassment is prohibited between any of the following: students; employees and students; and non-employees and students.

Actionable sexual harassment is generally established when an individual is exposed to a pattern of objectionable behaviors or when a single, serious act is committed. What is, or is not, sexual harassment will depend upon all of the surrounding circumstances and may occur regardless of the sex(es) of the individuals involved. Depending upon such circumstances, examples of sexual harassment include, but are not limited to:

- Making sexual propositions or pressuring for sexual activities;
- Unwelcome touching;
- Writing graffiti of a sexual nature;
- Displaying or distributing sexually explicit drawings, pictures, or written materials;
- Performing sexual gestures or touching oneself sexually in front of others;

- Telling sexual or crude jokes;
- Spreading rumors related to a person's alleged sexual activities;
- Discussions of sexual experiences;
- Rating other students or employees as to sexual activity or performance;
- Circulating or showing e-mails or Web sites of a sexual nature;
- Intimidation by words, actions, insults, or name calling; and
- Teasing or name-calling related to sexual characteristics or the belief or perception that an individual is not conforming to expected gender roles or conduct or is homosexual, regardless of whether or not the individual self-identifies as homosexual or transgender.

Students who believe they have been subjected to sexual harassment, or the parent/legal guardian/other responsible adult of a student who believes their student has been subjected to sexual harassment, are encouraged to bring their concerns to **any** District staff member, including a counselor, teacher, Title IX coordinator, or administrator. If the District staff member who received a report of alleged sexual harassment is not the Title IX Coordinator, then the District staff person shall inform the Title IX Coordinator of the alleged sexual harassment. As soon as reasonably possible after receiving a report of alleged sexual harassment from another District staff member or after receiving a report directly through any means, the Title IX Coordinator shall contact the complainant to:

- Discuss the availability of supportive measures;
- Consider the complainant's wishes with respect to supportive measures;
- Inform the complainant of the availability of supportive measures with or without the filing of a formal complaint; and
- explain to the complainant the process for filing a formal complaint.

Supportive Measures

The District shall offer supportive measures to the complainant and make supportive measures available to the respondent that are designed to restore or preserve equal access to the District's education program or activity without unreasonably burdening the other party before or after the filing of a formal complaint or where no formal complaint has been filed. The District shall provide the individualized supportive measures to the complainant unless declined in writing by the complainant and shall provide individualized supportive measures that are non-disciplinary and non-punitive to the respondent. A complainant who initially declined the District's offer of supportive measures may request supportive measures at a later time and the District shall provide individualized supportive measures based on the circumstances when the subsequent request is received.

Formal Complaint

A formal complaint may be filed with the Title IX Coordinator in person, by mail, or by email. Upon receipt of a formal complaint, a District shall simultaneously provide the following written notice to the parties who are known:

- Notice of the District's grievance process and a copy of the procedures governing the grievance process;
- Notice of the allegations of sexual harassment including sufficient details known at the time and with sufficient time to prepare a response before any initial interview. Sufficient details include:
  - The identities of the parties involved in the incident, if known;
  - The conduct allegedly constituting sexual harassment; and
  - The date and location of the alleged incident, if known;

- A statement that the respondent is presumed not responsible for the alleged conduct and that a determination regarding responsibility is made at the conclusion of the grievance process;
- That the parties may have an advisor of their choice, who may be, but is not required to be, an attorney;
- That the parties may inspect and review evidence relevant to the complaint of sexual harassment; and
- That the District's code of conduct prohibits knowingly making false statements or knowingly submitting false information during the grievance process.

If, in the course of an investigation, the District decides to investigate allegations about the complainant or respondent that are not included in the previous notice, the District shall simultaneously provide notice of the additional allegations to the parties whose identities are known.

The District may consolidate formal complaints of allegations of sexual harassment where the allegations of sexual harassment arise out of the same facts or circumstances and the formal complaints are against more than one respondent; or by more than one complainant against one or more respondents; or by one party against the other party. When the District has consolidated formal complaints so that the grievance process involves more than one complainant or more than one respondent, references to the singular "party", "complainant", or "respondent" include the plural, as applicable.

When investigating a formal complaint and throughout the grievance process, a District shall:

- Ensure that the burden of proof and the burden of gathering evidence sufficient to reach a determination regarding responsibility rest on the District and not on the parties;
- Not require, allow, rely upon, or otherwise use questions or evidence that constitute, or seek disclosure of, information protected under a legally recognized privilege or access, consider, disclose, or otherwise use a party's records that are made or maintained by a physician, psychiatrist, psychologist, or other recognized professional or paraprofessional acting in the professional's or paraprofessional's capacity, or assisting in that capacity, and which are made and maintained in connection with the provision of treatment to the party unless the District obtains the parent, legal guardian, or other responsible adult of that party's voluntary, written consent or that party's voluntary, written consent if the party is over the age of eighteen (18) to do so for the grievance process;
- Provide an equal opportunity for the parties to present witnesses, including fact and expert witnesses, and other inculpatory and exculpatory evidence;
- Not restrict the ability of either party to discuss the allegations under investigation or to gather and present relevant evidence;
- Provide the parties with the same opportunities to have others present during any grievance proceeding, including the opportunity to be accompanied to any related meeting or proceeding by the advisor of their choice, who may be, but is not required to be, an attorney, and not limit the choice or presence of advisor for either the complainant or respondent in any meeting or grievance proceeding;
- Provide, to a party whose participation is invited or expected, written notice of the date, time, location, participants, and purpose of all hearings, investigative interviews, or other meetings, with sufficient time for the party to prepare to participate;
- Provide both parties an equal opportunity to inspect and review any evidence obtained as part of the investigation that is directly related to the allegations raised in the formal complaint so that each party can meaningfully respond to the evidence prior to the conclusion of the investigation ; this includes evidence:
    - Whether obtained from a party or other source,;

- The District does not intend to rely upon in reaching a determination regarding responsibility; and
- That is either Inculpatory or exculpatory; and

- Create an investigative report that fairly summarizes relevant evidence.

At least ten (10)[3] days prior to completion of the investigative report, the District shall send to each party and the party's advisor, if any, the evidence subject to inspection and review in an electronic format or a hard copy. The parties shall have at least ten (10)[3] days to submit a written response to the evidence. The investigator will consider the written responses prior to completion of the investigative report. All evidence subject to inspection and review shall be available for the parties' inspection and review at any meeting to give each party equal opportunity to refer to such evidence during the meeting.

After the investigative report is sent to the parties, the decision-maker shall:
- Provide each party the opportunity to submit written, relevant questions that a party wants asked of any party or witness;
- Provide each party with the answers;
- Allow for additional, limited follow-up questions from each party; and
- Provide an explanation to the party proposing the questions any decision to exclude a question as not relevant. Specifically, questions and evidence about the complainant's sexual predisposition or prior sexual behavior are not relevant, unless such questions and evidence about the complainant's prior sexual behavior are offered to prove that someone other than the respondent committed the conduct alleged by the complainant, or if the questions and evidence concern specific incidents of the complainant's prior sexual behavior with respect to the respondent and are offered to prove consent.

No earlier than ten (10) days ~~f~~Following the completion of the investigation period, the decision-maker, who cannot be the same person as the Title IX Coordinator or the investigator, shall issue a written determination regarding responsibility. The written determination shall include—
1. Identification of the allegations potentially constituting sexual harassment;
2. A description of the procedural steps taken from the receipt of the formal complaint through the determination, including:
   a. Any notifications to the parties;
   b. Interviews with parties and witnesses;
   c. site visits;
   d. Methods used to gather other evidence,; and
   e. Hearings held;
3. Findings of fact supporting the determination;
4. Conclusions regarding the application of the District's code of conduct to the facts;
5. A statement of, and rationale for, the result as to each allegation, including:
   a. A determination regarding responsibility;
   b. Any disciplinary sanctions imposed on the respondent; and
   c. Whether remedies designed to restore or preserve equal access to the District's education program or activity will be provided by the District to the complainant; and
6. The procedures and permissible bases for the complainant and respondent to appeal.

The written determination shall be provided to the parties simultaneously. The determination regarding responsibility shall become final on the earlier of:
- If an appeal is not filed, the day after the period for an appeal to be filed expires; or

- If an appeal is filed, the date the written determination of the result of the appeal is provided to the parties.

The District shall investigate the allegations in a formal complaint. If the conduct alleged in the formal complaint would not constitute sexual harassment as defined in this policy even if proved; did not occur in the District's education program or activity; or did not occur against a person in the United States, then the District shall dismiss the complaint as not meeting the definition of sexual harassment under this policy. A dismissal for these reasons does not preclude action under another provision of the District's code of conduct.

The District may dismiss the formal complaint or any allegations therein, if at any time during the grievance process:

- The complainant notifies the Title IX Coordinator in writing that the complainant would like to withdraw the formal complaint or any allegations therein;
- The respondent is no longer enrolled at the District; or
- Specific circumstances prevent the District from gathering evidence sufficient to reach a determination as to the formal complaint or allegations therein.

Upon the dismissal of a formal complaint for any reason, the District shall promptly send written notice of the dismissal and reason(s) for the dismissal simultaneously to the parties.

The District may hire an individual or individuals to conduct the investigation or to act as the determination-maker when necessary.

Appeals

Either party may appeal a determination regarding responsibility or from a dismissal of a formal complaint or any allegations therein, on the following bases:

a. The existence of a procedural irregularity that affected the outcome of the matter;
b. Discovery of new evidence that was not reasonably available at the time the determination regarding responsibility or dismissal was made, that could affect the outcome of the matter;
c. The Title IX Coordinator, investigator, or decision-maker had a conflict of interest or bias for or against complainants or respondents generally or the individual complainant or respondent that affected the outcome of the matter; or
d. An appeal of the disciplinary sanctions from the initial determination.[4]

For all appeals, the District shall:

1. Notify the other party in writing when an appeal is filed;
2. Simultaneously Provide all parties a written copy of the District's procedures governing the appeal process;
3. Implement appeal procedures equally for both parties;
4. Ensure that the decision-maker[5] for the appeal is not the same person as the decision-maker that reached the original determination regarding responsibility or dismissal, the investigator, or the Title IX Coordinator;
5. Provide all parties a reasonable, equal opportunity to submit a written statement in support of, or challenging, the outcome;
6. Issue a written decision describing the result of the appeal and the rationale for the result; and
7. Provide the written decision simultaneously to both parties.

Confidentiality

Reports of sexual harassment, both informal reports and formal complaints, will be treated in a confidential manner to the extent possible. Limited disclosure may be provided to:

- individuals who are responsible for handling the District's investigation and determination of responsibility to the extent necessary to complete the District's grievance process;
- Submit a report to the child maltreatment hotline;
- Submit a report to the Professional Licensure Standards Board for reports alleging sexual harassment by an employee towards a student; or
- The extent necessary to provide either party due process during the grievance process.[5]

Except as listed above, the District shall keep confidential the identity of:
- Any individual who has made a report or complaint of sex discrimination;
- Any individual who has made a report or filed a formal complaint of sexual harassment;
- Any complainant;
- Any individual who has been reported to be the perpetrator of sex discrimination;
- Any respondent; and
- Any witness.

Any supportive measures provided to the complainant or respondent shall be kept confidential to the extent that maintaining such confidentiality does not impair the ability of the District to provide the supportive measures.

Emergency removal[6]

The District may remove a respondent from the District's education program or activity on an emergency basis only after the completion of an individualized safety and risk analysis that determines that an immediate threat to the physical health or safety of any student or other individual arising from the allegations of sexual harassment justifies removal. A removed student will be provided with notice and an opportunity to challenge the removal decision immediately following the removal.

Retaliation Prohibited

Students, or the parents/legal guardians/ other responsible adult of a student, who submit a report or file a formal complaint of sexual harassment,; testified; assisted; or participate or refused to participate in any manner in an investigation, proceeding, or hearing on sexual harassment shall not be subjected to retaliation or reprisal in any form, including threats; intimidation; coercion; discrimination; or charges for code of conduct violations that do not involve sex discrimination or sexual harassment, arise out of the same facts or circumstances as a report or formal complaint of sex discrimination, and are made for the purpose of interfering with any right or privilege under this policy. The District shall take steps to prevent retaliation and shall take immediate action if any form of retaliation occurs regardless of whether the retaliatory acts are by District officials, students, or third parties.

Disciplinary Sanctions

It shall be a violation of this policy for any student to be subjected to, or to subject another person to, sexual harassment. Following the completion of the District's grievance process, any student who is found by the evidence to more likely than not[7] have engaged in sexual harassment will be subject to disciplinary action up to, and including, expulsion. No disciplinary sanction or other action that is not a supportive measure may be taken against a respondent until the conclusion of the grievance process.

Students who knowingly fabricate allegations of sexual harassment or purposely provide inaccurate facts shall be subject to disciplinary action up to and including expulsion. A determination that the allegations do not rise to the level of sexual harassment alone is not sufficient to conclude that any party made a false allegation or materially false statement in bad faith.

Records

The District shall maintain the following records for a minimum of seven (7) years:

- Each sexual harassment investigation including:
- Any determination regarding responsibility;
- any disciplinary sanctions imposed on the respondent;
- Any remedies provided to the complainant designed to restore or preserve equal access to the District's education program or activity;
- Any appeal and the result therefrom;
- All materials used to train Title IX Coordinators, investigators, and decision-makers;
- Any actions, including any supportive measures, taken in response to a report or formal complaint of sexual harassment, which must include:
    - The basis for the District's conclusion that its response was not deliberately indifferent; and
    - Document:
        - If supportive measures were provided to the complainant, the supportive measures taken designed to restore or preserve equal access to the District's education program or activity; or
        - If no supportive measures were provided to a complainant, document the reasons why such a response was not clearly unreasonable in light of the known circumstances.

STUDENT BEHAVIORAL INTERVENTION AND RESTRAINT

Definitions

"Aversive behavioral intervention" means a physical or sensory intervention program that is intended to modify behavior through the use of a substance or stimulus that the intervention implementer knows will cause physical trauma, emotional trauma, or both, to a student, even when the substance or stimulus appears to be pleasant or neutral to others.

Examples of aversive behavioral interventions include, but are not limited to:

- Hitting;
- Pinching;
- Slapping;
- Using a water spray;
- Using noxious fumes;
- Requiring extreme physical exercise;
- Using loud auditory stimulus;
- Withholding meals; and
- Denying reasonable access to toileting facilities.

"Behavioral intervention" means the implementation of a service, support, or strategy to teach and increase appropriate behavior or substantially decrease or eliminate behavior that is dangerous, inappropriate, or otherwise impedes the learning of a student.

"Behavior Intervention Plan" (BIP) means a written plan that:

- Is developed by a problem-solving and intervention team and delineates emotional, social, or behavioral goals for a student and the steps that the school, student, parent of the student, and others will take to positively support the progress of the student towards the student's emotional, social, or behavioral goals;

- Is comprised of practical and specific strategies to increase or reduce a defined behavior or one (1) or more patterns of behavior exhibited by a student; and
- Includes the following at a minimum:
  - A definition or description of the desired target behavior or outcome in specific measurable terms;
  - A plan for preventing and eliminating inappropriate student behavior by changing a condition that is triggering, motivating, underlying, or supporting that behavior as determined through a FBA;
  - A plan for teaching a student to demonstrate appropriate social, emotional, or behavioral self-management, or a new method to address or meet the student's needs;
  - A description of how a specific incentive or consequence will be used as needed to decrease or eliminate inappropriate student behavior and increase appropriate behavior;
  - A plan for managing a crisis situation;
  - A system to collect, analyze, and evaluate data about the student;
  - The school personnel, resources, and training needed before implementation of the BIP; and
  - The timeline for implementing different facets of an intervention, including without limitation when the intervention will be formally reviewed.

"Chemical restraint" means the use of a drug or medication to control the behavior of a student or restrict the free movement of the student; however, chemical restraint does not include the use of medication that is prescribed by a licensed physician, or other qualified health professional acting within the scope of the individual's professional authority under state law, for the standard treatment of a medical or psychiatric condition of a student and is administered as prescribed by the licensed physician or other qualified health professional acting within the scope of the individual's professional authority under state law.

"Crisis" means a situation in which a student engages in a behavior that threatens the health and safety of the student or others and includes without limitation a situation in which the student becomes aggressive or violent at school and is unable to regain self-control without posing a danger of injury to himself or herself or others.

"Crisis intervention" means the implementation of a service, support, or strategy to immediately stabilize a crisis and prevent the crisis from reoccurring after the crisis ends.

"Dangerous behavior" means the behavior of a student that presents an imminent danger of serious physical harm to the student or others; however, dangerous behavior does not include the following:
- Disrespect;
- Noncompliance;
- Insubordination; or
- Destruction of property that does not create an imminent danger.

"De-escalation" means the use of a behavior management technique that helps a student increase the student's control over the student's emotions and behavior and results in a reduction of a present or potential level of danger that in turn reduces the level of imminent danger of serious physical harm to the student or others.

"Emergency" means a serious and unexpected situation that requires immediate action and which may be dangerous.

"Functional Behavior Assessment" (FBA) means a problem analysis step that:
- Occurs within the context of data-based problem-solving and involves:

  - The review of existing records and other sources of information;
  - Diagnostic or historical interviews;
  - Structured academic or behavioral observations; and
  - Authentic, criterion-referenced, or norm-referenced tests; and
- Is performed with the goal of determining why a specific problem or situation is occurring in order to directly link a strategic intervention to an assessment and solve or resolve the specific problem or situation.

"Imminent danger" means an existing dangerous situation that could reasonably be expected to immediately cause death or serious physical harm.

"Mechanical restraint" means the use of a device or equipment to restrict the free movement of a student; however, mechanical restraint does not include a device that is used by trained school personnel or a student for a specific and approved therapeutic purpose or safety purpose for which the device was designed or prescribed or a vehicle safety restraint that is appropriately used in the manner for which it was designed during the transport of a student in a moving vehicle.

"Physical escort" means a temporary touching or holding of the hand, wrist, arm, shoulder, or back of a student for the purpose of redirecting or inducing the student to move to a safe location.

"Physical restraint" means a personal restriction that immobilizes or reduces the ability of a student to move the student's torso, arm, leg, or head freely; however, physical restraint does not include a physical escort.

"Positive behavioral support" means the application of behavior analysis that:
- Is used to achieve socially important behavior change;
- Occurs at the:
  - Prevention level for all students in a school;
  - Strategic intervention level for a student who is not responding, from a social-emotional and behavioral perspective, to the prevention level; and
  - Intensive service or crisis-management level for a student who needs multifaceted or comprehensive behavioral or mental health services; and
- Involves a planned and collaborative school-wide approach that is implemented with a goal:
  - Of establishing a positive and supportive school environment that:
    - Teaches and reinforces prosocial behavior in a student;
    - Holds a student positively accountable for meeting an established behavioral expectation; and
    - Maintains a level of consistency throughout the implementation process; and
  - That is accomplished by using positive behavioral programs, strategies, or approaches.

"Prone restraint" means restraining a student in a face-down position on the floor or another surface and applying physical pressure to the body of the student to keep the student in the prone position.

"Serious physical harm" means bodily injury that involves a substantial risk of death, extreme physical pain, protracted and obvious disfigurement, or protracted loss or impairment of the function of a bodily member, organ, or mental faculty.

"Supine restraint" means the restraint of a student in a face-up position on the student's back on the floor or another surface and with physical pressure applied to the body of the student to keep the student in the supine position.

Positive Behavioral Supports

The District shall implement positive behavioral supports to be used at the:
1. Prevention level for each student in a school;
2. Strategic intervention level for a student who is not responding, from a social, emotional, or behavioral perspective, to the prevention level; and
3. Intensive service or crisis-management level for a student who needs multifaceted or comprehensive behavioral or mental health services.

The District's positive behavioral support shall include:
a. The teaching and reinforcing of interpersonal, social, problem solving, conflict resolution, and coping skills to a student;
b. Holding a student positively accountable for meeting an established behavioral expectation;
c. Maintaining a high level of consistency through the implementation of the positive behavioral support process; and
d. The following interrelated activities:
   - Providing a school-wide approach to the discipline and safety of each student rather than an approach to only the behavior problem of a single student;
   - Focusing on preventing the development and occurrence of problem behavior;
   - Regularly reviewing behavior data to adapt the District's procedures to meet the needs of every student; and
   - Providing a multitiered approach to academic and behavioral services and support to meet the academic and behavioral achievement needs of each student.

The following principles shall form the basis of the District's positive behavioral support system and conflict resolution or de-escalation approach:
1. A student has the right to be treated with dignity;
2. A student should receive necessary academic, social, emotional, and behavioral support that is provided in a safe and least-restrictive environment possible;
3. Positive and appropriate academic, social, emotional, or behavioral intervention, as well as mental health support, should be provided routinely to each student who needs the intervention or support;
4. Behavioral intervention should emphasize prevention as part of the District's system of positive behavioral support; and
5. Each student who exhibits an ongoing behavior that interferes with the student's learning or the learning of others, and who is nonresponsive to effectively implemented classroom or administrative intervention, should receive additional intensive behavioral intervention that is based on a FBA and data-based problem solving.

Problem Solving and Intervention Team

A problem-solving and intervention team shall be established for each student who exhibits social, emotional, or behavioral difficulty that may escalate, if not addressed, to potentially dangerous behavior. The problem-solving and intervention team shall include at least one (1) member who is an academic and behavioral assessment and intervention professional.

A student's problem-solving and intervention team shall:

a. Work with the teachers of a student to complete a FBA of the student and an assessment of any problematic situations involving the student;
b. Consider the need for a BIP with the goal of preventing or resolving the social, emotional, or behavioral difficulty of the student and developing a response that will de-escalate and stabilize a potential emergency situation that approaches the danger level; and
c. Regularly review the data on incidents involving the use of physical restraint on the student and adjust, as necessary, the procedures concerning the use of physical restraint on the student.

Special education procedures shall be followed if a student is suspected of having a disability that relates to behavioral concerns.

Physical Restraint

Except in the case of a clearly unavoidable emergency situation in which a trained member of school personnel is not immediately available due to the unforeseeable nature of the emergency situation, the physical restraint of a student shall only be used by a member of school personnel who is appropriately trained to administer physical restraint.

When using physical restraint on a student, school personnel shall:
- use the least restrictive technique necessary to end imminent danger or serious physical harm to a student and others;
- Use the safest method available and appropriate to the situation;
- Consider the health and safety of a student, including without limitation whether the student has an existing medical condition that makes the use of physical restraint inadvisable;
- Not restrict the ability of a student to communicate unless the use of a less restrictive technique will not prevent imminent danger of serious physical harm to the student or others;
- Use only the amount of force that is reasonably necessary to protect a student or others from imminent danger of serious physical harm to the student or others;
- Not verbally abuse, ridicule, humiliate, taunt, or engage in any other similar action towards the student; and
- continuously and visually observe and monitor the student while the student is under physical restraint.

Physical restraint of a student shall only be used for a limited period of time and shall not be used:
- When imminent danger or serious physical harm to the student or others dissipates;
- If a medical condition occurs that puts the student at risk of harm;
- Unless the behavior of the student poses an imminent danger of serious physical harm to the student or others;
- After the threat of imminent danger of serious physical harm to the student or others dissipates; or
- In the following manner:
  - To punish or discipline the student;
  - To coerce the student;
  - To force the student to comply;
  - To retaliate against the student;
  - To replace the use of an appropriate educational or behavioral support;
  - As a routine safety measure;
  - As a planned behavioral intervention in response to behavior of the student that does not pose an imminent danger of serious physical harm to the student or others;
  - As a convenience for school personnel; or

- To prevent property damage unless the act of damaging property committed by the student poses an imminent danger or serious physical harm to the student and others.

Even in an emergency, supine restraint shall not be used on a student except by a staff person who has been certified by a crisis intervention training program and the certified staff person determines that supine restraint is required to provide safety for the student and others.

At no time shall school personnel use the following on a student:
- Mechanical restraint;
- Chemical restraint;
- Aversive behavioral interventions that compromise health and safety;
- Physical restraint that is life-threatening or medically contraindicated; or
- Prone restraint or other restraint that restricts the breathing of a student.

Following the first incident of physical restraint used on a student, an FBA shall be conducted unless a previous FBA was conducted for the same behavior that was at issue when the physical restraint was used.

The use of physical restraint on a student as a planned behavioral intervention shall not be included in a student's IEP, 504 Plan, BIP, individual safety plan, or other individual planning document but may be considered as a crisis intervention if appropriate for the student. A student's IEP team or 504 Plan team shall consider whether an FBA should be performed; if a BIP should be developed for the student or if a student's existing BIP should be revised; and if additional behavioral goals and interventions should be included in the student's existing IEP or 504 Plan.

Parents may submit complaints regarding an incident involving the use of physical restraint on their student. A complaint shall be referred for review to the appropriate school personnel:
- The student's problem-solving and intervention team;
- The student's IEP team; or
- The student's 504 Plan team.

A complaint by a parent shall be handled by the appropriate District staff in the same manner as a debrief following the use of physical restraint on a student.[1]

Use of a physical restraint technique that is abusive shall be reported to the Child Abuse Hotline and law enforcement.

Reports and Debriefing

After the occurrence of an incident involving physical restraint of a student, the building principal, or the principal's designee, shall be notified of the incident as soon as possible but by no later than the end of the school day when the incident occurred.

The student's parent shall be notified of the incident of the use of physical restraint via verbal or electronic communication as soon as possible but by no later than the end of the school day when the incident occurred. In the event the student's parent is unable to be notified via verbal or electronic communication within twenty-four (24) hours after the incident occurred, then the parent shall be mailed written notification of the incident within forty-eight (48) hours after the incident occurred.

school personnel involved in the incident shall document the incident in a written report, which is to be completed within twenty-four (24) hours after the incident occurred. The written report of the incident shall:

1. Include all information contained in the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) Physical Restraint or Seclusion Incident Record and Debriefing Report;
2. Be maintained in the student's education record; and
3. Be provided to the student's parent within one (1) school day of the completion of the report.

A debriefing meeting shall be held within two (2) school days after the incident occurred. The following school personnel shall be present at the debriefing meeting:[2]

a. A member of school personnel who was present during the incident;
b. A member of school personnel who was in the proximity of the student on whom physical restraint was used immediately before and during the time of the incident;
c. A school administrator; and
d. Any other member of school personnel determined to be appropriate by the District.

The purpose of the debriefing meeting shall be to:

- Determine whether the procedures used during the incident were necessary;
- Evaluate the use of any behavioral supports and de-escalation techniques by school personnel before and during the incident;
- Evaluate the school district's positive behavioral supports system and prevention techniques in order to minimize future use of physical restraint; and
- If a trained member of school personnel was not immediately available due to the unforeseeable nature of the emergency situation when the incident occurred:
    - Reevaluate the training needs of school personnel;
    - Reevaluate the physical restraint policy and practices; and
    - Develop a plan to prevent a future incident.

At a debriefing meeting, school personnel shall:

1. Consider relevant information in the student's education record, including without limitation:
    a. The concerns of the student's parent;
    b. The student's social and medical history;
    c. The student's FBA, if one exists; and
    d. The student's BIP, if one exists;
2. Consider relevant information from the teachers, parents, and other District professionals;
3. Discuss whether positive behavior supports were appropriately implemented;
4. Discuss the duration and frequency of the use of physical restraint on the student;
5. Discuss appropriate action that may be taken to prevent and reduce the need for physical restraint;
6. Consider whether additional intervention and support is necessary for the student;
7. Consider whether additional intervention and support is necessary for school personnel; and
8. Consider how and when to debrief a person who was not present at the debriefing meeting, including without limitation:
    a. The student;
    b. The student's parent; and
    c. Other school personnel or students who witnessed the incident.

DESE's Physical Restraint or Seclusion Incident Record and Debriefing Report, or an alternative report that includes the same information, shall be completed during the debriefing meeting. A copy of the report shall be:

- Submitted to the building principal;[3]
- Mailed to the student's parent within two (2) days of the date on which the debriefing meeting was held; and

- Maintained as part of the student's education record along with other documents consulted during the debriefing meeting.

ELEMENTARY BEHAVIOR MATRIX

Dermott Elementary School Discipline Plan

	OFFENSE (including, but not limited to listed offenses)	**CONSEQUENCES**
<u>CATEGORY 1</u> Classroom	• Violation of classroom rules • Hallway misbehavior • Gum/candy • Toys • Notes in class	• **Strike system:** Verbal warning Strike 1 - written warning Strike 2 - parent contact Strike 3 - office referral
<u>CATEGORY 2</u> Automatic Office Referral	• Disruptive classroom behavior • Disruptive cafeteria behavior • Rough play • Not in assigned area • Cheating • Public displays of affection • Internet violations • Profanity • Insubordination/defiance • Precursor to fight • Lying to adult • Disrespect to adult • Theft • Instigating	**1st offense:** Parent contact with warning **2nd offense:** Lunch D-Hall and Parent contact **3rd offense:** 1 day ISS or Corporal punishment; Parent conference **4th offense:** 3 days ISS; Parent contact **** If a student exceeds 4 referrals in a semester in Category 2, they move to 2nd offense on Category 3 for the next referral.***

CATEGORY 3 Automatic Office Referral	• Verbal abuse • Threats • Furniture throwing • Indecent exposure/causing • Gang • Biting • R-rated • Vandalism • Written abuse • Assault/fighting • Sexual harassment/misconduct	**1st offense:** 3 days ISS; Parent contact **2nd offense:** 5 days ISS and Parent conference **3rd offense:** 10 days ISS or OSS; Parent contact **4th offense:** OSS and/or recommendation for expulsion and parent conference
CATEGORY 4 Automatic Office Referral	• Weapons • Drugs/Alcohol/Tobacco	**1st offense:** OSS and Parent Conference **2nd offense:** OSS and Recommendation for Expulsion

** Discipline starts over each semester. However, if a student had a referral in a category during the fall semester, they will start at the 2nd offense consequence if they receive a referral in that category in the spring semester. ** Dress code violations, electronic device infractions, and bullying referrals are handled with separate policies listed in the handbook. A referral to the counselor may be used at any point.* ***The Principal has final discretion in all discipline matters.***

CATEGORY 2 Offenses

Offense	Description
Disruptive classroom behavior	Student's behavior creates such a disruption that the teacher cannot teach and students cannot learn. Includes outbursts, fits, and loud disturbances.
Disruptive cafeteria behavior	Student's behavior disturbs order in the cafeteria.

Rough play	Student is playing rough by placing hands on other students, being too rough in a sport such as basketball (excessively elbowing other students, shoving down to get ball, pulling others off monkey bars, etc.)

Not in assigned area	Student is located in a place they do not have permission to be. Example: student asks to go to restroom and goes to nurse, student uses restroom in part of the building they should not be, walking around hallways or in classrooms they do not have permission to be in.
Cheating	Student copies answers from another student or a study aid, such as notes, phone, etc.
Public displays of affection	Showing affection inappropriately at school such as kissing others.
Internet violations	Student is on pages/sites they do not have permission to be on, looking up inappropriate materials (not R-rated); emailing others without permission
Profanity	Using curse words and/or gestures, verbally or written, at school (not directed at adult).
Insubordination/defiance	Student does not follow directions as requested or willfully disobeys direction from an adult, student refuses to answer/respond to an adult when asked to.
Precursor to fight	Student is involved in creating the conditions for a fight to occur, including bowing up at another student, encouraging other students to hit or fight them, and telling others that they want to fight someone.
Lying to adult	Student does not tell the truth to an adult.
Disrespect to adult	Student shows disrespect through their words OR actions, including rolling eyes, smacking lips, or staring at them.
Theft	Student takes something that does not belong to them and they do not have permission to take.
Instigating	Student purposefully creates the condition for a fight, including telling others what people are saying about them, encouraging friends to fight, and telling others that there is going to be a fight.

CATEGORY 3 Offenses

Offense	Description
Verbal abuse	Student uses their words to taunt, tease, or harass other students by saying mean and hurtful things to them or about them. Includes "roasting" others at school. Profanity or inappropriate language towards an adult,
Threats	Student makes a threat of harm to another student or adult.
Furniture throwing	Student throws furniture as a sign of anger putting other students/adults in danger.
Indecent exposure/causing	Student exposes part of their body that is inappropriate to others or causes another student to expose themselves (Ex: pulling down someone's pants.)
Gang	Student displays gang-related behaviors, including throwing gang-signs, threatening harm from a gang, or writing gang-related information.
Biting	Student purposefully bites another student or adult.
R-rated	Student has or produces R-related material at school. Includes drawings, searching on the internet, and reading materials.
Vandalism	Student vandalizes property at school. Includes writing in bathrooms or any areas of the school.
Written abuse	Student writes mean and hurtful things about other students or adults at school. Includes passing mean notes, drawings, etc.
Assault/fighting	Student fights with another student, regardless of who started it. Includes pushing, punching, and slapping.
Sexual harassment/misconduct	Student harasses another student sexually including touching others inappropriately, saying R-rated things about others, passing notes of a sexual nature, etc.

CATEGORY 4 Offenses

Offense	Description
Weapons	Student has in their possession any item considered to be a weapon. Includes pocket knives, airsoft and BB guns, etc. *If a student discovers they accidentally brought a weapon such as a pocket knife and turns it over to a staff member as soon as they discover it, they are NOT considered to be in possession ,unless it is a firearm.*
Drugs/Alcohol/Tobacco	Student has in their possession any item that is illegal for children to have, including drugs, alcohol, and/or tobacco products.

HANDBOOK COMMITTEE

Shamonda Garner	Kimberly Brown	Rhiannon Cabaniss
Michael Wolfe	Arneice Gardner	Kaden Lattimore

PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT PLAN

The Dermott School District, Dermott Elementary School, and Dermott High School believe that to successfully educate a child, the school and the family must form a partnership that will last throughout the student's academic career. The goal of the school is to provide all components for the student to obtain a quality education that will insure a strong foundation to ensure a productive career or to enter college. Involving the parents in the educational process can only strengthen the bond between the child and the school. It is the Dermott School District's policy to educate the whole child and recognize the differences in family units. Therefore, it is the intention of the Dermott School District, Dermott Elementary School, and Dermott High School to address these differences and build on them to establish a standard of excellence in education. To achieve this goal we will encourage and support parent involvement.

Arkansas Code § 6-15-1702 is amended to read as follows: 6-15-1702. Parental Involvement Plan.

Each public school district and each public school within its boundaries, in collaboration with parents, shall establish a parental involvement plan, including programs and practices that enhance parental involvement and reflect the specific needs of students and their families.

The parental involvement program in each school shall:

- *Involve parents of students at all grade levels in a variety of roles.
- *Be comprehensive and coordinated in nature.
- *Recognizing that communication between home and school should be regular, two-way and meaningful the Dermott School District, Dermott Elementary School, and Dermott High School will:

To encourage communication with parents, the school shall prepare an **informational packet** to be distributed annually to the parent of each child in the school, appropriate for the age and grade of the child, describing: o the school's parental involvement program;

- o the recommended roles of the parent, student, teacher and school; o ways for the parent to become involved in the school and his or her child's education;
- o a survey for the parent regarding his or her interests concerning volunteering at the school;
- o activities planned throughout the school year to encourage parental involvement; and
- o a system to allow the parents and teachers to communicate in a regular, two-way and meaningful manner with the child's teacher and the school principal.

To encourage communication with parents, the school shall **schedule no fewer than two (2) parent-teacher conferences per school year.**

*Acknowledge that parents play an integral role in assisting student learning. To help parents in assisting students, the school shall:

- schedule regular **parent involvement meetings** at which parents are given a report on the state of the school and an overview of: o what students will be learning;
    - o how students will be assessed; o what parents should expect for their child's education; and o how a parent can assist and make a difference in his or her child's education.

*The Dermott School District, Dermott Elementary School, and Dermott High School will provide instruction to a parent on how to incorporate developmentally appropriate learning activities in the home environment, including without limitation:

- Role play and demonstration by trained volunteers;
- the use of and access to Department of Education website tools for parents;
- assistance with nutritional meal planning and preparation;
- other strategies or curricula developed or acquired by the school district for at-home parental instruction approved by the Department of Education; and
- engage in other activities determined by the school to help a parent assist in his or her child's learning.

*Welcome parents into the school and seek parental support and assistance. To welcome parents into the school, the school shall:

- not have any policies or procedures that would discourage a parent from visiting the school or from visiting a child's classroom.
- encourage school staff to use the volunteer survey to compile a **volunteer resource book,** listing the interests and availability of volunteers so that the school staff may:
    - o determine how frequently a volunteer would like to participate, including the option of just one (1) time per year;
    - o include options for those who are available to help at home; and help watch school needs with volunteer interests; and
    - o engage in other activities determined by the school to welcome parents into the school.
- The Dermott School District, Dermott Elementary School, and Dermott High School shall provide training at least annually for volunteers who assist in an instructional program for parents.

*Recognize that a parent is a full partner in the decisions that affect his or her child and family. To encourage a parent to participate as a full partner in the decisions that affect his or her child and family, the school shall:

- **include in the school's policy handbook the school's process for resolving parental concerns**, including how to define a problem, whom to approach first, and how to develop solutions;
- **sponsor seminars** to inform the parents of high school students about how to be involved in the decisions affection course selection, career planning, and preparation for postsecondary opportunities; and
- engage in other activities that the school determines will encourage a parent to participate as a full partner in the decisions that affect his or her child and family.

*Recognize the community resources strengthen school programs, family practices, and student learning. To take advantage of community resources, the school shall:

- consider recruiting alumni from the school to create an **alumni advisory committee** to provide advice and guidance for school improvement;
- enable the **formation of a Parent Teacher Association or Organization** that will foster parental and community involvement within the school; and
- engage in other activities that the school determines will use community resources to strengthen the school programs, family practices, and student learning.

*Support the development, implementation, and regular evaluation of the program to involve parents in the decisions and practices of the school district. The principal of each school in a district shall **designate one (1) certified staff member who is willing to serve as parent facilitator** to:

- help organize meaningful training for staff and parents;
- Promote and encourage a welcoming atmosphere to foster parental involvement in the school; and
- undertake efforts to ensure that parental participation is recognized as an asset to the school.

The Dermott School District, Dermott Elementary School, and Dermott High School will require two (2) hours of staff development for teachers to enhance the understanding of effective parenting. These two (2) hours may be included in the teacher's required sixty (60) hours of staff development required by the state as outlined in the Professional Development Plan.

The Dermott School District, Dermott Elementary School, and Dermott High School, when collaborating with the Department of Education and the Department of Higher Education, and other institutions of higher education, shall be in teacher education/administrator programs in which instruction regards: (1) the importance of parental involvement; (2) successful strategies for encouraging parents to be partners in their child's education; and (3) the relationship between cultural diversity and parental involvement.

Each school in the Dermott School District will annually review and revise the Parental Involvement Plan and present a copy to the superintendent.

The Dermott School District's Parental Involvement Plans will be on file in the central office for review by the Arkansas Department of Education.

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS/EQUAL ACCESS

Non-curriculum-related secondary school student organizations wishing to conduct meetings on school premises during non-instructional time shall not be denied equal access on the basis of the religious, political, philosophical, or other content of the speech at such meetings. Such meetings must meet the following criteria.

1. The meeting is to be voluntary and student initiated;
2. There is no sponsorship of the meeting by the school, the government, or its agents or employees;

3. The meeting must occur during non-instructional time;
4. Employees or agents of the school are present at religious meetings only in a non-participatory capacity;
5. The meeting does not materially and substantially interfere with the orderly conduct of educational activities within the school; and
6. Non-school persons may not direct, conduct, control, or regularly attend activities of student groups.

All meetings held on school premises must be scheduled and approved by the principal. The school, its agents, and employees retain the authority to maintain order and discipline, to protect the well-being of students and faculty, and to assure that attendance of students at meetings is voluntary.

Fraternities, sororities, and secret societies are forbidden in the District's schools. Membership to student organizations shall not be by a vote of the organization's members, nor be restricted by the student's race, religion, sex, national origin, or other arbitrary criteria. Hazing, as defined by law, is forbidden in connection with initiation into, or affiliation with, any student organization, extracurricular activity or sport program. Students who are convicted of participation in hazing or the failure to report hazing shall be expelled.

Parent/Guardian Bill of Rights and Responsibilities

Every parent/guardian(s) has the right to:

- Be treated with courtesy
- Be respected as an individual regardless of race, creed, national origin, disability, sex or age.
- Participate in meaningful parent/guardian(s) teacher conferences to discuss his/her child's school progress and welfare when the need arises.
- Be informed of school policies and administrative decisions
- Be informed of approved procedures for seeking charges in school policies and for appealing administrative decisions.
- Inspect his/her child's cummulative record and remove or correct any false or misleading statements in conformity with current guidelines established by state and federal governments
- Be informed of all programs in special education and in the schools generally
- Appeal the placement, in accordance with established guidelines, of hi/her child in a special education class
- Secure as much help as is available for the Dermott School District to further the progress and development of his/her child
- Expect to receive important school news and messages
- Expect reasonable protection for his/her child from physical harm while he/she is under school authority
- Support and participate in school organizations and activities
- Be informed and take advantage of educational opportunities and programs available to youth in the Dermott School area

Every parent/guardian(s) has the responsibility to:

- Provide for the physical needs of the child
- Prepare the child emotionally and socially to be receptive to learning and discipline
- Have the child attend school regularly and on time
- Assist the child in developing proper habits
- Know school requirements and procedures
- Discuss problems with the appropriate persons to prevent misunderstandings
- Work for the success and improvement of public education in the Dermott School District ● TO conduct themselves respectfully at all times

PARENT ACKNOWLEDGMENT

_____	_____	_____
Student's Name	Grade	Teacher's Name

I have received the Student/Parent Handbook complete with discipline, bus procedure, residency requirements, acceptable use, attendance, homework, and other policies and procedures for the 2026-2027 school year.

Yes _____ No _____

I have been provided the opportunity to purchase student health insurance. I have reviewed the insurance section of this handbook.

Yes _____ No _____

I have been provided the opportunity to apply for Food Service's Free and Reduced Meals Program.

Yes _____ No _____

My child has permission to attend events which require travel by bus away from the school site.

Yes _____ No _____

Dermott Public Schools has my permission to release my child's name, address, phone number in directory format to individuals such as college recruiters, the military, or other groups deemed proper by the Dermott Administration.

Yes _____ No _____

Dermott Public Schools has my permission to display my child's information including photos and comments on the school website, school sign, newspapers, radio stations, television stations, school bulletin boards, and School Reach parent contact system.

Yes _____ No _____

Dermott Public Schools has my permission to recognize my child in awards assemblies for academic and behavioral achievements.

Yes _____ No _____

I have received a copy of the Parental Involvement Plan for the Dermott School District which is located in this handbook.

Yes _____ No _____

I have received the Dermott School District/Parent Handbook for student conduct, discipline, and other policies/procedures, and although I may not agree with all the regulations, I understand that the student must adhere to them while at school and school sponsored activities. In the event that we are entirely uncertain of some aspects of school policy, we will contact the principal for clarification within one week after receipt of this policy.

PLEASE SIGN AND RETURN WITHIN ONE WEEK AFTER ISSUANCE.

_____ _____

Student's Signature Parent/Guardian's Signature

_____ _____

Date Date

INTERNET SAFETY AND ELECTRONIC DEVICE USE POLICY

Definition

For the purposes of this policy, “electronic device” means anything that can be used to transmit or capture images, sound, or data.

The District makes electronic device(s) and/or electronic device Internet access available to students, to permit students to perform research and to allow students to learn how to use electronic device technology. Use of district electronic devices is for educational and/or instructional purposes only. Student use of electronic device(s) shall only be as directed or assigned by staff or teachers; students are advised that they enjoy no expectation of privacy in any aspect of their electronic device use, including email, and that monitoring of student electronic device use is continuous.

No student will be granted Internet access until and unless an Internet and electronic device -use agreement, signed by both the student and the parent or legal guardian (if the student is under the age of eighteen [18]) is on file. The current version of the Internet and Electronic Device use agreement is incorporated by reference into board policy and is considered part of the student handbook.

Technology Protection Measures

The District is dedicated to protecting students from materials on the Internet or world wide web that are inappropriate, obscene, or otherwise harmful to minors; therefore, it is the policy of the District to protect each electronic device with Internet filtering software that is designed to prevent students from accessing such materials. For purposes of this policy, “harmful to minors” means any picture, image, graphic image file, or other visual depiction that:
(A) taken as a whole and with respect to minors, appeals to a prurient interest in nudity, sex, or excretion;
(B) depicts, describes, or represents, in a patently offensive way with respect to what is suitable for minors, an actual or simulated sexual act or sexual contact, actual or simulated normal or perverted sexual acts, or a lewd exhibition of the genitals; and
(C) taken as a whole, lacks serious literary, artistic, political, or scientific value as to minors.

Internet Use and Safety

The District is dedicated to ensuring that students are capable of using the Internet in a safe and responsible manner. The District uses technology protection measures to aid in student safety and shall also educate students on appropriate online behavior and Internet use[3] including, but not limited to:

- Interacting with other individuals on social networking websites and in chat rooms;
- Cyberbullying awareness; and
- Cyberbullying response.

Misuse of Internet

The opportunity to use the District’s technology to access the Internet is a privilege and not a right. Students who misuse electronic devices or Internet access in any way will face disciplinary action, as

specified in the student handbook and/or Internet safety and electronic device use agreement. Misuse of the Internet includes:

- The disabling or bypassing of security procedures, compromising, attempting to compromise, or defeating the district's technology network security or Internet filtering software;
- The altering of data without authorization;
- Disclosing, using, or disseminating passwords, whether the passwords are the student's own or those of another student/faculty/community member, to other students;
- Divulging personally identifying information about himself/herself or anyone else either on the Internet or in an email unless it is a necessary and integral part of the student's academic endeavor. Personally identifying information includes full names, addresses, and phone numbers.
- Using electronic devices for any illegal activity, including electronic device hacking and copyright or intellectual property law violations;
- Using electronic devices to access or create sexually explicit or pornographic text or graphics;
- Using electronic devices to violate any other policy or is contrary to the Internet safety and electronic device use agreement.

STUDENT ELECTRONIC DEVICE AND INTERNET USE AGREEMENT:(Continued on Back)

Student's Name (Please Print)_____ Grade Level_____

School_____ Date_____

The Dermott School District agrees to allow the student identified above ("Student") to use the district's technology to access the Internet under the following terms and conditions which apply whether the access is through a District or student owned electronic device (as used in this Agreement, "electronic device" means anything that can be used to transmit or capture images, sound, or data):

1. Conditional Privilege: The Student's use of the district's access to the Internet is a privilege conditioned on the Student's abiding to this agreement. No student may use the district's access to the Internet whether through a District or student owned electronic device unless the Student and his/her parent or guardian have read and signed this agreement.

2. Acceptable Use: The Student agrees that he/she will use the District's Internet access for educational purposes only. In using the Internet, the Student agrees to obey all federal ~~and state~~ laws and regulations and any State laws and rules. The Student also agrees to abide by any Internet use rules instituted at the Student's school or class, whether those rules are written or oral.

3. Penalties for Improper Use: If the Student violates this agreement and misuses the Internet, the Student shall be subject to disciplinary action. [**Note: A.C.A. § 6-21-107 requires the district to have "…provisions for administration of punishment of students for violations of the policy with stiffer penalties for repeat offenders, and the same shall be incorporated into the district's written student discipline policy." You may choose to tailor your punishments to be appropriate to the school's grade levels.]**

4. "Misuse of the District's access to the Internet" includes, but is not limited to, the following:
   a. Using the Internet for other than educational purposes;
   b. Gaining intentional access or maintaining access to materials which are "harmful to minors" as defined by Arkansas law;
   c. Using the Internet for any illegal activity, including computer hacking and copyright or intellectual property law violations;
   d. Making unauthorized copies of computer software;
   e. Accessing "chat lines" unless authorized by the instructor for a class activity directly supervised by a staff member;
   f. Using abusive or profane language in private messages on the system; or using the system to harass, insult, or verbally attack others;
   g. Posting anonymous messages on the system;
   h. Using encryption software;
   i. Wasteful use of limited resources provided by the school including paper;
   j. Causing congestion of the network through lengthy downloads of files;
   k. Vandalizing data of another user;
   l. Obtaining or sending information which could be used to make destructive devices such as guns, weapons, bombs, explosives, or fireworks;
   m. Gaining or attempting to gain unauthorized access to resources or files;

n. Identifying oneself with another person's name or password or using an account or password of another user without proper authorization;
o. Invading the privacy of individuals;
p. Divulging personally identifying information about himself/herself or anyone else either on the Internet or in an email unless it is a necessary and integral part of the student's academic endeavor. Personally identifying information includes full names, address, and phone number.
q. Using the network for financial or commercial gain without district permission;
r. Theft or vandalism of data, equipment, or intellectual property;
s. Attempting to gain access or gaining access to student records, grades, or files;
t. Introducing a virus to, or otherwise improperly tampering with the system;
u. Degrading or disrupting equipment or system performance;
v. Creating a web page or associating a web page with the school or school district without proper authorization;
w. Providing access to the District's Internet Access to unauthorized individuals;
x. Failing to obey school or classroom Internet use rules; ~~or~~
y. Taking part in any activity related to Internet use which creates a clear and present danger of the substantial disruption of the orderly operation of the district or any of its schools~~.~~; or
z. Installing or downloading software on district computers without prior approval of the technology director or his/her designee.

5. Liability for debts: Students and their cosigners shall be liable for any and all costs (debts) incurred through the student's use of the computers or access to the Internet including penalties for copyright violations.

6. No Expectation of Privacy: The Student and parent/guardian signing below agree that if the Student uses the Internet through the District's access, that the Student waives any right to privacy the Student may have for such use. The Student and the parent/guardian agree that the district may monitor the Student's use of the District's Internet Access and may also examine all system activities the Student participates in, including but not limited to e-mail, voice, and video transmissions, to ensure proper use of the system. The District may share such transmissions with the Student's parents/guardians.

7. No Guarantees: The District will make good faith efforts to protect children from improper or harmful matter which may be on the Internet. At the same time, in signing this agreement, the parent and Student recognize that the District makes no guarantees about preventing improper access to such materials on the part of the Student.

8. Signatures: We, the persons who have signed below, have read this agreement and agree to be bound by the terms and conditions of this agreement.

Student's Signature: _____Date _____

Parent/Legal Guardian Signature: _____Date_____

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION OF INSTRUCTIONAL OR SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS

Name_____

Date submitted**:** level one_____ level two_____ level three_____

Instructional material being contested:

Reasons for contesting the material (be specific):

_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____

What is your proposed resolution?

_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____

Signature of receiving Principal_____

Signature of Curriculum Coordinator_____

Signature of Superintendent_____

MEDICATION ADMINISTRATION CONSENT FORM

Student's Name (Please Print) _____

This form is good for school year 2026-2027. This consent form must be updated anytime the student's medication order changes and renewed each year and/or anytime a student changes schools.

Medications, including those for self-administration, must be in the original container and be properly labeled with the student's name, the ordering provider's name, the name of the medication, the dosage, frequency, and instructions for the administration of the medication (including times). Additional information accompanying the medication shall state the purpose for the medication, its possible side effects, and any other pertinent instructions (such as special storage requirements) or warnings.

I hereby authorize the school nurse, or designee, to administer the following medication to my student:

Name of medication _____

Name of physician or dentist (if applicable) _____

Dosage _____

Instructions for administering the medication _____

_____

Other instructions _____

I hereby authorize _____ to administer the above medication to my student in the unavailability of the school nurse at school in accordance with the above medication administration instructions.

I authorize the school nurse to take a photograph of my student to be used to verify my student's identification before the school nurse or an authorized individual administers medications to my student.[1]

I acknowledge that the District, its Board of Directors, and its employees shall be immune from civil liability for damages resulting from the administration of medications in accordance with this consent form.

Parent or legal guardian signature _____ Date _____

EPINEPHRINE EMERGENCY ADMINISTRATION CONSENT FORM

Student's Name (Please Print) _____

This form is good for school year 2026-2027. This consent form must be updated anytime the student's medication order changes and renewed each year and/or anytime a student changes schools.

My child has an IHP that provides for the administration of epinephrine in emergency situations. I hereby authorize the school nurse or other school employee certified to administer auto-injectable epinephrine to administer auto-injectable epinephrine in emergency situations when he/she believes my child is having a life-threatening anaphylactic reaction.

The medication must be in the original container and be properly labeled with the student's name, the ordering provider's name, the name of the medication, the dosage, frequency, and instructions for the administration of the medication (including times). Additional information accompanying the medication shall state the purpose for the medication, its possible side effects, and any other pertinent instructions (such as special storage requirements) or warnings.

Date of physician's order _____

Circumstances under which Epinephrine may be administered _____

_____

Other instructions _____

_____

I acknowledge that the District, its Board of Directors, and its employees shall be immune from civil liability for damages resulting from the administration of auto-injector epinephrine in accordance with this consent form, District policy, and Arkansas law.

Parent or legal guardian signature _____

Date _____

ALBUTEROL EMERGENCY ADMINISTRATION CONSENT FORM

Student's Name (Please Print) _____

This form is good for school year 2026-2027 This consent form must be updated anytime the student's medication order changes and renewed each year and/or anytime a student changes schools.

My child has an IHP that provides for the administration of albuterol in emergency situations. I hereby authorize the school nurse or other school employee certified to administer albuterol to administer albuterol in emergency situations when he/she believes my child is in perceived respiratory distress.

The medication must be in the original container and be properly labeled with the student's name, the ordering provider's name, the name of the medication, the dosage, frequency, and instructions for the administration of the medication (including times). Additional information accompanying the medication shall state the purpose for the medication, its possible side effects, and any other pertinent instructions (such as special storage requirements) or warnings.

Date of physician's order _____

Circumstances under which albuterol may be administered _____

_____

Other instructions _____

_____

I acknowledge that the District, its Board of Directors, and its employees shall be immune from civil liability for damages resulting from the administration of albuterol in accordance with this consent form, District policy, and Arkansas law.

Parent or legal guardian signature _____

Date _____

MEDICATION SELF-ADMINISTRATION CONSENT FORM

Student's Name (Please Print) _____

This form is good for school year 2026-2027. This consent form must be updated anytime the student's medication order changes and renewed each year and/or anytime a student changes schools.

The following must be provided for the student to be eligible to self-administer rescue inhalers and/or auto-injectable epinephrine. Eligibility is **only** valid for this school for the current academic year.

- a written statement from a licensed health-care provider who has prescriptive privileges that he//she has prescribed the rescue inhaler and/or auto-injectable epinephrine for the student and that the student needs to carry the medication on his/her person due to a medical condition;
- the specific medications prescribed for the student;
- an individualized health care plan developed by the prescribing health-care provider containing the treatment plan for managing asthma and/or anaphylaxis episodes of the student and for medication use by the student during school hours; and
- a statement from the prescribing health-care provider that the student possesses the skill and responsibility necessary to use and administer the asthma inhaler and/or auto-injectable epinephrine.

If the school nurse is available, the student shall demonstrate his/her skill level in using the rescue inhalers and/or auto-injectable epinephrine to the nurse.

Rescue inhalers and/or auto-injectable epinephrine for a student's self-administration shall be supplied by the student's parent or guardian and be in the original container properly labeled with the student's name, the ordering provider's name, the name of the medication, the dosage, frequency, and instructions for the administration of the medication (including times). Additional information accompanying the medication shall state the purpose for the medication, its possible side effects, and any other pertinent instructions (such as special storage requirements) or warnings.

Students who self-carry a rescue inhaler or an epinephrine auto-injector shall also provide the school nurse with a rescue inhaler or an epinephrine auto-injector to be used in emergency situations.

I understand this form authorizes my student to possess and use the medication(s) included on this form while on school grounds and at school sponsored events but that distribution of the medication(s) included on this form to other students may lead to disciplinary action against my student.

My signature below is an acknowledgment that I understand that the District, its Board of Directors, and its employees shall be immune from civil liability for injury resulting from the self-administration of medications by the student named above.

Parent or legal guardian signature _____

Date _____

Dermott Public School District
525 E. Speedway
Dermott, AR. 71638

Dermott Public School District Technology Asset Usage/Release Form

Student's Name (Please Print)_____
Grade Level_____ School_____
Date_____

This document will outline the guidelines for the use, and if required, release of a technology asset, owned and controlled by the Dermott Public School District.
The Dermott School District Ready to Learn Task Force committee, decided that all technology assets of the district will remain on campus, unless otherwise required (Virtual School Attendance), or should guidelines from the Centers of Disease Control (CDC), Arkansas Department of Health (ADH), or Arkansas Division of Elementary and Secondary Schools (DESE), force a school closure, and require them to be issued to students to allow for blended learning to continue.

The Dermott Public School District agrees to allow the student identified above ("Student") to use the district's technology to access the Internet under the following terms and conditions which apply whether the access is through a District or student owned electronic device

- No student may use the district's access to the Internet whether through a District or student owned electronic device unless the student and his/her parent or guardian have read and signed this agreement.
- The student will be held responsible for any damage caused to the device while it is in their possession, including both physical and internal damage (virus, malware, etc)
- The student agrees that it is their responsibility to make sure their device is plugged in, while on campus, daily in the appropriate cart and bay, as instructed by their classroom teacher.
- The student agrees that he/she will use the District's Internet access for educational purposes only. In using the Internet, the student agrees to obey all federal laws and regulations and any State laws and rules. The student also agrees to abide by any Internet use rules instituted at the student's school or class, whether those rules are written or oral.
- Should devices be required to be released to students, the student agrees to return the device, along with all peripherals(USB hubs, Power Adapters, cases, etc.), and if not returned or found to be returned in an unusable condition, the parent/legal guardian will be held monetarily responsible for them. **Cost to replace an iPad will be $441, and the cost to replace a Chromebook will be $250.**
- The student also understands that the technology department will continue to monitor device activity, and has the ability to suspend this resource should reported activity govern the need to, as in accordance with the policy set forth in the student handbook.

If a student fails to follow these guidelines, the student shall be subjected to disciplinary action.

Student's Signature: _____Date _____

Parent/Legal Guardian Signature: _____Date_____
Signatures: We, the persons who have signed above, have read this agreement and agree to be bound by the terms and conditions of this agreement.