MULBERRY/PLEASANT VIEW BI-COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

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STUDENT HANDBOOK 2026-27

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MULBERRY/PLEASANT VIEW BI-COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

STUDENT PROCEDURAL HANDBOOK

Adopted by the Mulberry/Pleasant View Bi-County School District Board of Education June 18, 2026

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Dear Students and Parents,

On behalf of the staff of Mulberry/Pleasant View Bi-County School District, welcome. This booklet has been prepared to help acquaint you with the district schools, their procedures and general regulations. It is not an exhaustive list of school rules and/or procedures, and the faculty, administration, and school board reserve the right to change, alter, or amend this handbook as necessary to meet the needs of the school. Please refer to the District Policies on the district website for a list of school policies.

The primary purpose of the Mulberry/Pleasant View Bi-County School District is to teach the skills and concepts necessary for all students to become productive citizens. Teachers and staff members will build upon the child's prior knowledge to accomplish mastery of skills and subject matter.

Cooperation between the school and parents will ensure that the mental, physical, and emotional needs of all students are met. Under the supervision of the instructional leaders, the school will attempt to maintain clear communication with staff, parents, and students.

A schedule of when report cards will be handed out will be on the school calendar. Progress reports will be handed out at approximately the midpoint of each grading quarter. I hope that this helps you as you keep up with your child's progress.

I encourage all parents to arrange conferences with teachers to discuss matters relating to their child's performance. Call the office at the number below to arrange to speak with your child's teachers. Parents are welcome to visit the school; I ask that you check in at the office prior to going to classrooms. This request is made to insure the safety and security of our students and faculty.

Mr. Troy Denn, Superintendent
Mulberry/Pleasant View Bi-County School District

Marvin Primary School
Heather Smyth: Principal
1319 North Main Street
Mulberry, AR 72947
Phone: 479-997-1495 Fax: 479-997-1367

Millsap Intermediate and Pleasant View Jr. High School
Lori Stuart: Principal
5750 Hornet Lane
Pleasant View, AR
Phone: 479-997-8469 Fax: 479-997-1667

Mulberry High School
Brad Williams: Principal
203 West 5th Street
Mulberry, AR 72947
Phone: 479-997-1363 Fax: 479-997-1491

Mulberry/Pleasant View District Office
Troy Denn, Superintendent
424 Alma Avenue
Mulberry, AR 72947
Phone: 479-997-1715 Fax: 479-997-1897

STUDENT HANDBOOK – 4.42

It shall be the policy of the Mulberry/Pleasant View Bi-County 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 eighteen (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.

Principals and counselors shall also review Policies 4.45—SMART CORE CURRICULUM AND GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS and the current DESE Standards for Accreditation Rules to ensure that there is no conflict. If a conflict exists, the Principal and/or Counselor shall notify the Superintendent and Curriculum Coordinator immediately, so that corrections may be made and notice of the requirements given to students and parents.

NONDISCRIMINATION STATEMENT

The Mulberry/Pleasant View Bi-County School District #101 is committed to a policy of educating children for living by helping them to develop an awareness and appreciation for the achievements, problems, and aspirations of all people in our society.

The School District shall help children from all walks of life to gain the knowledge, skills and determination that will enable them to reach their highest potential and to contribute to the welfare of all people.

The Mulberry/Pleasant View Bi-County School District shall establish and maintain an atmosphere in which all persons can develop attitudes and skills for effective, cooperative living, including:

A. Respect for the individual regardless of economics status, intellectual ability, race, creed, color, religion, sex, or age.
B. Respect for culture differences.
C. Respect for economic, political, and social rights of others; and
D. Respect for the rights of others to seek and maintain their own identities.

The Mulberry/Pleasant View Bi-County School District shall continue to promote good human relation by removing all vestiges of prejudice and discrimination in employment, assignment, and promotion of personnel.

In keeping with the guidelines of Title VI, Section 601, Civil Rights Act of 1964; Title IX, Section 901, Education Amendments of 1972; and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973; Mulberry/Pleasant View Bi-County School District assures that no person in the United States shall, on the basis of race, color, nation origin, age, sex, or handicap be excluded from the participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any programs or activity receiving federal financial assistance.

Any person having inquiries concerning compliance with Title VI (Race), Title IX (Sex), or Section 504 (Handicap) should contact the school district equity coordinator.

Together...Developing Leaders One student at a time - Every Time!

We Believe in:

- Instilling the hope and confidence for students to succeed physically, socially and academically.
- Acknowledging that all students have worth.
- Partnering with home, school, and community for student success.
- Energizing students to learn, encouraging students to excel, and empowering students to become independent thinkers.
- Inspiring students to share in the responsibility for learning.
- Encouraging students to have a voice in the educational process.
- Providing a respectful, safe, nurturing, and orderly environment as an essential part of learning.
- Practicing good citizenship among students and staff.
- Promoting healthy habits in order to keep the body and mind in excellent condition for the purpose of life-long learning

FAMILY EDUCATIONAL RIGHTS AND PRIVACY ACT
(FERPA)
Notice for Directory Information

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), a Federal law, requires that the Mulberry/Pleasant View Bi-County School District, with certain exceptions, obtain your written consent prior to the disclosure of personally identifiable information from your child's education records. However, The Mulberry/Pleasant View Bi-County School District may disclose appropriately designated "directory information" without written consent, unless you have advised the District to the contrary in accordance with District procedures. The primary purpose of directory information is to allow the Mulberry/Pleasant View Bi-County School District to include this type of information from your child's education records in certain school publications. Examples include:

- A playbill, showing your student's role in a drama production;
- The annual yearbook;
- Honor roll or other recognition lists;
- Graduation programs; and
- Sports activity sheets, such as roster, showing height and weight

Directory information, which is information that is generally not considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if released, can also be disclosed to outside organizations without a parent's prior written consent.

Outside organizations include, but are not limited to, companies that manufacture class rings or publish yearbooks. In addition, two federal laws require local educational agencies (LEAs) receiving assistance under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA) to provide military recruiters, upon request, with three directory information categories-names, addresses and telephone listing, unless parents have advised the LEA that they do not want their student's information disclosed without their prior written consent.

The **Mulberry/Pleasant View Bi-County School District** has designated the following information as directory information for a student:

- Name, address, e-mail, phone number, and date & place of birth
- Grade level, photograph, honor/awards received
- Participation in recognized activities and sports, roster height/weight
- Most recent educational institution attended & dates of attendance

If you do not want The Mulberry/Pleasant View Bi-County School District to disclose directory information from your child's education records without your prior written consent, you must come to the building principal's office and fill out the *Objection To Publication Of Directory Information* form by **August 21, 2026.**

PARENT AND STUDENT GENERAL DISTRICT INFORMATION

ATTENDANCE AND POLICIES RELATING TO ATTENDANCE

RESIDENCE REQUIREMENTS – 4.1

The schools of the District shall be open and free through the completion of the secondary program to all persons between the ages of five (5) and twenty one (21) years whose parents, legal guardians, persons having lawful control of the student, or person standing in loco parentis reside within the District and to all persons between those ages who have been legally transferred to the District for educational purposes.

Any person eighteen (18) years of age or older may establish a residence separate and apart from his or her parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of the student, or a person standing in loco parentis for school attendance purposes.

In order for a person under the age of eighteen (18) years to establish a residence for the purpose of attending the District's schools separate and apart from his or her parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of the student, or a person standing in loco parentis, the student is required to reside in the District for a primary purpose other than that of school attendance; however, a student previously enrolled in the district whose parents move the student into another district or who is placed under the legal guardianship of a noncustodial parent living outside the district by a custodial parent on active military duty may continue to attend district schools. A foster child who was previously enrolled in a District school and who has had a change in placement to a residence outside the District, may continue to remain enrolled in his/her current school unless the presiding court rules otherwise.

Under instances prescribed in A.C.A. § 6-18-203, a child or ward of an employee of the district or of the education coop to which the district belongs may enroll in the district even though the employee and the employee's child or ward reside outside the district.

Children whose parent or legal guardian relocates within the state due to a mobilization, deployment, or available military housing while on active duty in or serving in the reserve component of a branch of the United States Armed Forces or National Guard may continue attending school in the school district the children were attending prior to the relocation or attend school in the school district where the children have relocated. A child may complete all remaining school years at the enrolled school district regardless of mobilization, deployment, or military status of the parent or guardian.

ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS – 4.2

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, guardian, or other responsible person 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.
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.

PLACEMENT OF MULTIPLE BIRTH SIBLINGS – 4.53

The parent, guardian or other person having charge or custody of multiple birth siblings in grades pre-K through 6 may request that the multiple birth siblings are placed in either the same or separate classrooms. The request shall be in writing not later than the 14th calendar day prior to the first day of classes at the beginning of the academic year. The school shall honor the request unless it would require the school to add an additional class to the sibling's grade level. If one parent of multiple birth siblings requests a placement that differs from that of the other parent of the same multiple birth siblings, the school shall determine the appropriate placement of the siblings.

The school may change the classroom placement of one or more of the multiple birth siblings if:

- There have been a minimum of 30 instructional days since the start of the school year; and
    - After consulting with each classroom teacher in which the siblings were placed, the school determines the parent's classroom placement request is:
        - Detrimental to the educational achievement of one or more of the siblings;
        - Disruptive to the siblings' assigned classroom learning environment; or
        - Disruptive to the school's educational or disciplinary environment.

If a parent believes the school has not followed the requirements of this policy, the parent may appeal the multiple birth siblings' classroom placement to the Superintendent. The Superintendent's decision regarding the appeal shall be final.

STUDENTS WHO ARE FOSTER CHILDREN – 4.52

The District will afford the same services and educational opportunities to foster children that are afforded other children and youth. The District shall work with the Department of Human Services ("DHS"), the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE), and individuals involved with each foster child to ensure that the foster child is able to maintain the foster child's continuity of educational services to the fullest extent that is practical and reasonable.

The Superintendent or the superintendent's designee shall appoint an appropriate staff person to be the local educational liaison for foster children and youth whose responsibilities shall include ensuring the timely school enrollment of each foster child and assisting foster children who transfer between schools by expediting the transfer of relevant educational records.

The District, working with other individuals and agencies shall, unless the presiding court rules otherwise or DHS grants a request to transfer under Foster Child School Choice, ensure that the foster child remains in the foster child's school of origin, even if a change in the foster child's placement results in a residency that is outside the district. In such a situation, the District will work with DHS to arrange for transportation to and from school for the foster child to the extent it is reasonable and practical.

Upon notification to the District's foster care liaison by a foster child's caseworker that a foster child's school enrollment is being changed to one of the District's schools, the school receiving the child must immediately enroll the foster child. Immediate enrollment is required even if a child lacks the required clothing, academic or medical records, or proof of residency.

A foster child's grades shall not be lowered due to absence from school that is caused by a change in the child's school enrollment, the child's attendance at dependency-neglect court proceedings, or other court-ordered counseling or treatment.

Any course work completed by the foster child prior to a school enrollment change shall be accepted as academic credit so long as the child has satisfactorily completed the appropriate academic placement assessment.

If a foster child was enrolled in a District school immediately prior to completing the foster child's graduation requirements while detained in a juvenile detention facility or while committed to the Division of Youth Services of DHS, the District shall issue the child a diploma.

Foster Child School Choice

If DHS approves a request from a foster parent, or the foster child if the foster child is eighteen (18) years of age, to transfer to another school in the District or into the district as being in the best interest of the foster child, the District shall allow the foster child to transfer to another school in the District or into the District if the foster parent, or the foster child if the foster child is eighteen (18) years of age, submits a request to transfer on a form approved by DESE that is postmarked by no later than June 1 of the year the student seeks to begin the fall semester at another school in the District or in the District.

By July 1 of the school year in which the student seeks to transfer under this section, the superintendent shall notify the foster parent, or the foster child if the foster child is eighteen (18) years of age, in writing whether the application has been accepted or rejected. If the application is accepted, the superintendent shall state in the notification letter a reasonable deadline for the foster child to enroll in the new school or the District and that failure to enroll by the date shall void the school choice acceptance. If the application is rejected, the superintendent shall state in the notification letter the reason for the rejection and that the foster parent, or the foster child if the foster child is eighteen (18) years of age, may submit a written appeal of the rejection to the State board within ten (10) days of receiving the notification letter.

The District shall only reject a Foster Child School Choice application if:

1. The public school or District has reached the maximum student-to-teacher ratio allowed under federal law; state law; the standards for accreditation; or other applicable State rule or Federal regulation; or
2. Approving the transfer would conflict with a provision of an enforceable desegregation court order or a public school district's court-approved desegregation plan regarding the effects of past racial segregation in student assignment.

A foster child whose application is rejected by the District may submit a written request within ten (10) days following the receipt of the rejection letter from the superintendent to the State Board of Education for the State Board to reconsider the transfer.

A Foster Child School Choice transfer shall remain in effect until the foster child:

- Graduates from high school; or
- Transfers to another school or school district under:
    - The Foster Child School Choice Act;
    - Opportunity Public School Choice Act of 2004;

- The Public School Choice Act of 2015; or
- Any other law that allows a transfer.

The District shall accept credits toward graduation that were awarded by another public school district.

When a foster child transfers from the foster child's school of origin to another school in the District or into the District, the foster child or the foster parent is responsible for the foster child's transportation to and from the school the foster child transferred to. The District and the foster parent, or the foster child if the foster child is eighteen (18) years of age, may enter into a written agreement for the District to provide the transportation to and from the school the foster child transferred to.

HOMELESS STUDENTS – 4.40

The Mulberry/Pleasant View Bi-County School District will afford the same services and educational opportunities to homeless children as are afforded to non-homeless children. The Superintendent or his/her designee shall appoint an appropriate staff person to be the local educational agency (LEA) liaison for homeless children and youth whose responsibilities shall include, but are not limited to:

- Receive appropriate time and training in order to carry out the duties required by law and this policy;
- Coordinate and collaborate with the State Coordinator, community, and school personnel responsible for education and related services to homeless children and youths;
- Ensure that school personnel receive professional development and other support regarding their duties and responsibilities for homeless youths;
- Ensure that unaccompanied homeless youths:
  - Are enrolled in school;
  - Have opportunities to meet the same challenging State academic standards as other children and youths; and
  - Are informed of their status as independent students under the Higher Education Act of 1965 and that they may obtain assistance from the LEA liaison to receive verification of such status for purposes of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid;
- Ensure that public notice of the educational rights of the homeless children and youths is disseminated in locations frequented by parents or guardians of such youth, and unaccompanied homeless youths, including schools, shelters, public libraries, and soup kitchens, in a manner and form that is easily understandable.

To the extent possible, the LEA liaison and the building principal shall work together to ensure no homeless child or youth is harmed due to conflicts with District policies solely because of the homeless child or youth's living situation; this is especially true for District policies governing fees, fines, and absences.

Notwithstanding Policy 4.1, homeless students living in the district are entitled to enroll in the district's school that non-homeless students who live in the same attendance area are eligible to attend. If there is a question concerning the enrollment of a homeless child due to a conflict with Policy 4.1 or 4.2, the child shall be immediately admitted to the school in which enrollment is sought pending resolution of the dispute. It is the responsibility of the District's local educational liaison for homeless children and youth to carry out the dispute resolution process.

For the purposes of this policy "school of origin" means:

- The school that a child or youth attended when permanently housed or the school in which the child or youth was last enrolled, including a preschool; and
- The designated receiving school at the next grade level for all feeder schools when the child completes the final grade provided by the school of origin.

The District shall do one of the following according to what is in the best interests of a homeless child.

1. Continue the child's or youth's education in the school of origin for the duration of homelessness:
   - In any case in which a family becomes homeless between academic years or during an academic year; and

- For the remainder of the academic year, if the child or youth becomes permanently housed during an academic year; or

2. Enroll the child or youth in any public school that non-homeless students who live in the attendance area in which the child or youth is actually living are eligible to attend.

In determining the best interest of the child or youth, the District shall:

- Presume that keeping the child or youth in the school of origin is in the child's or youth's best interest, except when doing so is contrary to the request of the child's or youth's parent or guardian, or (in the case of an unaccompanied youth) the youth;
- Consider student-centered factors related to the child's or youth's best interest, including factors related to the impact of mobility on achievement, education, health, and safety of homeless children and youth, giving priority to the request of the child's or youth's parent or guardian or (in the case of an unaccompanied youth) the youth.

If the District determines that it is not in the child's or youth's best interest to attend the school of origin or the school requested by the parent or guardian, or (in the case of an unaccompanied youth) the youth, the District shall provide the child's or youth's parent or guardian or the unaccompanied youth with a written explanation of the reasons for its determination, in a manner and form understandable to such parent, guardian, or unaccompanied youth, including information regarding the right to appeal. For an unaccompanied youth, the District shall ensure that the LEA liaison assists in placement or enrollment decisions, gives priority to the views of such unaccompanied youth, and provides notice to such youth of the right to appeal.

The homeless child or youth must be immediately enrolled in the selected school regardless of whether application or enrollment deadlines were missed during the period of homelessness.

The District shall be responsible for providing transportation for a homeless child, at the request of the parent or guardian (or in the case of an unaccompanied youth, the LEA Liaison), to and from the child's school of origin.

A homeless student shall be immediately eligible to participate in interscholastic activities at the school in which the student is enrolled.

For the purposes of this policy, students shall be considered homeless if they lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence and
(a) Are:

- Sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason;
- Living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or camping grounds due to the lack of alternative adequate accommodations;
- Living in emergency or transitional shelters;
- Abandoned in hospitals; or

(b) have a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings;
(c) are living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations, or similar settings; and includes
(d) are migratory children who are living in circumstances described in clauses (a) through (c).

In accordance with Federal law, information on a homeless child or youth's living situation is part of the student's education record and shall not be considered, or added, to the list of directory information in Policy 4.13.

SCHOOL CHOICE – 4.5

Exemption

The District is under an enforceable desegregation court order/court-approved desegregation plan that explicitly limits the transfer of students between school districts and has submitted the appropriate documentation to the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE). As a result of the desegregation order/desegregation plan, the District is exempt from the provisions of the Public School Choice Act of 2015 (Standard School Choice) and the Arkansas Opportunity Public School Choice Act (Opportunity School Choice). The District shall notify the superintendents of each of its geographically contiguous school districts of its exemption. The

exemption prohibits the District from accepting any school choice applications from students wishing to transfer into or out of the District through standard School Choice or Opportunity School Choice.

Definitions

"Lack of capacity" means, based on the maximum student to teacher ratio allowed under federal law; state law; the Rules Governing the Standards for Accreditation for Arkansas Public Schools and School Districts; state rules; or other applicable federal regulations, that ninety-five percent (95%) or more of the seats at the grade level in which the student would be assigned at the nonresident school are filled on the date the school choice application is made.

"Parent" includes parents, legal guardians, persons having lawful control of a student, and persons standing in loco parentis to a student.

"Sibling" means each of two (2) or more children having a parent in common by blood, adoption, marriage, or foster care.

Annual Reporting

The District shall report annually to the Secretary of the Department of Education the:

1. Number of transfer applications received;
2. Number of applications accepted;
3. Number of applications rejected; and
4. Reason(s) for each rejection.

The data for items one through four above shall be subdivided by whether the transfer application is to a non-resident:

- School within the District under Standard School Choice;
- District under Standard School Choice;
- School within the District under Opportunity School Choice; or
- District under Opportunity School Choice.

Standard School Choice

Transfers into or Within the District

Capacity Determination and Public Pronouncement

The Board of Directors will annually adopt a resolution containing the capacity standards for the District. The resolution will contain the acceptance determination criteria identified by academic program, class, grade level, and individual school. The school is not obligated to add any teachers, other staff, or classrooms to accommodate choice applications. The District may only deny a Standard School Choice application if the District or school has a lack of capacity.

The District shall advertise in appropriate broadcast media and either print media or on the internet to inform students and parents in the District and adjoining districts of the range of possible openings available under the School Choice program. The public pronouncements shall state the application deadline; the requirements and procedures for participation in the program; and include contact information for the primary point of contact at the District for school choice questions. Such pronouncements shall be made no later than January 1.

Application Process

The student's parent shall submit a school choice application on a form approved by DESE to:

- This District and the student's resident district for students transferring into the District; or
- Only this District for students transferring to another school within the District.

Except for students who are transferring under Uniformed Service Member Dependent School Choice, the transfer application must be postmarked, emailed, or hand delivered between January 1 and June 1. The District shall date and time stamp all applications the District receives as both the resident and nonresident district as they are received in the District's central office. Except for

applications from students who are transferring under Uniformed Service Member Dependent School Choice, applications postmarked, emailed, or hand delivered on or after June 2 will not be accepted. Statutorily, preference is required to be given to siblings of students who are already enrolled in the District. Therefore, siblings whose applications fit the capacity standards approved by the Board of Directors may be approved ahead of an otherwise qualified non-sibling applicant who submitted an earlier application as identified by the application's date and time stamp.

Except for students who are transferring under Uniformed Service Member Dependent School Choice, no earlier than January 1 of each year, the Superintendent will consider all properly submitted applications for School Choice. By no later than the fifteenth (15^{th}) calendar day following the receipt of an application, the Superintendent shall notify the following, in writing, of the decision to accept or reject the application:

- For transfers within the District, the student's parent; or
- For transfers into the District, the student's parent and the student's resident district.

Accepted Applications

Applications which fit within the District's stated capacity standards shall be provisionally accepted in writing. A student's acceptance shall be effective on the earlier of:

1. The day the District provides notification to the student of the student's acceptance; or
2. The day the State Board grants an appeal of the student's application.

The written notice of acceptance shall inform the student that the student has ten (10) school days from when the notice is received to either:

A. Enroll in the district or in the other District school; or
B. Inform the district that the student intends to enroll in the district or the other District school at the start of the next school year.

The acceptance shall be null and void if the student fails to enroll within the ten (10) school day period or fails to inform the district within the ten (10) school day period of the student's intent to transfer at the start of the next school year.

A student, whose application has been accepted and who has enrolled in the District or in another District school, is eligible to continue enrollment until completing the student's secondary education. Continued enrollment is conditioned upon the student meeting applicable statutory and District policy requirements. Any student who has been accepted under choice and who fails to initially enroll under the timelines and provisions provided in this policy; chooses to return to the student's resident district or assigned school; or enrolls in a home school or private school voids the transfer and must reapply if, in the future, the student seeks another school choice transfer. A subsequent transfer application will be subject to the capacity standards applicable to the year in which the application is considered by the District.

A present or future sibling of a student who continues enrollment in this District may enroll in the District by submitting a Standard School Choice application. Applications of siblings of presently enrolled choice students are subject to the provisions of this policy including the capacity standards applicable to the year in which the sibling's application is considered by the District. A sibling who enrolls in the District through Standard School Choice is eligible to remain in the District until completion of the student's secondary education.

Students whose applications have been accepted and who have enrolled in the district or another District school shall not be discriminated against on the basis of gender, national origin, race, ethnicity, religion, ~~or~~ disability, or residential address.

Rejected Applications

The District may reject an application for a transfer into or within the District under Standard School Choice due to a lack of capacity. The District shall use the date and time stamp the District placed on a student's application to determine when the District has reached capacity. A student's application shall be used to determine capacity regardless of whether the student intends to transfer immediately or at the start of the next school year.

The decision to accept or reject an application shall not be based on the student's previous academic achievement; athletic or other extracurricular ability; English proficiency level; or previous disciplinary proceedings other than a current expulsion.

An application may be provisionally rejected if it is for an opening that was included in the District's capacity resolution, but was provisionally filled by an earlier applicant. A provisionally rejected applicant could be provisionally approved and would have to meet the acceptance requirements to be eligible to enroll in the District or another district school if:

- A provisionally approved applicant subsequently does not enroll in the District;
- A provisionally approved applicant subsequently does not enroll in the District school the District student was seeking to transfer to; or
- A District student submits a school choice application to transfer to another district or another school within the District.

The superintendent shall notify the previously provisionally rejected student within fifteen (15) days of the change in status and shall provide notice of all final rejections by July 1.

Rejection of applications shall be in writing and shall state the reason(s) for the rejection. Unless the student's application was rejected due to the application not being timely received by the student's resident district only for transfers within the District or both the resident and nonresident districts for transfers into the District or another district, a student whose application was rejected may request a hearing before the State Board of Education to reconsider the application. The request for a hearing must be submitted in writing to the State Board within ten (10) days of receiving the rejection letter from the District.

Transfers Out of the District

All Standard School Choice applications for transfers out of the District shall be granted.

Facilities Distress School Choice Applications

There are a few exceptions from the provisions of the rest of this policy that govern choice transfers triggered by facilities distress. Any student attending a school district that has been identified as being in facilities distress may transfer under the provisions of this policy, but with the following four (4) differences:

- The receiving district cannot be in facilities distress;
- The transfer is only available for the duration of the time the student's resident district remains in facilities distress;
- The student is not required to meet the June 1 application deadline; and
- The student's resident district is responsible for the cost of transporting the student to this District's school.

Opportunity School Choice

Transfers Into or Within the District

Unless there is a lack of capacity at the District's school or the transfer conflicts with the provisions of a federal desegregation order applicable to the District, a student may transfer from the student's assigned school to another school in the District or from the student's resident district into the District if:

- Either:
  - The student's resident district has been classified by the state board as in need of Level 5 — intensive support; or
  - The student's assigned school has a rating of "F"; or
  - The parent or the student, if the student is eighteen (18) years of age or older, believes it is in the best interest of the student to transfer to a nonresident school district or nonresident school; and
- Except for students who are transferring under Uniformed Service Member Dependents School Choice, the student's parent or the student if the student is over eighteen (18) years of age has submitted an application of the student's request to transfer by no earlier than January 1 and no later than June 1 of the school year before the school year the student intends to transfer to the District for students transferring within the District or both the sending and receiving school districts for students that are transferring into the District.

Except for students who are transferring under Uniformed Service Members Dependent School Choice or seeking to transfer within the District, the Superintendent shall notify in writing the parent or the student if the student is over eighteen (18) years of age, and the student's resident district whether the Opportunity School Choice application has been accepted or rejected by no later than July 1 of the school year the student is seeking to enroll. If the student is seeking a transfer within the District, the Superintendent shall notify in writing the parent or the student if the student is over eighteen (18) years of age, whether the Opportunity School Choice application has been accepted or rejected within fifteen (15) days from receipt of the student's application. The notification shall be sent via First-Class Mail to the address on the application.

If the application is accepted, the notification letter shall state the deadline by which the student must enroll in the receiving school or the transfer will be null and void.

If the District rejects the application, the District shall state in the notification letter the specific reasons for the rejection. Unless the student's application was rejected due to the application not being timely received by the District for students transferring within the District or both the resident and nonresident districts for students that are transferring into the District, a parent or guardian, or the student if the student is over eighteen (18) years of age, may appeal the District's decision to deny the application to the State Board of Education. The appeal must be in writing to the State Board of Education via hand delivery or certified mail, return receipt requested, no later than ten (10) calendar days, excluding weekends and legal holidays, after the notice of rejection was received from the District.

Except for students who are transferring under Uniformed Service Member Dependent School Choice, a student's transfer under Opportunity School choice is effective at the beginning of the next school year and the student's enrollment is irrevocable for the duration of the school year and is renewable until the student completes high school or is beyond the legal age of enrollment. This provision for continuing eligibility under Opportunity School Choice does not negate the student's right to apply for transfer to a district other than the student's assigned school or resident district under the Standard School Choice provisions of this policy.

The District may, but is not obligated to, provide transportation to and from the transferring district.

Transfers out of, or within, the District

If a District school receives a rating of "F" or the District has been classified by the State Board as in need of Level 5 Intensive Support, the District shall timely notify parents or students, if over eighteen (18) years of age, as soon as practicable after the school or district designation is made of all options available under Opportunity School Choice. The District shall offer the parent or the student if the student is over eighteen (18) years of age, an opportunity to submit an application to enroll the student in:

1. A school district that has not been classified by the State Board as in need of Level 5 Intensive Support; or
2. If there is more than one school within the District covering the grade level of the student seeking to transfer that does not have a rating of "F", a public school within the District that is nearest to the student's legal residence that does not have a rating of "F"; or
3. If there is not more than one school within the District covering the grade level of the student seeking to transfer that does not have a rating of "F", a public school that does not have a rating of "F" within a School district that has not been classified by the State Board as in need of Level 5 Intensive Support.

Additionally, the District shall request public service announcements to be made over the broadcast media and in the print media at such times and in such a manner as to inform parents of students in adjoining districts of the availability of the program, the application deadline, and the requirements and procedure for nonresident students to participate in the program.

Uniformed Service Member Dependent School Choice

"Uniformed service member" means an active or reserve component member of the:

- United States Army, United States Navy, United States Air Force, United States Marine Corps, United States Space Force, or United States Coast Guard;
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Commissioned Officer Corps; or
- United States Commissioned Corps of the Public Health Service.

"Uniformed service veteran" means a former uniformed service member who has been discharged under conditions other than dishonorable.

A student shall be eligible for school choice under Uniformed Service Member Dependent School Choice if the student is a dependent of a:

- Uniformed service member in full-time active-duty status;
- Surviving spouse of a uniformed service member;
- Reserve component uniformed service member during the period six (6) months before until six (6) months after a Title 10, Title 32, or state active duty mobilization and service; or
- Uniformed service veteran who is returning to civilian status at the conclusion of the uniformed service veteran's active duty status.

A student's parent shall submit a school choice application by mail, e-mail, or in person to the student's resident district only for transfers within the District or to both the student's nonresident district and resident district. The application shall be accompanied by:

a. A copy of the identification card of the student's parent that qualifies the student under Uniformed Service Member Dependent School Choice; and
b. A copy of the official orders, assignment notification, or notice of mobilization of the student's parent.

The application deadline required under Standard School Choice and Opportunity School Choice shall not apply to uniformed service member dependents.

The parent shall be notified in writing whether the student's application has been accepted or rejected within fifteen (15) days of the receipt of the application~~.~~ by:

a. The District superintendent for students transferring within the District; or
b. The superintendent of the nonresident district for student's transferring to a nonresident district.

A student's transfer under the Uniformed Services Member Dependent School Choice is effective immediately upon the written notification of an acceptance.

A student shall be permitted only one (1) school transfer per academic year.

A student's parent shall be responsible for transportation of the student.

Unsafe School Choice Program

Any student that becomes the victim of a violent criminal offense while in or on the grounds of a District school or who is attending a school classified by DESE as a persistently dangerous public school shall be allowed to attend a safe public school within the District.

TRANSFER STUDENTS PROCEDURES

The Mulberry/Pleasant View Bi-County School District shall place transfer students as follows:

Accredited Schools:

(1) Transfer students from any public school in the state of Arkansas will be given credit for any and all course work completed at a rate of one credit for each transferred.

(2) Out-of-state transfer students will have their transcripts evaluated course rigor and consistency with Arkansas curricular standards and graduation requirements. The evaluative process will be completed by the Counselor and/or Principal. The student will be placed according to the findings of the evaluation. If placement cannot be completed through an evaluation of the student's transcript, testing , using semester tests from the core areas of study as well as other areas as deemed appropriate by the administration will be administered and student(s) will be placed according to the outcome of the testing procedure.

Non-traditional, Non-accredited and Home Schools:

(1) Students entering from a school not accredited by the State Department of Education and/or the North Central Association will be evaluated and placed by the building principal and counselor according to the following standards:

Grades Pre K-8:

The building principal and counselor will evaluate all available relevant information to determine appropriate placement. Academic placement may be modified based upon actual student performance.

Grade 9-12:

The building principal and counselor will administer appropriate academic testing to determine the amount of credit students will receive in specified academic disciplines. Tests will be constructed by appropriate curriculum council. The degree of credit will be based upon the level of mastery demonstrated in each academic area or subject area.

(2) Students in Arkansas have the right per Act 42 (Home School) to receive instruction via the home schooling setting. In the event that a home school student chooses to seek credit toward graduation from the Mulberry/Pleasant View By-County School District the following procedures will be employed to make appropriate placement or determination:

Grades Pre K-8:

The building principal and counselor will evaluate all available relevant information to determine appropriate placement. General achievement testing will be administered to students as an additional determining factor with regard to grade placement. Students who have participated in the Arkansas ACTAAP testing may in some circumstances submit certified test results in lieu of achievement testing. Student performance on ACTAAP testing will always be a determining factor with regard to placement. Academic placement may be modified based upon actual student performance.

Grade 9-12:

The building principal and counselor will administer appropriate academic testing to determine the amount of credit students will receive in specified academic disciplines. Tests will be constructed by appropriate curriculum councils and administered in each academic areas or subject areas. Students the perform proficient will be issued credit for appropriate courses.

Re-entering Students:

Students re-entering the public school from home school will provide evidence that an approved application is on file with the State. Local school districts where the original application was filed will have a copy of the applications on file if necessary. Students will provide information regarding academic achievement and/or course work completed. The building principal and counselor will evaluate all pertinent information submitted as well as results of appropriate academic and/or achievement testing to determine grade placement. Placement may be modified based upon student performance.

STUDENT TRANSFERS – 4.4

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.

Any student(s) who reside in the district, but has not attended the Mulberry Pleasant View Bi-County School District for at least one (1) full academic year for eligibility for the Succeed Scholarship Program will not be granted a waiver Pursuant to Ark. Code Ann. § 6-41-802(a)(1).

HOME SCHOOLING – 4.6

Enrollment in Home School
Parents or legal guardians desiring to provide a home school for their children shall give written notice to the Superintendent of their intent to home school. The notice shall be given:

1. At the beginning of each school year, but no later than August 15;
2. Five (5) school days prior to withdrawing the child (provided the student is not currently under disciplinary action for violation of any written school policy, including, but not limited to, excessive absences) and at the beginning of each school year thereafter; or
3. Within thirty (30) calendar days of the parent or legal guardian establishing residency within the district during the school year.

Written notice of the parent or legal guardian's intent to home school shall be delivered to the Superintendent through any of the following methods:

- Electronically, including without limitation by;
- Use of the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education's (DESE) online system;
- Email; or
- Facsimile;
- By mail; or
- In person.

The notice shall include:

a. The name, sex, date of birth, grade level, and the name and address of the school last attended, if any;
b. The mailing address and telephone number of the home school;
c. The name of the parent or legal guardian providing the home school;
d. Indicate if the home-schooled student intends to participate in extracurricular activities during the school year;
e. A statement of whether the home-schooled student plans to seek a high school equivalency diploma during the current school year;

f. A statement that the parent or legal guardian agrees that the parent or legal guardian is responsible for the education of their children during the time the parents or legal guardians choose to home school; and
g. A signature of the parent or legal guardian.

To aid the District in providing a free and appropriate public education to students in need of special education services, the parents or legal guardians home-schooling their children shall provide information that might indicate the need for special education services.

A student who has been temporarily issued items, resources, supplies, materials, or other property belonging to the District is eligible for enrollment in a home school during the school year after:

- The items, resources, supplies, materials, or other property belonging to the District have been returned to the District;
- The items, resources, supplies, materials, or other property belonging to the District have been paid for; or
- The semester has ended.

The superintendent or the board of directors may waive the required five (5) school day waiting period for a student's enrollment in home school during a semester if the superintendent or the board of directors is satisfied with the return of temporarily issued items, resources, supplies, materials, or other District property.

Enrollment or Re-Enrollment in Public School

A home-schooled student who wishes to enroll or re-enroll in a District school shall submit:

- A transcript listing all courses taken and semester grades from the home school;
- Score of at least the thirtieth percentile on a nationally recognized norm-referenced assessment taken in the past year; and
- A portfolio of indicators of the home-schooled student's academic progress, including without limitation:
  - Curricula used in the home school;
  - Tests taken and lessons completed by the home-schooled student; and
  - Other indicators of the home-schooled student's academic progress.

If a home-schooled student is unable to provide a nationally recognized norm-referenced score, the District may either assess the student using a nationally recognized norm-referenced assessment or waive the requirement for a nationally recognized norm-referenced assessment score.

A home-schooled student who enrolls or re-enrolls in the District will be placed at a grade level and academic course level equivalent to or higher than the home-schooled student's grade level and academic course level in the home school:

1. As indicated by the documentation submitted by the home-schooled student;
2. By mutual agreement between the public school and the home-schooled student's parent or legal guardian; or
3. If the home-schooled student fails to provide the documentation required by this policy, with the exception of the nationally recognized norm-referenced assessment score, the District may have sole authority to determine the home-schooled student's grade placement and course credits. The District will determine the home-schooled student's grade placement and course credits in the same manner the District uses when determining grade placement and course credits for students enrolling or re-enrolling in the District who attended another public or private school.

The District shall afford a home-schooled student who enrolls or re-enrolls in a public school the same rights and privileges enjoyed by the District's other students. The District shall not deny a home-schooled student who enrolls or re-enrolls in the District any of the following on the basis of the student having attended a home school:

a. Award of course credits earned in the home school;
b. Placement in the proper grade level and promotion to the next grade level;
c. Participation in any academic or extracurricular activity;
d. Membership in school-sponsored clubs, associations, or organizations;
e. A diploma or graduation, so long as the student has enrolled or re-enrolled in the District to attend classes for at least the nine (9) months immediately prior to graduation; or
f. Scholarships.

ACADEMIC COURSE ATTENDANCE BY PRIVATE SCHOOL AND HOME SCHOOL STUDENTS – 4.59

The District allows private school and home schooled students whose parents, legal guardians, or other responsible adult with whom the student resides are residents of the District to attend academic courses offered By the District. The District will place a list of courses that a private school or home school student may request to attend on its website by:

1. June 1 for courses to be offered during the Fall semester; and
2. November 1 for courses to be offered during the Spring semester.

A private school or home schooled student who desires to attend one or more of the available academic courses shall submit a written request to attend the academic course(s) to the superintendent, or designee, no later than:

a. August 1 for Fall semester courses; or
b. December 1 for Spring semester courses.

The superintendent, or designee, is authorized to waive the application deadline on a case by case basis.

The District permits a private school or home schooled student to attend a maximum of six (6) courses per semester.
The District may reject a private school or home school student's request for attendance if the District's acceptance would:

- Require the addition of staff or classrooms;
- Exceed the capacity of a program, class, grade level, or school building;
- Cost the District more for the student to attend the academic course than the District receives for the student's attendance;
- Cause the District to provide educational services the District does not currently provide at a financial burden to the District; or
- Cause the District to be out of compliance with applicable laws and regulations regarding desegregation.

Requests to attend an academic course will be granted in the order the requests are received. Upon the receipt of a private or home school student's request to attend academic course(s), the District will date and time stamp the request for attendance. If a private school or home school student is denied attendance based on a lack of capacity and an opening in the requested course occurs prior to the start of the course, the District will use the date and time stamp on the request for attendance to determine the private school or home school student who will be notified of an opening in the requested course.

As part of the request to attend academic courses in the District, a private school or home school student shall:

- Indicate the course(s) the private schooled or home school student is interested in attending;
- If the course(s) the private school or home schooled student is interested in attending is being offered by the District in both a physical and a digital format, whether the private school or home school student intends to attend the physical course or the digital course;
    - Submit, along with the student's application, a copy of the student's transcript indicating that the student has received credit for the course(s), or equivalent course(s), that are a prerequisite to the course(s) the student desires to attend at the District;
- Agree to follow the District's discipline policies; and
- Submit immunization documentation required by Policy 4.57—IMMUNIZATIONS.

A private school or home schooled student who fails to attend an academic course by the eleventh (11) day of class or who is absent without excuse for eleven (11) consecutive days during the semester shall be dropped from the course; however, a private school or home schooled student shall not be considered truant for unexcused absences from the course(s) the student is attending at the District.

Private school or home schooled students shall receive a final grade and transcript for each academic course the student completes.

The responsibility for transportation of any private school or home school student attending academic courses in the District shall be borne by the student or the student's parents.

The opportunity provided to home school students under this policy is in addition to the opportunity provided in Policy 4.56.2—EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITY ELIGIBILITY FOR HOME SCHOOLED STUDENTS.

COMPULSORY ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENTS – 4.3

Every parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of the child, or person standing in loco parentis of any child age five (5) through seventeen (17) years on or before August 1 of that year who resides, as defined by policy (4.1—RESIDENCE REQUIREMENTS), within the District shall enroll the child and ensure the attendance of the child at a District school with the following exceptions.

1. The child is enrolled in private or parochial school.
2. The child is being home-schooled and the conditions of policy (4.6—HOME SCHOOLING) have been met.
3. The child will not be age six (6) on or before August 1 of that particular school year and the parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of the child, or person standing in loco parentis of the child elects not to have the child attend kindergarten. A kindergarten wavier form prescribed by regulation of the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education must be signed and on file with the District administrative office.
4. The child has received a high school diploma, G.E.D., or its equivalent as determined by the State Board of Education.
5. The child is age sixteen (16) or above and is enrolled in a post-secondary vocational-technical institution, a community college, or a two-year or four-year institution of higher education.
6. The child is age sixteen (16) or seventeen (17) and has met the requirements to enroll in an adult education program as defined by A.C.A. § 6-18-201 (b).

Procedures for Attendance

Regular class attendance is essential for a student to achieve to the best of his/her ability. A student in grades K-12 will be counted a ½ day absence if checked in to school after 9:00 a.m. or is checked out before 3:00 p.m. When a student in grades 7-12th is absent from school, he/she must visit the Principal's office, before school, to obtain an admission slip. Written excuses from the parents will be required for each day absent. All notes must be in the Principal's office on the day of the student's return to school. Students must provide a medical note or an acceptable professional justification upon being absent from school for three (3) or more consecutive days. Students in grades 7-12 must not be absent more than half the class in order to obtain credit for class attendance.

Fifteen (15) days of absences are considered excessive and may result in a failing grade in the class; the principal may determine that there are circumstances which would justify the waiving of this regulation. All cases determined by the principal for consideration of waiver shall be submitted to the superintendent and Board for final determination. After the 7th absence, the principal shall contact the parents to set up a conference to discuss the absence problem. If the principal is already aware of the excuse, he/she may waive this regulation. Upon notification of the fifteenth absence, parents and the student must appear before the school's attendance committee within five (5) days. If parents and student fail to appear at the attendance committee meeting , the prosecuting attorney will be contacted as prescribed by Act 473 of 1989. Act 473 of 1989 states that whenever the student exceeds the number of absences as provided by the policy, the student's parents shall be subject to civil penalty up to $500 plus court costs and any other reasonable fees as assessed by the court. Attendance committee decisions may be appealed to the Superintendent.

It is the intent of the Board to promote the educational process by requiring a full day of school for all students. Students are required to attend a full day of school, with the exception of seniors who have met requirements as set by Arkansas Code and Board Policy. Seniors may leave with the following: 1) with permission of parents, 2) verification of a job or need, and 3) have credits and classes that are required to graduate. Seniors may leave if proof of concurrent enrollment in an accredited institution of higher learning. Grades must be maintained at all times or the right to leave school may be revoked. The right to leave school may be revoked if seniors have ten (10) tardies to school and/or ten (10) absences to school within a semester.

Mandatory Attendance Waiver

Students may be granted waivers from the mandatory attendance requirements if they would experience proven financial hardships if required to attend a full day of school. For the purpose of this policy, proven financial hardships is defined as harm or suffering caused by a student's inability to obtain or provide basic life necessities of food, clothing, and shelter for the student or the student's family. The superintendent or designee shall have the authority to grant such a waiver.

CLOSED CAMPUS – 4.10

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.

College Days -A student designated as a Senior will be allowed two college visit days per school year. Documentation of attendance will be required.
Consequences: Excessive absenteeism may result in retention or loss of credit.

TRUANCY

Truancy is defined as the following: not attending school after leaving home to do so; leaving school without permission of the office; not attending a class the student is enrolled in without a legitimate pass to do so; and leaving class without permission. Each day of truancy will count as one of the 10 allowed absences per semester. Using a forged note will also constitute truancy.

Consequences: A student who has been truant will be assigned to in-school suspension one (1) day for each offense of truancy up to a maximum of ten days.

REGULAR ATTENDANCE

Grades K-12

To ensure the student's benefit of regular attendance, the Mulberry/Pleasant View Schools permit no more than a total of fifteen (15) days per semester for excused/unexcused absences. Please note the following steps:

- Three (3) days of absences per semester (excused (ie: Parent Call In), unexcused, or a combination of both) will result in a letter sent to the parents explaining the absentee policy of the school.
- Five (5) days of absences per semester (excused (ie: Parent Call In), unexcused, or a combination of both) will result in a letter sent to the parents explaining the absentee policy of the school.
- Students exceeding seven (7) days of absences per semester (excused (ie: Parent Call In), unexcused, or a combination of both) will result in the school notifying the Prosecuting Attorney at the discretion of the principal.
- In order for an absence to be counted as medical, a student must have a doctor's note upon returning to school from an absence otherwise the absence may be counted as excused or unexcused.
- After ten (10) days of absences (excused (ie: Parent Call In), unexcused, or a combination of both), a student's absences or the absence will be considered unexcused.
- If a student misses fifteen (15) days in a semester (excused, unexcused, or a combination of both), the student will appear before the school's attendance committee unless there are documented medical reasons for the student to have excessive absences. This committee will decide if credit for the class or classes should be awarded. A student can be denied credit for a class or classes based upon absences. The attendance committee will be comprised of the principal, counselor, and two (2) of the core academic class teachers. Fifteen (15) absences (excused (ie: Parent Call In) , unexcused, or a combination of both) may be viewed as excessive.
- Attendance Committee decisions may be appealed to the Superintendent.
- Superintendent decisions may be appealed to the Board of Education.

All inquiries about the Regular Attendance procedures will revert back to school board policy.

A certificate of perfect attendance and fifty (50) dollars will be given to each student with perfect attendance for the year.

ABSENCES – 4.7

If any student's Individual Education Program (IEP) or 504 Plan conflicts with this policy, the requirements of the student's IEP or 504 Plan take precedence.

Education is more than the grades students receive in their courses. Important as that is, students' regular attendance at school, whether in person or digitally, is essential to their social and cultural development and helps prepare them to accept responsibilities

they will face as an adult. Interactions with other students and participation in the instruction within the classroom enrich the learning environment and promote a continuity of instruction which results in higher student achievement.

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

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 reasons

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; or
7. Participation in an FFA, FHA, or 4-H sanctioned activity;
8. Participation in the election poll workers program for high school students.
9. Absences granted to allow a student to visit his/her parent or legal guardian who is a member of the military and been called to active duty, is on leave from active duty, or has returned from deployment to a combat zone or combat support posting. The number of additional excused absences shall be at the discretion of the superintendent or designee.
10. Absences granted, at the Superintendent's discretion, to seventeen (17) year-old students who join the Arkansas National Guard while in eleventh grade to complete basic combat training between grades eleven (11) and (12)
11. Absences for students excluded from school by the Arkansas Department of Health during a disease outbreak because the student has an immunization wavier or whose immunizations are not up to date.
12. Absences due to conditions related to pregnancy or parenting, including without limitation:
    - Labor, delivery, and recovery;
    - Prenatal and postnatal medical appointments and other medically necessary, pregnancy-related absences;
    - The illness or medical appointment of a child belonging to a parent who is enrolled at a District school;
    - A legal appointment related to pregnancy or parenting, including without limitation:
        - Adoption;
        - Custody; and
        - Visitation;
    - A reasonable amount of time to accommodate a lactating student's need to express breast milk or to breastfeed the student's child on the District's campus; and
    - At least ten (10) school days of absences for both a parenting mother and a parenting father after the birth of a child.
13. Absences for a student who is the child of a fallen service member or fallen first responder:
    - Due to a mental health concern; or
    - To attend an event from a sponsoring organization that provides support to families of fallen service members or first responders or provides support for traumatic loss, grief, or resiliency.
14. Upon the written consent of a student's parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of the student, or person standing in loco parentis to the student, the District shall grant an excused absence for the following purposes:
    - Social or public policy advocacy; or
    - Attempts to influence legislation or other governmental policy-making at the local, state, or federal level.

Students who serve as pages for a member of the General Assembly shall be considered on instructional assignment and shall not be considered absent from school for the day the student is serving as a page.

Up to one (1) time during each scheduled election, a student shall not be considered absent from school for the time the student accompanies the student's parent when the parent is exercising the parent's right to vote in a scheduled election.

In order for the absence to be considered excused, the student must:

a. Bring a written statement to the principal or designee upon the student's return to school from the student's parent, legal guardian, or treating physician stating the reason for the student's absence;

b. If the student is attending the District's courses digitally, upload a written statement from the student's parent, ~~or~~ legal guardian, or treating physician stating the reason for the student's absence through the District's digital course management platform for review by the principal or designee~~.~~; or

c. Provide documentation as proof of a student's participation in an activity or program scheduled and approved by the 4-H program that is provided by a 4-H county extension agent, 4-H educator, or other appropriate entity associated with the 4-H activity or program; or

d. The student's parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of the student, or person standing in loco parentis to the student provides written documentation that the student's absence is to attend an event from a sponsoring organization that:
    - Provides support to families of fallen service members or first responders or provides support for traumatic loss, grief, or resiliency; and
        - May be verified as an organization that provides support to the military and first responder community by reviewing the Resources Page for Military Family Engagement on the Department of Education website.

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.

A student shall not be eligible to receive an excused absence for #13 above if:

- The student is not in good academic standing;
- The student does not have a prior record of good attendance; or
- The absence occurs during a date on which standardized testing is administered.

The District shall annually provide a report by June 30 to the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education that contains the following:

- The number of absences requested under number 14;
- The number of absences granted under number 14; and
- The stated purposes of the absence.

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, the student's treating physician, or a 4-H county extension agent, 4-H educator, or other appropriate entity associated with the 4-H activity or program; 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 fifteen (15) 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 three (3) 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 by the end of the school day in which such absence occurred or by regular mail with a return address sent no later than the following school day.

Whenever a student exceeds ten (10) 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.

It is the Arkansas General Assembly's intention that students having excessive absences be given assistance in obtaining credit for their courses. Therefore, at any time prior to when a student exceeds the number of unexcused absences permitted by this policy, the student, or his/her parent, legal guardian, person with lawful control of the student or person standing in loco parentis may petition the school or district's administration for special arrangements to address the student's unexcused absences. If formal arrangements are granted, they shall be formalized into a written agreement which will include the conditions of the agreement and the consequences for failing to fulfill the agreement's requirements. The agreement shall be signed by the student, the student's parent, guardian, or person in loco parentis, and the school or district administrator or designee.

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.

The District shall notify the Department of Finance and Administration whenever a student fourteen (14) years of age or older is no longer in school. The Department of Finance and Administration is required to suspend the former student's operator's license unless the former student meets certain requirements specified in the statute.

Applicants for an instruction permit or for a driver's license by persons less than eighteen (18) years old on October 1 of any year are required to provide proof of a high school diploma or enrollment and regular attendance in an adult education program or a public, private, or parochial school prior to receiving an instruction permit. To be issued a driver's license, a student enrolled in school shall present proof of a "C" average for the previous semester or similar equivalent grading period for which grades are reported as part of the student's permanent record.

TARDIES – 4.9

Promptness is an important character trait that District staff is to encourage, to model and help develop in our schools' students. At the same time, promptness is the responsibility of each student. Students who are late to class show a disregard for both the teacher and their classmates which compromises potential student achievement.

PROCEDURES FOR TARDIES

The District believes students should learn to be punctual. There are instances where tardies cannot be helped. The policy will allow for this, but chronic tardiness will not be acceptable. Tardies will be handled in the following manner: If a student misses half a class they will be counted absent. If a student misses less than half a class, they will be counted tardy. A tardy can either be excused or unexcused. An excused tardy is one where the tardy is the school's fault. An unexcused tardy is one that is not the school's fault.

Consequences for grades 7-12:
Three unexcused tardies in any class will warrant assignment to detention hall.

Consequences for grades K-12:
Six (6) morning tardies or early checkouts will be considered excessive and will result in one day of absence from school. If your child comes to school after 7:45 a.m., he/she must be checked in at the office and will be considered tardy. If a child checks in after 9:00 a.m., he/she will be considered absent ½ day. Parents are asked to sign in late students and sign out students leaving early in the office. If your child checks out before 3:00 p.m., he/she will be considered absent for ½ day. If a child checks out between 3:00 p.m. and 4:05 p.m., he/she will be considered early checkout.

AWARDS- ACADEMIC

Academic achievement awards will be given to students at the end of the year. In order to give end of the year awards, a cut-off date will be used. The date will be three weeks prior to the end of the school year.

A certificate of perfect attendance and fifty (50) dollars will be given to each student with perfect attendance for the year. A certificate of award will be awarded to all students in K-12 that make a 3.00 average for the first three (3) grading periods of the

school year. Grades 9-12 must be working toward completion of core curriculum classes (as outlined in State Department Guidelines)

Honor graduates will be recognized at the commencement exercises. Faculty members will award paper awards to the top student (s) for each class. One medal will be given for each department at the Sr. High Level. Medals will be awarded in the following areas: English, Math, Science, Social Studies, Health, Physical Education, Journalism, Yearbook, Foreign Language, Speech, Agriculture, Family and Consumer Sciences, Business, Art, Music, and Drama. Faculty members will make written nomination for an Outstanding Senior Girl and Boy.

AWARDS- STUDENT RECOGNITION

These awards will be given out periodically by staff, students, and teachers during school hours or at assemblies, throughout the year. **OUTSTANDING SENIORS -** An Outstanding Senior Boy and Outstanding Senior Girl will be chosen by the faculty based on leadership, morals, and academics.

BACKPACKS

Backpacks may be allowed to carry items to and from school. Depending on each school buildings guidelines, backpacks must be kept in lockers during the day or with the student. Backpacks are not to be left in the hall except where permitted, top of the lockers, top of shelves, or in the office unless prior permission has been given by the building principal. The Superintendent, principals, and their designees have the right to inspect and search students and their personal property. See Search, Seizure, and Interrogations Policy 4.32

BUS CONDUCT

CONDUCT TO AND FROM SCHOOL AND TRANSPORTATION ELIGIBILITY – 4.19

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 behaviors. Transporting students to and from school who have lost their bus transportation privileges shall become the responsibility of the student's parent or legal guardian.

Students are eligible to receive district bus transportation if they meet the following requirements.

SCHOOL BUS PROCEDURES

Students are subject to school authority while on buses. The driver is in charge of the bus and is to be respected and obeyed the same as a teacher. If a student is reported to the principal for misconduct on the bus, he or she will be disciplined the same as being reported to the office by a teacher for his or her misconduct in a class room.

Buses will load and unload in designated areas. Hence, students will find their bus loading in the same place each day.
Students who ride the bus from one campus to another campus, must ride the bus they are assigned to every day.

Students riding the bus to extracurricular activities are expected to ride the bus back from the activity to a designated area chosen by the sponsor in order to accommodate parents or to the school, unless the bus driver or sponsor has a signed release from the parent/ guardian at the site of the activity of the student involved.

Proper bus behavior includes, but is not limited to the following:

1. Be at the bus stop at the scheduled time. Stand about ten feet from the stop and wait until the door is opened before moving closer to the bus. Do not play on the road or highway.
2. While waiting for the bus, students must remain in a safe place away from traffic. If you miss the bus, do not attempt to hitchhike or walk to or from school.
3. While loading or unloading, enter and leave the bus in an orderly and quick manner.
4. Students are expected to conduct themselves in a manner such that they do not distract the attention of their driver or disturb other riders. This includes keeping your hands to yourself, attending to your own business matters, letting other students alone, and being reasonably quiet.
5. Knives, sharp object, firearms, nor weapons of any kind are permitted on buses. Act 1282 of 1999. Pets and live animals are not to be transported on buses.
6. Do not tamper with any safety features of the bus, such as door latches, fire extinguishers, etc.
7. Students are not to put hands, arms, head, or bodies out of the windows. Do not yell at anyone outside the bus.
8. Students must remain seated while the bus is in motion.
9. When the bus is stopped, students should remain seated unless they are entering or exiting the bus, or upon the direction of the driver.
10. Students are not to deface the bus or any school property, by writing upon or damaging seats, littering, eating, or using/ possessing tobacco. Keep the aisle clear of books, lunches, coats, and feet.
11. Students will be delivered to their designated stop unless a written request to do otherwise is received from a parent.
12. If you must cross the road or highway to enter the bus, always try to be on the right side of the road waiting for the bus. If you should arrive at the stop just as the bus approaches the stop, wait until the driver has signaled for you to cross in front of the bus, unless the driver directs you differently.
13. Students, who must cross the road after leaving the bus in the afternoon, must go to a point on the shoulder of the road ten (10) feet in front of the bus. Cross the road only after the driver or student patrol has signaled you to proceed.
14. Students are not permitted to ride any bus except their own unless a written request to ride a different bus is received from a parent.
15. Visitors are only allowed to ride a bus other than their own when permission has been granted, or in case of an emergency.
16. This list is not intended to be exhaustive. The driver may find it necessary to interpret these policies in light of his/ her particular needs.

It is a privilege, not a right, to ride a bus to school.

Consequences of violating bus procedures:

Minimum: Warning
1st Offense – Parental Notification, Warning
2nd Offense – Parental Notification, 1 day off bus
3rd Offense – Parental Notification, 3 days off bus
4th Offense – Parental Notification, 5 days off bus
5th Offense – Parental Notification, 10 days off bus
6th Offense – Parental Notification, Student will be off the bus for the rest of the semester
Maximum: Recommendation for expulsion

Student misbehavior on the bus may warrant further disciplinary action at the discretion of the administration for extreme circumstances such as; destruction of school property, fighting, alcohol or drug use, etc….

School Bus Seating For Extracurricular Activities

With the exception of regular school bus routes which transport students from home to school and back home, on all trips in which students ride school buses, (including field trips, athletic trips, etc.) female students are to sit toward the front of the bus and male students are to sit toward the back. Sponsors and/ or coaches are to be distributed throughout the students. It is the sponsor's/ coach's responsibility to ensure this procedures are followed. It is also the sponsor's discretion to rotate which group is in front or back.

The superintendent or his/her designee(s) shall annually establish the routes and may modify them as needed.
The superintendent or his/her designee(s) shall establish snow routes during inclement weather.

CHALLENGE OF INSTRUCTIONAL/SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS – 5.6

Definitions

"Curriculum" means: the sequences of public school student learning expectations, pacing, materials, and resources that are used to teach the Arkansas academic standards and the processes for evaluating mastery of the Arkansas academic standards at particular points in time throughout the kindergarten through grade twelve (K-12) educational program.

"Gender identity" means the same as is used in the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, Fifth Edition, which defines it as a category of social identity and refers to an individual's identification as male, female, or, occasionally, some category other than male or female.

"Instructional material" means instructional content that is provided to a public school student, regardless of its format, that includes without limitation printed or representational materials, audio-visual materials, and materials in electronic or digital format, such as materials accessible through the internet; however, Instructional material does not include academic tests or academic assessments.

"Sexual orientation" means an individual's actual or perceived orientation as heterosexual, homosexual, or bisexual.

Instructional and supplemental materials, including classroom events or activities associated with classroom instruction, 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, including classroom events or activities associated with classroom instruction, 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.

Following the conclusion of the meeting, the principal shall have five (5) working days to submit a summary of the concerns expressed by the individual and the principal's response to those concerns to the Superintendent.

If the contesting individual is not satisfied with the principal's response, the individual may, after the five (5) working day period, request a meeting with the Superintendent where the individual shall present the same *Challenge to Instructional Material* form previously presented to the principal. The Superintendent 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.

Following the conclusion of the meeting, the Superintendent shall have five (5) working days to write a summary of the concerns expressed by the individual and the Superintendent's response to those concerns. The Superintendent shall create a file of his/her response along with a copy of the principal's response and a copy of the contesting individual's *Challenge to Instructional Material* form.

If, after meeting with the Superintendent, the contesting individual is not satisfied with the Superintendent's response regarding the appropriateness of the instructional or supplemental material, he/she may appeal the Superintendent's decision to the Board. The Superintendent shall present the contesting individual's *Challenge to Instructional Material* form to the Board at the next regularly scheduled meeting along with

the written responses to the challenge. The Board may elect, if it so chooses, to hear brief verbal presentations from the parties involved in the challenge.

The Board shall decide at that meeting or their next regularly scheduled meeting whether to retain the material, limit the availability of the material, or remove the material from the school. The Board's primary consideration in reaching its decision shall be if the instructional and supplemental materials, including classroom events or activities associated with classroom instruction, are:

- Misleading;
- Factually inaccurate; or
- Otherwise inappropriate for the intended educational use.

In addition to the notification requirements under Policy 5.5 and all other challenge rights under this policy, parents and legal guardians may opt their students out of any of the following by submission of form 5.6F2 regardless of whether any of the listed items are offered as part of a sex education class or program or as part of any other class, activity, or program except when the item is directly related to a requirement under the Arkansas academic standards; a District employee is responding to questions posed by students during class regarding sex education, sexual orientation, or gender identity as it relates to a topic of instruction; or a District employee refers to the sexual orientation or gender identity of a historical person, group, or public figure when such information provides necessary context in relation to a topic of instruction:

a. Curricula;
b. Materials;
c. Tests;
d. Surveys;
e. Questionnaires;
f. Activities; and
g. Instruction of any kind.

Students who are excused under this policy from participating in any or all portions of items A-G above shall not be penalized for grading purposes if the student satisfactorily performs alternative lessons related to health.

The same notification requirements and opt out options as above for gender identity and sexual orientation shall apply to the sexual abuse and assault and human trafficking prevention education the District provides to students.
The rights provided to parents under this policy transfer to the student when the student turns eighteen (18) years old.

CHECK-OUT AND CHECK-IN PROCEDURES

Students are required to use the proper procedure for arriving at campus and leaving campus. Students are not allowed to leave campus at any time during the school day without permission from the school office or a parent/guardian signing them out. A student in high school may sign himself/herself out only if his/her parent or guardian has spoken with an authorized staff member. A student in grades K-12 will be counted a ½ day absence if checked in to school after 9:00 a.m. or is checked out before 3:00 p.m.

Students will follow these procedures:

A. Check-Out Procedures
    1. Students must have a note signed by their parent or guardian with a current contact number.
    2. Note must be presented to administration for approval before first bells rings.
    3. Students will checkout with the office or an administrator and sign the checkout sheet before leaving campus.

B. Check-In Procedures
    1. Students will check-in with the office or an administrator before going to class.

CLOSED CAMPUS – 4.10

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.

COMPLAINTS AND GRIEVANCES

(Chain of Command)

Any person who feels aggrieved concerning any matter connected with the school should bring their complaint to a teacher and if no satisfaction is received, the matter should be brought to the principal. If the principal does not satisfactorily resolve the complaint, then it goes to the superintendent, and finally, the Board of Education.

The complaint to the Mulberry/Pleasant View Bi-County School Board must be in writing with a signature.

COMPUTER USE/PROCEDURES

These rules and regulation will be followed at all times. The computers will be used for assigned research, viewing email, and limited personal research.

Procedures:
1. The home page must be set to the School home page.
2. Students must follow the "Sign-In" procedures when using the computer.

The following will **NOT** be allowed:

- Games of any kind; chat room; Internet mail (including Yahoo, Hot Mail, etc.)
- Personal disks, CDs or headphones unless approved by teacher.
- Viewing or printing of articles, song lyrics, pictures, etc., that contain suggestive, objectionable language/graphics.
- Printing except for class work.
- Logging in using someone else's name and password.
- Altering or changing of computer settings or programs

Authorized district personnel will determine inappropriate use of the district's computer system and/or Internet. "Zero tolerance" will be used against any user who chooses to use the system or Internet inappropriately. The district reserves the right to deny, revoke, or suspend computer use of any user not complying with the district's policy or procedures. The ASBA STUDENT ELECTRONIC DEVICE and INTERNET USE AGREEMENT form found in the back of this handbook must be filled out and turned in to the office.

INTERNET SAFETY and ELECTRONIC DEVICE USE POLICY – 4.29

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 including, but not limited to:

- interacting with other individuals on social networking websites and in chat rooms;
- Cyberbullying awareness; and
- Cyberbullying response.

It is all staff members' responsibility to educate students about appropriate online behavior, including interactions with other individuals on social networking sites/chat rooms, and cyber bullying awareness and 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.

DRIVING PERMIT / LICENSE FORM

Students of the appropriate age in Jr. High and High School must present proof of a "C" average for the last semester grading period to request an official transcript to present to an Arkansas State Police Driver Services Testing Center.

EMERGENCY DRILLS

The Mulberry/Pleasant View Bi-County School District has adopted a number of procedures that are designed to specify actions to be followed during specified emergency conditions. Drills will be conducted randomly once a month throughout the school year to familiarize students and staff members with appropriate procedures. Signals for drills:

FIRE …… Fire Alarm Horns
TORNADO/INCLEMENT WEATHER…….. 3 SHORT RINGS
ALL CLEAR…….. 1 SHORT RING

FIRE DRILLS

Fire drills will be conducted monthly. All buildings will be cleared and checked by fire marshals. Each building is expected to be cleared in fewer than ninety (90) seconds. The following is a list of conditions that will be maintained during a fire drill:

- The emergency horns will sound.
- All doors and windows to all rooms must be closed.
- All lights and electrical equipment must be turned off.
- Teachers will carry their roll book and accompany students to the designated safe area.
- Students will exit the building in an orderly manner and will conduct themselves appropriately during the drill.
- All clear bell will ring to notify teachers and students when to return to the classroom.
- Students will return directly to the classroom in an orderly and quiet manner.

TORNADO DRILL

The following is the procedure that is to be followed during a tornado or extreme inclement weather emergency drill:

- The emergency bells will ring. Three (3) short bell rings will signify a tornado/inclement weather drill.
- Teachers will immediately move students to the designated safe areas.
- Teachers will move students into the safe rooms, hallways, or bathrooms. In areas where no halls or bathrooms are available, students should sit on the floor with their heads on their knees and hands on the back of the neck.
- An "All clear" message will be delivered to each group in their designated safe area when the drill is clear.

EMERGENCY DRILLS – 4.37

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 an lockdown drill at all schools in the District in collaboration with local law enforcement, medical professionals, fire department officials 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.

EQUAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY

Mulberry/Pleasant View Bi-County School District provides an equal educational opportunity for all students. Mulberry/Pleasant View Bi-County Public School District's nondiscriminatory policy is:

a. That no child will be discriminated against based upon race, color, gender, age, religion, or handicap (as defined in Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973). Mrs. Lisa Stearman is Mulberry/Pleasant View Bi-County School District's 504 Coordinator. She can be reached at 997-1363.
b. Anyone who feels that he/she has been discriminated against because of race, color, national origin, sex, age, handicap, or religion, may make an appointment with Mrs. Toni Hopkins, Equity Coordinator, weekdays from 8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Contact her at 997-1715.

EQUAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY – 4.11

No student in the Mulberry/Pleasant View Bi-County School District shall, be excluded from participation in, or denied the benefits of, or subjected to discrimination under any educational program or activity sponsored by the District on the basis of color, religion, national origin, sex, age, or disability. 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 the Federal Programs Coordinator, who may be reached at 424 Alma Avenue, Mulberry, AR. 72947, (479) 997-1715.

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.

EQUIPMENT/SCHOOL PROPERTY

Students are responsible for all uniforms and equipment issued to them. If lost or stolen, payment is to be made to the school before records will be released or credit given for academic work. School rules and consequences apply to damage, destruction, etc., of all school property and equipment.

FOOD SERVICES & GUIDELINES FOR STUDENTS

SCHOOL MEAL MODIFICATIONS – 4.50

Except for requests to receive "lactose free" milk, the district only provides modified meal components on menus to accommodate students with a disability. A parent/guardian wishing to request 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:

- 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[1] 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 submit a written request for their student to be provided "lactose free" milk. The parent's request is not required to be accompanied by a medical statement in order for it to be granted.

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.

Except for requests to receive "lactose free" milk, the district will not prepare meals outside the normal menu to accommodate a family's religious or personal health beliefs.

FOOD SERVICE PREPAYMENT – 4.51

Meal Charges

The District participates in Community Eligibility Program (CEP) and provides meals to all students at no charge. The District does not provide credit for students to charge for a la carte or other food and beverage items available for purchase in the school food service areas. A la carte or other food and beverage items may be purchased by either providing payment for the items at the time of receipt or by having a prepaid account with the District that may be charged for the items. Parents, or students choosing to do so, may pay in advance for a la carte or other food and beverage items through any of the following methods:

- Submitting cash or check payment to Mulberry/Pleasant View Bi-County School District;
- Depositing funds through the District's online service;

Free Breakfast

In accordance with A.C.A. § 6-18-722, a student shall be provided one (1) breakfast at no cost during each school day upon the student's request regardless of whether the student qualifies for a federally funded free or reduced-price meal.

Alternative Meals

The District does not provide alternative meals for students.

COMMUNITY ELIGIBILITY PROVISION
SCHOOL YEAR 2026-2027

The Mulberry Pleasant View Bi County School District is pleased to announce the district will participate in the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) during the 2026-2027 school year providing meals, regardless of eligibility, at NO CHARGE for all students in the School Breakfast Program or National School Lunch Program. This is made possible through the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Special Assistance Certification and Reimbursement Community Eligibility Provision. All adults, e.g., visitors, teachers, support staff members, and administrators of the district must assume the full cost of the meal which is $3.00 for Breakfast and $5.00 for Lunch.

In the operation of child feeding programs, no child will be discriminated against because of race, sex, color, national origin, age, or disability.

Non-Discrimination Statement: This explains what to do if you believe you have been treated unfairly.
In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, disability, age, marital status, family/parental status, income derived from a public assistance program, political beliefs, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity, in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA (not all bases apply to all programs). Remedies and complaint filing deadlines vary by program or incident.

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

To file a program discrimination complaint, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, AD-3027, found online at How to File a Program Discrimination Complaint and at any USDA office or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by: (1) mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C.
20250-9410; (2) fax: (202) 690-7442; or (3) email: program.intake@usda.gov.

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

GUIDANCE SERVICES

Guidance services are offered to students to help them evaluate their aptitude, interests, and abilities and to work toward the achievement of their greatest potential. The service consists of the individual inventory, dissemination of educational and occupational information, educational and vocational placement follow-up, research, and evaluation. The emphasis of the program is the individual personal conference between Counselor and student. Other techniques used are surveys, test, interviews, visitation, and referrals to individuals and community resources.

HEALTH SERVICES – 5.18

The Board believes that healthy children promote a better learning environment, are more capable of high student achievement, and will result in healthier, more productive adults. Therefore, the goal of the District's health services is to promote a healthy student body. This requires both the education of students concerning healthy behaviors, as well as providing health care services to pupils.

The District shall develop an age-appropriate seizure education program for the District's students consistent with training programs and guidelines developed by the Epilepsy Foundation of America.

While the school nurse is under the supervision of the school principal, the delegation of health care duties shall be in accordance with the Arkansas Nurse Practice Act and the Arkansas State Board of Nursing Rules Chapter Five: Delegation of Nursing Care.

Annually, the information reported in the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education Health Services Survey shall be provided to the Board.

HEALTH POLICIES

Emergency Procedure:

- All emergencies are dealt with according to the School Health Services Program of the Arkansas Department of Education. If at all possible parents will be notified before the student is transported to an emergency medical facility.
    - ✓ All infectious diseases and/or contagious diseases are dealt with according to the School Health Services Program of the Arkansas Department of Education and in conjunction with the Crawford County Health Clinic and Franklin County Health Clinic.
    - ✓ **Immunization records** – All students are required to have all immunizations as specified by state law. Students are to be immunized in accordance with the Arkansas Department of Health Immunization Schedule against Poliomyelitis, Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis, Red Measles (rubella), and German Measles (Rubella). Failure to produce records within two weeks of date of entrance will require the student to begin an immunization program or be suspended from school.

First Aid Training:
Each school building has at least one person certified in first aid and at least two people certified in cardiopulmonary resuscitation. This is in addition to the school nurses.

Medications:

- Medications will be distributed according to the regulations required by the State Department of Education. Students will not be allowed to transport medication. All medications will be delivered to school by the parents in the original container. Parents will be responsible for bringing refills to the office. Students will not be sent home with containers for refills. A note will be sent home when the student's medications are almost gone. To reduce the number of trips to and from school, a larger supply of medication should be left at school. These guidelines will be strictly enforced. Your child will not be given medication at school unless it is brought to the school office by the parent and the appropriate paperwork is completed. Medication changes will only be accepted by a physician's note. Notes from parents concerning dosages changes will not be accepted.
- The Mulberry/Pleasant View Bi-County School District policy requires that all students be lice free and nit (egg) free to remain in school. Students will be checked by the school nurse for lice as needed. If lice are found, the parents will be notified by phone or in writing. The student will be allowed to return to school when he/she is free of lice and or nits. A parent or guardian must accompany the student to school for re-admittance to school. The parent's cooperation in checking and treating for lice is necessary to control further outbreaks at school.

SPECIAL HEALTH CARE NEEDS

Arkansas Act 1146 guidelines state that any school age child who has a "medically fragile condition in which the absence of immediate special health skill care threatens the life or health of the student, is required to have a health care plan. A medical protocol is required to ensure the student's safety. The condition is considered long term and unchanging overall. Anyone who has knowledge that a student may require a special health care plan should initiate a referral to the school principal or the special education supervisor.

According to the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, a free appropriate public education means the provision by the school district for special education and the related services that students need to make their schooling possible.

Related services must also include health services. In addition, there are students who require school health services who are not in need of special education. It is the responsibility of the school to provide school health services for these individuals as well.

In order to provide school health service which will enable these individuals to participate in the educational process, as well as better ensure the safety of all students and staff, the district has set forth administrative policies and procedures in accordance with Arkansas Act 1146. This act requires the management of children with special health care needs.

Although the terms "medical services" and "school health services" sound similar, they have very different meanings in the law. Medical services are defined as services that must be performed by a physician. Educational personnel should never perform these tasks. School health services are provided to permit a student to benefit from his or her educational program. School health services may include administering medication, performing clean, intermittent catheterization, suctioning tracheotomy tubes, providing tube feedings, diapering, or monitoring medical support systems. The school district will provide a particular health service when it is necessary to enable the student to attend school, can be performed by a school nurse or some other qualified person, is not unduly expensive, or does not require constant attention by a staff person. The administrative policies and procedures for the Mulberry /Pleasant View Bi-County School District regarding students with special health care needs address each of the following areas:

Provision of services/training of personnel	Transportation
Special administrative considerations	Right to privacy and health information
Medication	Infection control

Training of Personnel

To ensure the safety of students and staff, educational personnel who provide school health services must receive appropriate training and be supervised by a school nurse, as deemed necessary. The school nurse must document the training and any ongoing observation and/or supervision provided. Once the staff member(s) learns to provide the school health service, the procedure should be demonstrated in the presence of the school nurse at a proficiency level.

COMMUNICABLE DISEASES AND PARASITES – 4.34

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. After consultation with the principal, 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). 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.

To help control the possible spread of communicable diseases, school personnel shall follow the District's exposure control plan when dealing with any bloodborne, foodborne, and airborne pathogens exposures. Standard precautions shall be followed relating to the handling, disposal, and cleanup of blood and other potentially infectious materials such as all body fluids, secretions and excretions (except sweat).

In accordance with 4.57 – IMMUNIZATIONS, the District shall maintain a copy of each student's immunization record and a list of individuals with exemptions from immunization which shall be education records as defined in policy 4.13. That policy provides that an education record may be disclosed to appropriate parties in connection with an emergency if knowledge of the information is necessary to protect the health or safety of the student or other individuals.

A student enrolled in the District who has an immunization exemption may be removed from school at the discretion of the Arkansas Department of Health during an outbreak of the disease for which the student is not vaccinated. The student may not return to the school until the outbreak has been resolved and the student's return to school is approved by the Arkansas Department of Health.

The parents or legal guardians of students found to have live human host parasites that are transmittable in a school environment will be asked to pick their child up at the end of the school day. The parents or legal guardians will be given information concerning the eradication and control of human host parasites. A student may be readmitted after the school nurse or designee has determined the student no longer has live human host parasites that are transmittable in a school environment.

Each school may conduct screenings of students for human host parasites that are transmittable in a school environment as needed. The screenings shall be conducted in a manner that respects the privacy and confidentiality of each student.

Since head lice can be transferred from student to student, the student in question will not have bus-riding privileges until clearance from the school nurse has been given.

STUDENT ILLNESS/ACCIDENT – 4.36

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.

PROCEDURES FOR ILLNESS/ACCIDENT AT SCHOOL

Accidents to pupils on the school grounds or in the building are to be reported to the principal, or the superintendent. After the school nurse has evaluated the injuries, an ambulance/ physician will be called immediately if the seriousness demands it. Otherwise, only first aid treatment will be given at school and attempts will be made to notify parents.

Pupils who become ill at school should report the fact to a teacher, the principal, or the superintendent. Arrangements will be made to send the ill person home, if someone can come get the student. If the illness is minor, the student will be kept at school.

Neither the school nor the staff will assume financial responsibility for medical treatment in case of accident or illness.

All students will obtain information from the parents concerning the disposition which should be made in their case should they become ill or injured at school. They should be able to give teachers or the principal information that will facilitate contact with their parents, whether at home or work. They should also know their parent's preference of a doctor and hospital, as well as information concerning health and hospital insurance.

IMMUNIZATIONS – 4.57

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).

The District administration has the responsibility to evaluate the immunization status of District students. The District shall maintain a list of all students who are not fully age appropriately immunized or who have an exemption provided by ADH to the immunization requirements based on medical, religious, or philosophical grounds. Students who are not fully age appropriately immunized when seeking admittance shall be referred to a medical authority for consultation.

The only types of proof of immunization the District will accept are immunization records provided by a:

A. Licensed physician;
B. Health department;
C. Military service; or
D. Official record from another educational institution in Arkansas.

E. An immunization record printed off of the statewide immunization registry with the Official Seal of the State of Arkansas.

The proof of immunization must include the vaccine type and dates of vaccine administration. Documents stating "up-to-date", "complete", "adequate", and the like will not be accepted as proof of immunization. No self or parental history of varicella disease will be accepted as a history of varicella disease must be documented by a licensed physician, advanced practice nurse, doctor of osteopathy, or physician assistant. Valid proof of immunization and of immunity based on serological testing shall be entered into the student's record.

In order to continue attending classes in the District, the student must have submitted:

1) Proof of immunization showing the student to be fully age appropriately vaccinated;
2) Written documentation by a public health nurse or private physician of proof the student is in process of being age appropriately immunized, which includes a schedule of the student's next immunization;
3) A copy of a letter from ADH indicating immunity based on serologic testing; and/or
4) A copy of the letter from ADH exempting the student from the immunization requirements for the current school year, or a copy of the application for an exemption for the current school year if the exemption letter has not yet arrived.

Students whose immunization records or serology results are lost or unavailable are required to receive all age appropriate vaccinations or submit number 4 above.

Temporary Admittance

While students who are not fully age appropriately immunized or have not yet submitted an immunization waver may be enrolled to attend school, such students shall be allowed to attend school on a temporary basis only. Students admitted on a temporary basis may be admitted for a maximum of thirty (30) days (or until October 1st of the current school year for the tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis, and meningococcal vaccinations required at ages eleven (11) and sixteen (16) respectively if October 1st is later in the current school year than the thirty (30) days following the student's admittance). No student shall be withdrawn and readmitted in order to extend the thirty (30) day period. Students may be allowed to continue attending beyond the thirty (30) day period if the student submits a copy of either number 2 or number 4 above.

Students who are in process shall be required to adhere to the submitted schedule. Failure of the student to submit written documentation from a public health nurse or private physician demonstrating the student received the vaccinations set forth in the schedule may lead to the revocation of the student's temporary admittance; such students shall be excluded from school until the documentation is provided.

The District will not accept copies of applications requesting an exemption for the current school year that are older than two (2) weeks based on the date on the application. Students who submit a copy of an application to receive an exemption from the immunization requirements for the current year to gain temporary admittance have thirty (30) days from the admission date to submit either a letter from ADH granting the exemption or documentation demonstrating the student is in process and a copy of the immunization schedule. Failure to submit the necessary documentation by the close of the thirty (30) days will result in the student being excluded until the documentation is submitted.

Exclusion From School

In the event of an outbreak, students who are not fully age appropriately immunized, are in process, or are exempt from the immunization requirements may be required to be excluded from school in order to protect the student. ADH shall determine if it is necessary for students to be excluded in the event of an outbreak. Students may be excluded for no fewer than twenty-one (21) days or even longer depending on the outbreak. No student excluded due to an outbreak shall be allowed to return to school until the District receives approval from ADH.

Students who are excluded from school are not eligible to receive homebound instruction unless the excluded student had a pre-existing IEP or 504 Plan and the IEP/504 team determines homebound instruction to be in the best interest of the student. To the extent possible, the student's teacher(s) shall place in the principal's office a copy of the student's assignments:

- for the remainder of the week by the end of the initial school day of the student's exclusion; and
- by the end of each school's calendar week for the upcoming week until the student returns to school.

It is the responsibility of the student or the student's parent/legal guardian to make sure that the student's assignments are collected.

Students excluded from school shall have one (1) school day for each day absent from the day the student returns to school to submit any homework and to make up any examinations. State mandated assessments are not included in "examinations" and the District has no control over administering state mandated make-up assessments outside of the state's schedule. Students shall receive a grade of zero for any assignment or examination not completed or submitted on time.
Annually by December 1, the District shall create, maintain, and post to the District's website a report that includes the following for each disease requiring an immunization under this policy:

- The number of students in the District that were granted an exemption by the Department of Health from an immunization;
- The percentage of students in the District that were granted an exemption by the Department of Health from an immunization;
- The number of students within the District who have failed to provide to the public school proof of the vaccinations required and have not obtained an exemption from ADH;
- The percentage of students within the District who have failed to provide to the public school proof of the vaccinations required and have not obtained an exemption from ADH: and
- The percentage of a population that must receive an immunization for herd immunity to exist.

STUDENT MEDICATIONS

Medications will be distributed according to the regulations required by the State Department of Education. Students will not be allowed to transport medication. All medications will be delivered to school by the parents in the original container. Parents will be responsible for bringing refills to the office. Students will not be sent home with containers for refills. A note will be sent home when the student's medications are almost gone. To reduce the number of trips to and from school, a larger supply of medication should be left at school. These guidelines will be strictly enforced. Your child will not be given medication at school unless it is brought to the school office by the parent and the appropriate paperwork is completed. Medication changes will only be accepted by a physician's note. Notes from parents concerning dosages changes will not be accepted.

STUDENT MEDICATIONS – 4.35

Prior to the administration or otherwise authorized by this policy, of any medication, including any dietary supplement or other perceived health remedy not regulated by the US Food and Drug Administration, to any student under the age of eighteen (18), written parental consent is required. The consent form shall include authorization to administer the medication and relieve the Board and its employees of civil liability for damages or injuries resulting from the administration of medication to students in accordance with this policy. All signed medication consent forms are to be maintained by the school nurse.

Unless authorized to self-administer, students are not allowed to carry any medications, including over-the-counter (OTC) medications or any dietary supplement or other perceived health remedy not regulated by the US Food and Drug Administration, while at school. The parent or legal guardian shall bring the student's medication to the school nurse. The student may bring the medication if accompanied by a written authorization from the parent or legal guardian. When medications are brought to the school nurse, the nurse shall document, in the presence of the parent, the quantity and type of the medication(s). If the medications are brought by a student, the school nurse shall ask another school employee to verify, in the presence of the student the quantity of the medication(s). Each person present shall sign a form verifying the quantity and type of the medication(s).

Medications, including those for self-administration, must be in the original container and be properly labeled with the student's name, the ordering health care 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. Schedule II medications that are permitted by this policy to be brought to school shall be stored in a double locked cabinet.

Students with an individualized health plan (IHP) may be given OTC medications to the extent giving such medications are included in the student's IHP.

The district's supervising registered nurse is responsible for creating procedures for the administration of medications on and off campus.

The school shall not keep outdated medications or any medications past the end of the school year. Parents shall be notified ten (10) days in advance of the school's intention to dispose of any medication. Medications not picked up by the parents or legal guardians within the ten (10) day period shall be disposed of by the school nurse in accordance with current law and rules.

Schedule II Medications

Students taking Schedule II medications methylphenidate (e.g. Ritalin or closely related medications as determined by the school nurse), dextroamphetamine (Dexedrine), and amphetamine sulfate (e.g. Adderall or closely related medications as determined by the school nurse) shall be allowed to attend school.

Students taking Schedule II medications not included in the previous sentence shall be allowed to bring them to school under the provisions of this policy and shall be permitted to attend and participate in classes **only** to the extent the student's doctor has specifically authorized such attendance and participation. A doctor's prescription for a student's Schedule II medication is **not** an authorization. Attendance authorization shall specifically state the degree and potential danger of physical exertion the student is permitted to undertake in the student's classes and extracurricular activities. Without a doctor's written authorization, a student taking Schedule II medications, other than those specifically authorized in this policy, shall **not** be eligible to attend classes, but shall be eligible for homebound instruction if provided for in their IEP or 504 plans.

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;
   - Rescue inhaler; or
   - Auto-injectable or nasal spray epinephrine;
2) Perform the student's 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 the student's person:
   a) A rescue inhaler;
   b) Auto-injectable or nasal spray epinephrine; or
   c) the necessary supplies and equipment to perform the student's own diabetes monitoring and treatment functions.

A student may be authorized to self-administer a stress dose medication to treat the student's adrenal insufficiency with:

1. The written authorization of the student's parent, legal guardian, or person standing in loco parentis; and
2. A written order from the student's treating physician stating that the student:
   a. Is capable of completing the proper method of self-administration of the stress dose medication; and
   b. Has been instructed on the details of the student's medical condition and the events that may lead to an adrenal crisis.

The parent, legal guardian, or person standing in loco parentis of a student who is authorized to self-administer a stress dose medication shall sign an IHP developed by the school nurse for the school where the student is enrolled. The IHP shall include a requirement for the notification of appropriate staff following the self-administration of a stress dose medication, which shall include the school nurse, teacher of the classroom where the stress dose medication was administered, and a school administrator.

Students who have a current consent form on file shall be allowed to carry and self-administer such medication while:

- In school;
- At an on-site school sponsored activity;
- While traveling to or from school; or
- At an off-site school sponsored activity.

A student is prohibited from sharing, transferring, or in any way diverting the student's medications to any other person. The fact that a student with a completed consent form on file is allowed to carry a rescue inhaler; auto-injectable or nasal spray epinephrine; diabetes medication; stress dose medication; or combination does not require the student to have such on the student's person. The parent or guardian of a student who qualifies under this policy to self-carry a rescue inhaler; auto-injectable or nasal spray epinephrine; diabetes medication; stress dose medication; or any combination on the student's person shall provide the school with the appropriate medication, which shall be immediately available to the student in an emergency.

Students may possess and use a topical sunscreen that is approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration for OTC use to avoid overexposure to the sun without written authorization from a parent, legal guardian, or healthcare professional while the student is on school property or at a school-related event or activity. The parent or guardian of a student may provide written documentation authorizing specifically named District employee(s), in addition to the school nurse, to assist a student in the application of sunscreen. The District employee(s) named in the parent or legal guardian's written authorization shall not be required to assist the student in the application of sunscreen.

Emergency Administration of Glucagon and Insulin

Students may be administered Glucagon, insulin, or both in emergency situations by the school nurse or, in the absence of the school nurse, a trained volunteer school employee designated as a care provider, provided the student has:

1. an IHP that provides for the administration of Glucagon, insulin, or both in emergency situations; and
2. a current, valid consent form on file from their parent or guardian.

When the nurse is unavailable, the trained volunteer school employee who is responsible for a student shall be released from other duties during:

A. The time scheduled for a dose of insulin in the student's IHP; and
B. Glucagon or non-scheduled insulin administration once other staff have relieved him/her from other duties until a parent, guardian, other responsible adult, or medical personnel has arrived.

A student shall have access to a private area to perform diabetes monitoring and treatment functions as outlined in the student's IHP.

Emergency Administration of Epinephrine

The school nurse or other trained school employees designated by the school nurse as a care provider who have been certified by a licensed physician may administer epinephrine, either through an auto-injector or nasal spray, in emergency situations to students who have an IHP that which provides for the administration of epinephrine in emergency situations.

The parent of a student who has an authorizing IHP, or the student if over the age of eighteen (18), shall annually complete and sign a written consent form provided by the student's school nurse authorizing the nurse or other trained school employee(s) certified to administer epinephrine to administer auto-injector or nasal spray epinephrine to the student when the employee believes the student is having a life-threatening anaphylactic reaction.
Students with an order from and a licensed health care provider to self-administer epinephrine, either through an auto-injector or nasal spray, and who have written permission from their parent or guardian shall provide the school nurse either an auto-injector or nasal spray epinephrine. This epinephrine will be used in the event the school nurse, or other school employee certified to administer epinephrine, in good faith professionally believes the student is having a life-threatening anaphylactic reaction and the student is either not self-carrying epinephrine or the nurse is unable to locate it.

The school nurse for each District school shall keep epinephrine on hand that are suitable for the students the school serves. The school nurse or other trained school employee designated by the school nurse as a care provider who has been certified by a licensed physician may administer epinephrine to those students who the school nurse, or other trained school employee certified to administer auto-injector epinephrine, in good faith professionally believes is having a life-threatening anaphylactic reaction.

Emergency Administration of Albuterol

The school nurse or other trained school employees designated by the school nurse as a care provider who have been certified by a licensed physician, advanced practice registered nurse, or physician assistant may administer albuterol in emergency situations to students who have an IHP that provides for the administration of albuterol in emergency situations.

The parent of a student who has an authorizing IHP, or the student if over the age of eighteen (18), shall annually complete and sign a written consent form provided by the student's school nurse authorizing the nurse or other trained school employee(s) certified to administer albuterol to administer albuterol to the student when the employee believes the student is in perceived respiratory distress.

The school nurse for each District school shall keep albuterol on hand. The school nurse or other trained school employee designated by the school nurse as a care provider who has been certified by a licensed physician, advanced practice registered nurse, or physician assistant may administer albuterol to those students who the school nurse, or other trained school employee certified to administer albuterol, in good faith professionally believes is in perceived respiratory distress.

Emergency Administration of Anti-opioid

The school nurse for each District school shall keep anti-opioid injectors on hand and the school nurse and school resource officer shall possess an anti-opioid at all times when on duty. The school nurse, other school employee, volunteer, or student may administer anti-opioid in accordance with the District's procedures to a student who the school nurse, or other observer, in good faith believes is having an opioid overdose.

An opioid overdose rescue kit shall be placed within all storage locations in the District high school buildings that currently contain an automated external defibrillator for public use. The opioid overdose rescue kits shall be located where it is readily available to the public, be visually free of advertisement, and contain an anti-opioid.

Emergency Administration of Emergency Adrenal Insufficiency Medication

The school nurse or other trained school employees designated by the school nurse as a care provider who have been certified by a licensed physician may administer an injectable emergency dose medication in emergency situations to students who have an IHP that provides for the administration of an injectable emergency dose medication in emergency situations.

The parent of a student who has an authorizing IHP, or the student if over the age of eighteen (18), shall annually complete and sign a written consent form provided by the student's school nurse authorizing the nurse or other trained school employee(s) certified to administer an injectable emergency dose medication to administer an injectable emergency dose medication to the student when the employee believes the student is having an adrenal crisis due to adrenal insufficiency.
Students who have met the requirements to be authorized to self-administer a stress dose medication under this policy shall provide the school nurse an emergency injectable dose of the student's medication. This emergency injectable dose will be used in the event the school nurse, or other school employee certified to administer an injectable emergency dose medication, in good faith professionally believes the student is having an adrenal crisis due to adrenal insufficiency.

Seizure Disorder Medications

Students who have been diagnosed with a seizure disorder shall have a seizure action plan that shall be a written IHP designed to acknowledge and prepare for the healthcare needs of the student. The student's seizure action plan shall be created in collaboration between District staff and the student's Parents, legal guardians, persons having lawful control of the student, or persons acting in

loco parentis or the student if over eighteen (18). As part of the creation of the student's seizure action plan, the student's Parents, legal guardians, persons having lawful control of the student, or persons acting in loco parentis shall:

1. Provide the school with written authorization to administer the seizure medication at school;
2. Provide a written statement from the student's healthcare provider that shall contain the following information:
   - The student's name;
   - The name and purpose of the medication;
   - The prescribed dosage;
   - The route of administration;
   - The frequency that the medication should be administered; and
   - The circumstances under which the medication should be administered;
3. Provide the prescribed medication to the school in its unopened, sealed package with the label affixed by the dispensing pharmacy intact, which shall be stored in a safe and secure location accessible only by District personnel or volunteers with training to administer seizure medication.

The written authorization, written statement, and seizure action plan shall be kept on file in the office of the school nurse or school administrator and distributed to any school personnel or volunteers responsible for the supervision or care of the student.

PHYSICAL EXAMINATIONS OR SCREENINGS – 4.41

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.

LIBRARY / MEDIA CENTER

The Marvin Primary School, Millsap Intermediate School, Pleasant View Jr. High School, and Mulberry High School Library hours are from 7:45 a.m. until 4:16 p.m. Tuesday through Friday. Rules and procedures for library use are posted in the library. Students are responsible for books checked out of the library. No refunds will be given for lost books that have been paid for and then found.

SELECTION OF LIBRARY/MEDIA CENTER MATERIALS – 5.7

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 school's 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:

A. Support and enhance the curricular and educational goals of the district;
B. Are appropriate for the ages, learning styles, interests, and maturity of the schools' students, or parents in the case of parenting literature;

C. 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;
D. Help develop critical thinking skills;
E. Are factually and/or historically accurate, in the case of non-fiction works and/or serve a pedagogical purpose;
F. Have literary merit as perceived by the educational community; and
G. 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 (3) 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.

Kindergarten Through Grade Five (K-5) Libraries

The library media center located in a District elementary school that serves students in kindergarten through grade five (K-5) shall store non-age-appropriate sexual content, including without limitation a book or other resource that is located in the library media center that is available to the public, in a locked compartment.

For purposes of this policy, "non-age-appropriate sexual content" means any materials that include explicit instruction, promotion, or advocacy of sexual ideology, behaviors, or orientations that are not developmentally appropriate for kindergarten through grade five (K-5) students.

A student enrolled in the school shall not view or check out a book or other resource that concerns non-age-appropriate sexual content without the prior written approval from the student's parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of the student, or person standing in loco parentis to the student.

District staff who are found to have knowingly violated the provisions of this section of the policy shall be disciplined in accordance with A.C.A. 6-25-107.

Challenges

The parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of a student, or person acting in loco parentis 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 five (5) working days from the date of the request unless it is by the choice of the complainant.

In the meeting, the media specialist shall explain the selection criteria and how the challenged material fits the criteria. The complainant shall explain the complainant's reasons for objecting to the selected material. If, at the completion of the meeting, the complainant wishes to make a formal challenge to the selected material, the complainant may do so by completing the *Request for Formal Reconsideration Form* and submitting it to the principal's office.

To review the contested media, the principal shall select a committee of five (5) or seven (7) licensed personnel consisting of the principal as chair and at least one media specialist. The remaining committee members shall be licensed personnel with curriculum knowledge appropriate for the material being contested and representative of diverse viewpoints. The task of the committee shall be to determine if the challenged material meets the criteria of selection. No material shall be withdrawn solely for the viewpoints expressed within it and shall be reviewed in its entirety and not selected portions taken out of context.

The principal shall convene a meeting after a reasonable time for the committee members to adequately review the contested material and the *Request for Formal Reconsideration Form* submitted by the complainant. All meetings of the committee shall be open to the public. The complainant shall be allowed to present the complaint to the committee after which time the committee shall meet to discuss the material. The committee shall vote to determine whether the contested material shall be relocated within the media center's collection to an area that is not accessible to minors. A member from the voting majority shall write a summary of the reasons for their decision. A notice of the committee's decision and the summary shall be given (by hand or certified mail) to the complainant.

If the decision is to not relocate the material, the complainant may appeal the committee's decision to the district Board of Directors by filing a written appeal to the Superintendent within five (5) working days of the committee's decision or of written receipt of the decision. The Superintendent shall present the original complaint and the committee's decision along with the summary of its reasons for its position plus a recommendation of the administration, if so desired, to the Board within fifteen (15) days of the committee's decision. The Board shall review the material submitted to them by the Superintendent and make a decision within thirty (30) days of receipt of the information. The Board's decision is final.

LOCKERS

If lockers are available, each student is assigned a locker by the school administration to be used for storage of books and equipment. It is the student's responsibility to see that his/her locker is kept in good working order at all times. The principal should be notified immediately if there is a problem with the locker. Students are to use only their locker and not share with other students. Lockers should be kept clean and orderly. No food or drinks should be kept in the locker other than a lunch brought for that day's consumption. No stickers of any kind are to be attached to the inside/outside of the locker. Any damage to lockers will be considered to be vandalism and will be dealt with accordingly. Students are allowed to put locks on their lockers if a spare key or the combination is given to the principal.
Lockers belong to the school district; therefore the locker and student's property in the locker are subject to periodic administrative searches. The district reserves the right to search lockers without the consent of students, if necessary. Lockers are off limits to all students before the 1st Period Bell rings.

LOST AND FOUND

All students are responsible for their personal belongings. We ask our students to turn in all articles found on the playground or in the buildings to the office. Any student having lost something should report this loss to the office, checking periodically to see if the lost item has been turned in. All unclaimed items will be donated to charity.

NATIONAL ANTHEM – 4.44

Each school in the District shall broadcast The Star-Spangled Banner 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 broadcast of The Star-Spangled Banner may be performed at only one (1) of the events; and
- At least one (1) time each week during school hours.

The broadcast of The Star-Spangled Banner shall be selected from any recording that adheres to the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) Rules, or, when appropriate, performed from original sheet music that adheres to DESE rules by:

- A school-sanctioned band program;
- A school-sanctioned chorale program, vocal group, or vocalist; or
- The attendees of a school-sanctioned event led by a vocalist selected by the principal of the school hosting the school-sanctioned event.

Students shall not be compelled to participate in the performance of The Star-Spangled Banner, but students who choose not to participate in the performance of The Star-Spangled Banner shall not disrupt those students choosing to participate in the performance of The Star-Spangled Banner. Students choosing not to participate in the performance of The Star-Spangled Banner who do not disrupt the participation of performance of The Star-Spangled Banner shall not be subject to any comments, retaliation, or disciplinary action.

PARENTAL INVOVLEMENT POLICY

Parental Involvement information, including policy procedures for participation and available resources is distributed each school year during Open House activities on each campus. Open House activities occur during the evening prior to the beginning of the year.
Annually, the district conducts a review of programs and policies in conjunction with a regular monthly meeting of the Board of Education. Parents and Patrons are informed, invited to attend and encouraged to participate in the review and revision of programs and procedures. The Parent Involvement Policy is reviewed during this meeting.

Parental Involvement programs are coordinated between schools within the district to ensure that parents are afforded every opportunity to participate at numerous venues. Activities are also coordinated with other district programs and activities to afford parents opportunity to experience a variety of programs and activities simultaneously (More Bang for the Buck).
Each LEA has an assigned Parent Facilitator.

Parents and Patrons are surveyed annually to determine the perception of the effectiveness of the Parent Involvement Policy.
Parents of all students are afforded equal opportunity to participate in all programs and activities. Administrators and Parent Facilitators visit regularly to monitor and observe the program.
Parents are provided with information regarding resources and access to procedures and practices proven to be effective for improvement of academic achievement.

Faculty and Staff participate in training activities annually to improve and enhance skills regarding parental involvement.
The District provides GED, technology and adult literacy programs in conjunction with Crawford County Adult Education Center.
District policy is posted on the website and at each campus. Copies are provided to parents and patrons upon request.

Each spring the district reviews programs and policies. During this meeting parents and patrons are encouraged to participate in the review and revision of the parent involvement policy. The time and date of the meeting is advertised and usually is conducted in conjunction with other activities.

Parents are provided information with regard to educational goals and planned programs and activities established to facilitate achieving goals.

Parent Facilitators at each campus will work with faculty, staff, parents and patrons to develop activities to improve parental involvement.

Parent Centers have been established on each campus to provide parents with resources and opportunities to work with Parent Facilitators, faculty and staff to become more effective participants in the education of their children.
Federal or Categorical funds are allocated to provide for the needs of the parent involvement program and related activities each year.

Parents are encouraged to sign in and participate during meetings involving parent involvement program. Notes and or minutes are recorded at all meetings for use during the evaluation process.
During the evaluation process recommendations or suggestions are made to each participating school for revising policies as they relate to parental involvement.

An evaluation of the Parent Involvement Policy will be done annually.

PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT PLAN

A Parental Involvement Plan is contained with the District and School's Family and Community Engagement Plan and reviewed annually.

PARENT, FAMILY, AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT– DISTRICT - 6.11

The Mulberry/Pleasant View Bi-County School District understands the importance of engaging parents, families, and the community as a whole in promoting higher student achievement and general good will between the district and those it serves. Therefore, the district shall strive to develop and maintain the capacity for meaningful and productive parent, family, and community engagement that will result in partnerships that are mutually beneficial to the school, students, parents, families, and the community. To achieve such ends, the district shall work to:

1. Engage parents, families, and the community in the development of the long range planning of the district;
2. Give the schools in the district the support necessary to enable them to plan and implement effective parent, family, and community engagement activities;
3. Have a coordinated engagement program where the engagement activities of the district enhance the engagement strategies of other programs such as Head Start, HIPPY, Parents as Partners, Parents as Teachers, ABC, ABC for School Success, area Pre-K programs, and Even Start;
4. Explain to parents, families, and the community the State's academic and achievement standards, State and local student assessments and how the district's curriculum is aligned with the state's academic standards and assessments and how parents, families, and the community can work with the district to improve students' academic achievement;
5. Provide parents and families with the materials and training they need to be better able to help their child achieve. The district may use parent resource centers or other community based organizations to foster parent and family engagement and provide literacy and technology training to parents.
6. Educate district staff, with the assistance of parents, in ways to work and communicate with parents and to know how to implement parent, family, and community engagement programs that will promote positive partnerships between the school and parents, families, and the community;
7. Keep parents, families, and the community informed about parent, family, and community engagement programs, meetings, and other activities they could be engaged in. Such communication shall be, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents and families can understand;
8. Find ways to eliminate barriers that work to keep parents and families from being engaged in their child's education. This may include providing transportation and child care to enable parents to participate, arranging meetings at a variety of times, and being creative with parent/teacher conferences;
9. Find and modify other successful parent, family, and community engagement programs to suit the needs of our district;
10. Train parents, families, and the community to enhance and promote the engagement of other parents, families, and members of the community;
11. Provide reasonable support for other parent, family, and community engagement activities as parents, families, and the community may reasonably request.

To ensure the continued improvement of the district's parent, family, and community engagement program, the district will conduct an annual review of its parent, family, and community engagement policies to examine their effect on promoting higher student achievement. The review shall be done by a committee consisting of parents and other community members, certified and classified staff, and member(s) of the administration.

This policy shall be part of the school's Title I plan and shall be distributed to parents of the district's students and provided, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand.

PARENT, FAMILY, AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT– SCHOOL - 6.12

Mulberry/Pleasant View School understands the importance of engaging parents, families, and the community as a whole in promoting higher student achievement and general good will between the school and those it serves. Therefore, Mulberry/Pleasant

View School shall strive to develop and maintain the capacity for meaningful and productive parent, family, and community engagement that will result in partnerships that are mutually beneficial to the school, students, parents, families, and the community. To achieve such ends, the school shall work to:

1. Engage parents, families, and the community in the development and improvement of Title I programs for the school;
2. Have a coordinated engagement program where the engagement activities of the school enhance the engagement strategies of other programs such as Head Start, HIPPY, Parents as Partners, Parents as Teachers, ABC, ABC for School Success, area Pre-K programs, and Even Start;
3. Explain to parents, families, and the community the State's academic and achievement standards, State and local student assessments and how the school's curriculum is aligned with the state's academic standards and assessments and how parents, families, and the community can work with the school to improve student's academic achievement;
4. Provide parents and families with the materials and training they need to be better able to help their child achieve. The school may use parent resource centers or other community based organizations to foster parent and family engagement and provide literacy and technology training to parents.
5. Educate school staff, with the assistance of parents, in ways to work and communicate with parents and to know how to implement parent, family, and community engagement programs that will promote positive partnerships between the school and parents, families, and the community;
6. Keep parents, families, and the community informed about parent, family, and community engagement programs, meetings, and other activities they could be engaged in. Such communication shall be, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents and families can understand;
7. Find ways to eliminate barriers that work to keep parents and families from being engaged in their child's education. This may include providing transportation and child care to enable parents to participate, arranging meetings at a variety of times, and being creative with parent/teacher conferences;
8. Find and modify other successful parent, family, and community engagement programs to suit the needs of our school;
9. Train parents, families, and the community to enhance and promote the engagement of other parents, families, and members of the community;
10. Provide reasonable support for other parent, family, and community engagement activities as parents may reasonably request.

To help promote an understanding of each party's role in improving student learning, Mulberry/Pleasant View School shall develop a compact that outlines the responsibilities of parents, students, and the school staff in raising student academic achievement and in building the partnerships that will enable students to meet the State's academic standards.

Mulberry/Pleasant View School shall convene an annual meeting, or several meetings at varying times if necessary to adequately reach parents and families of participating students, to inform parents and families of the school's participation in Title I, its requirements regarding parent, family, and community engagement, and the parents right to be engaged in the education of their child.

Mulberry/Pleasant View School shall, at least annually, engage parents, families, and the community in reviewing the school's Title I program and parent, family, and community engagement policy in order to help ensure their continued improvement.

This policy shall be part of the school's Title I plan and shall be distributed to parents of the district's students and provided, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand.

SCHOOL - PARENT COMPACT

The Mulberry Pleasant View Bi County Schools and the parents of the students participating in activities, services, and programs funded by Title I, Part A of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) (participating children), agree that this compact outlines how the parents, the entire school staff, and the students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement and the means by which the school and parents will build and develop a partnership that will help children achieve the State's high standards.

School Responsibilities

The Mulberry Pleasant View Bi County Schools will:

1. Provide high-quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment that enables the participating children to meet the State's student academic achievement standards.
2. Hold parent-teacher conferences twice during the school year.
3. Provide parents with frequent reports on their child's/children's progress.
4. Provide parents reasonable access to staff.
5. Provide parents opportunities to volunteer and participate in their child's class, and to observe classroom activities.

Parent Responsibilities

We, as parents, will support our child's/children's learning in the following ways:

1. Monitoring attendance.
2. Making sure that homework is completed.
3. Monitoring amount of television children may watch.
4. Monitoring amount of computer time.
5. Volunteering in my child's classroom.
6. Participating, as appropriate, in decisions relating to my child's/children's education.
7. Staying informed about my child's education and communicating with the school by promptly reading all notices from the school or the school district either received by my child or by mail and responding, as appropriate.
8. Serving, to the extent possible, on policy advisory groups.

Student Responsibilities

I, as student will share the responsibility to improve my academic achievement and achieve the State's high standards. Specifically, I will:

1. Do my homework every day and ask for help when I need to.
2. Read at least 30 minutes every day outside of school time.
3. Give to my parents or the adult who is responsible for my welfare all notices and information received by me from my school every day.

PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES

Parent conferences are held twice a year, usually the first and third quarters. Dates for these conferences are on the school calendar. Documentation of participation in these conferences is required.

Teachers shall communicate personally during the school year with the parent/guardian of students to discuss academic progress. Teachers will communicate more frequently with a parent/guardian of students not performing at the level expected for their grade.

All district teachers shall meet with the parent/guardian of each student at least once during the school year through a face-to-face parent/teacher conference or a telephone conference.

The administrators, counselors, and teachers will work with students and parents in planning a student's academic path through school so goals may be attained. A four-year plan will be developed by the end of each student's middle school career and reviewed with the parent.

PARENT-TEACHER-STUDENT ORGANIZATION (PTSO)

Through a cooperative effort of parents, teachers, and students, much can be done to enhance the effectiveness of our school programs. All parents and interested citizens are encouraged to attend the PTSO meetings. Meeting times are varied to enable different people to have an opportunity to attend. Through the fund raising efforts of the organization your schools have been able to obtain educational materials that would have otherwise been impossible to obtain.

PERMISSION TO USE STUDENT PHOTOGRAPHS ON WEB PAGE

The Mulberry/Pleasant View Bi-County School District may take pictures at school activities. This picture may be used on the school web page. Some of these pictures could contain a picture of your child. Students will not be identified by their name, nor will any personal information be given on students. Internet users who have an interest in Mulberry/Pleasant View School District may access the web page. If you do not want your child's picture on the web page, please contact the building principal to obtain a form stating this.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND MOMENT OF SILENCE – 4.46

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 shall 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.

SPECIAL EDUCATION – 4.49

In accordance with the Individuals With Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans With Disabilities Act, and Arkansas Statutes, the district shall provide a free appropriate public education and necessary related services to all children with disabilities who reside:

- Within the district boundaries; or
- Outside of the District boundaries but are enrolled in the District.

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 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 students with disabilities. Among the coordinator's responsibilities shall be ensuring district enforcement of the due process rights of students with disabilities and their parents.

*** Mulberry/Pleasant View Local Note: Child Find (Special Education Services/504**

Mulberry/Pleasant View Bi-County School provides Special Education Services/504 Services to all students in need and are identified, located, and evaluated. These services are offered in your student's native language if needed. Please contact your student's principal for further details.

STUDENT MEDIA AND THE DISTRIBUTION OF LITERATURE – 4.14

The Superintendent and the student media advisors(s) shall jointly develop administrative regulations for the implementation of this policy. The regulations shall include definitions of terms and the time(s), place(s), and manner(s) of the dissemination of student media, which shall include timelines for the review of materials.

Definitions

"School-sponsored media" means all student media that are:

- Supported financially by the school;
- Supported by the use of school facilities; or
- Produced in conjunction with a class.

"Student journalist" means a student who gathers, writes, edits, photographs, records, video tapes, or prepares information for dissemination in student media.

"Student media" means any means of communication that are:

- Prepared, substantially written, published, or broadcasted by a student;
- Distributed or generally made available, either free of charge or for a fee, to members of the student body; and
- Prepared under the direction of a student media advisor.

"Student media" does not include media that is intended for distribution or transmission solely in the classroom in which it is produced.
"Student media advisor" means an individual who is employed, appointed, or designated by the District to supervise or provide instruction with respect to student media.

Student Media

While the District recognizes a student's right of expression under the First Amendment of the Constitution of the United States, school-sponsored media does not provide an open public 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 endorse such things as tobacco, alcohol, or drugs.
2. Media may be regulated to prohibit communications determined by writings 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 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 those that are libelous or slanderous, including material containing defamatory falsehoods about public figures or governmental officials, and made with knowledge of their falsity or 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 also:

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 eighteen (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-sponsored literature, publications, or 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-sponsored materials shall have school authorities review their non-school-sponsored materials at least three (3) school days in advance of their desired time of dissemination. School authorities shall review the non-school-sponsored materials, prior to their distribution and will bar from distribution those non-school-sponsored 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. Concerns related to any denial of distribution by the principal shall be heard by the superintendent, whose decision shall be final.

The school principal or designee shall establish reasonable regulations governing the time, place, and manner of student distribution of non-school-sponsored materials. The regulations shall:

1. Be narrowly drawn to promote orderly administration of school activities by preventing disruption and may not be designed to stifle expression;
2. Be uniformly applied to all forms of non-school-sponsored materials;
3. Allow no interference with classes or school activities;
4. Specify times, places, and manner where distribution may and may not occur; and
5. Not inhibit a person's right to accept or reject any literature distributed in accordance with the regulations.

Students shall be responsible for the removal of excess literature that is left at the distribution point for more than three (3) days.

STUDENT NAME, TITLE, OR PRONOUN – 4.62

Unless a District employee has the written permission of the parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of the student, or person standing in loco parentis to the student or the student if the student is an emancipated minor or over eighteen (18) years of age, a District employee shall not address a student with a:

1. Name other than that listed on the student's birth certificate, except for a derivative of the name; or
2. Pronoun or title that is inconsistent with the student's biological sex.

A student shall not be subject to discipline for declining to address a person using a:

a. Name other than that listed on the student's birth certificate, except for a derivative of the name; or
b. Pronoun or title that is inconsistent with the person's biological sex.

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS/EQUAL ACCESS – 4.12

Noncurriculum-related secondary school student organizations wishing to conduct meetings on school premises during noninstructional 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 noninstructional time;
4. Employees or agents of the school are present at religious meetings only in a nonparticipatory 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.

STUDENT RELIGIOUS EXPRESSION- 4.63

The Mulberry Pleasant View Bi-County School District Board of Directors does not allow the discrimination against a student based on a student's voluntary religious expression, if any. At the same time, the District shall provide a process to eliminate any actual or perceived sponsorship or attribution to the District of a student's public voluntary expression of a religious viewpoint, if any.

Student Assignments

Student assignments include, but are not limited to:
- Homework;
- Classwork;
- Artwork; and
- Other written or oral assignments.

A student may express the student's religious viewpoint, if any, in the student's assignments without discrimination based on the religious content, if any. A student's assignments shall:
1. Be graded and judged:
   - By ordinary academic standards of substance and relevance; and
   - Against other conventional, pedagogical topics as identified by the District curriculum; and
2. Not be penalized or rewarded based on the religious content, if any, of the student's assignments.

Accommodation will be considered for those portions of instructional activities in the schools that unduly burden a student's sincere religious belief provided such accommodation doesn't amount to a significant change in curriculum, program, or course of instruction and when it is possible that a substitution of equally rigorous material that advances the same instructional goals can be arranged. Parents and students are advised that such accommodations are easier to grant when the objection is to non-state mandated Standards material than if the material is required by the Standards.

A student or the student's parent can request the student's teacher accommodate the student's objection based on a religious belief to an instructional activity. Any such request must be made at least twenty-five (25) school days prior to the assignment's due date. Any objection must be raised in accordance with this policy's requirements or it will not be considered.

Upon receiving such a request, the student's teacher shall determine within five (5) work days if an accommodation is possible under the provisions of this policy. If the teacher decides an accommodation cannot be made or if the student or the student's parent believes the accommodation to be unreasonable, the student or the student's parent may request a conference with the teacher and the teacher's principal. A requested conference will occur at a time of mutual convenience, but no later than five (5) working days following the request. The principal shall have five (5) working days in which to make a decision on the appeal. If the student, the student's parent, or the teacher is unsatisfied with the principal's decision, it may be appealed to the District Superintendent who shall convene a conference between the student, the parent and the teacher. The requested conference will occur at a time of

mutual convenience, but no later than five (5) working days following the request. The Superintendent shall have five (5) working days in which to make a decision on the appeal which shall be final with no further right of appeal.

Student Presenters

A student's expression of a religious viewpoint, if any, on an otherwise permissible subject shall not be excluded from a forum, whether oral or in writing, where students are allowed to speak.

The District has the right to restrict student speech that is inappropriate in the school setting by being obscene, vulgar, offensively lewd, or indecent.

Review of written student forums shall be handled in accordance with Policy 4.14—STUDENT MEDIA AND THE DISTRIBUTION OF LITERATURE.

If the forum is a scheduled event with designated student speakers, the building principal shall have an opportunity to review pre-written remarks prior to the student's presentation at the scheduled forum. The principal may require the student to amend the student's remarks to the extent necessary to address any portions that are determined to be inappropriate. A student's refusal to amend the remarks that were determined to be inappropriate may be prohibited from participation in the forum. A student who diverts from the approved pre-written remarks during a speech in such a manner that is determined to be inappropriate by the building principal or another present District staff member may be asked to return to the approved remarks. If a student refuses to return to the approved remarks or continues to divert from the approved remarks in a manner that is determined to be inappropriate may be escorted from the forum and disciplined in accordance with the District's Student Code of Conduct.

If the timing or format of the forum does not provide for pre-written remarks to be reviewed, then the building principal or other District staff shall have the authority to address a student whose remarks are determined to be inappropriate. The building principal or District staff member shall initially ask the student to cease the inappropriate remarks. If the student refuses or makes additional inappropriate remarks after being directed to cease such remarks, Then the building principal or District staff member may escort the student from the forum and the student may be disciplined in accordance with the District's Student Code of Conduct

There shall be a disclaimer that a student speaker's speech does not reflect the endorsement, sponsorship, position, or expression of the District. The disclaimer shall be provided at all forums where students speak and at all graduation ceremonies. The disclaimer shall be provided orally or in writing as most appropriately fits the format of the forum.

Information on how to participate in a student forum shall be provided to all students.

In addition to the salutatorian and valedictorian selection process in Policy 5.17—HONOR ROLL AND HONOR GRADUATES, the following students may speak during the District's graduation ceremony:

- Class Officers invited to speak by the Secondary Building Principal
- Distinguished students who have been personally invited by the Secondary Building Principal

4.64—STUDENT USE OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Definitions

"Artificial Intelligence (AI) Tools" means Software applications or platforms that utilize machine learning algorithms to perform tasks typically requiring human intelligence, such as generating content, providing recommendations, or solving problems. For purposes of this policy, AI tools does not include the use of spell check or grammar check.

The purpose of this policy is to establish guidelines for the responsible use of AI tools by District students. The policy applies to all students enrolled in the District and covers the use of AI tools when completing District assignments or projects.

The district shall provide teachers and students resources and education on AI literacy and digital citizenship. The District shall establish a committee who shall be responsible for the review and selection of AI tools that shall be available for students to use. All AI tools selected by the committee shall comply with applicable state and federal data privacy laws. Students shall only use AI tools that were approved by the District committee for classroom assignments or projects.

Teachers are responsible for providing instructions on when and how AI tools may be used for classroom assignments. Students may use AI tools as approved by their classroom teacher to enhance learning and develop future-ready skills.

Students should use AI tools ethically and responsibly, aligning with the district's educational objectives, and in a manner that does not harm themselves or others. As part of using AI tools responsibly, students should be cautious about the information they provide to AI tools and consult with a teacher if unsure. At no time shall Students share personal, sensitive, or confidential information with AI tools, especially AI tools requiring data input.

When a student uses AI tools, a student shall:

1. Review and verify the accuracy of content that is generated by an AI tool;
2. Cite AI tools used as part of an assignment or project as a source, following District citation guidelines; and
3. Be transparent about their use of AI in completing assignments.

Students must ensure all submitted work is their own and properly acknowledge or cite any assistance from AI tools. Students are encouraged to ask questions if they are unsure about the acceptable use of AI tools.

The following actions regarding AI tools are strictly prohibited:

- Misuse of AI tools for cheating, plagiarism, or any form of academic dishonesty, including the submission of assignments that were fully generated by an AI tool and presented as original student work;
- Altering or falsifying academic documents or records using AI tools;
- Using AI tools to:
  - Gain unauthorized access to District systems; or
  - Bypass District security measures;
- Using AI tools to produce misleading or false information, imagery, or any form of false outputs about themselves, other students, or staff members.

Students should report any inappropriate content or security concerns encountered while using AI tools to a teacher or administrator.

Violations of this policy shall be handled in accordance with the District's disciplinary procedures.

STUDENT USE OF MULTIPLE OCCUPANCY ROOM – 4.61

Definitions

"Multiple occupancy room" means an area in a District building that is designed or designated to be used by one (1) or more individuals at the same time and in which one (1) or more individuals may be in various stages of undress in the presence of other individuals, which includes, without limitation, a restroom, locker room, changing room, or shower room.

"Sex" means the physical condition of being male or female based on genetics and physiology, which may be demonstrated by the sex identified on a student's original birth certificate.

Each multiple occupancy room in a District building shall be designated as either male or female. Except as permitted by this policy, a student shall not enter a multiple occupancy room that does not correspond to the student's sex.

An individual who is unwilling or unable to use a multiple occupancy room designated for the individual's sex shall be granted a reasonable accommodation, which may include, without limitation, access to a single-occupancy restroom or changing area. A reasonable accommodation shall not include access to a restroom or changing area that is designated for use by members of the opposite sex to an individual while members of the opposite sex of the individual are present or may be present in the restroom or changing area.

The prohibitions in this policy do not apply to an individual who enters a multiple occupancy room designated for use by the opposite sex when the individual enters for any of the following reasons:

- custodial, maintenance, or inspection purposes;
- To render emergency medical assistance;
- To address an ongoing emergency, including without limitation a physical altercation;
- To accommodate individuals protected under the Americans with Disabilities Act; or

To assist young children who are in need of physical assistance when using a restroom or changing facility that is located in the District.

SUPERVISION OF PUPILS

Supervision of pupils by members of the instructional staff is required for all students while in classrooms or on playgrounds. Students are not permitted to occupy schoolrooms or to make use of playgrounds at any time during school hours without appropriate supervision.

TEXTBOOKS/LIBRARY BOOKS/SUPPLIES

Textbooks are furnished by the state and are issued at the beginning of the year. State laws 80-1905, 50-109, & 80-1904 clearly define abuse and destruction of state property. Included are buildings, grounds, furniture & textbooks. Students will be responsible for such supplies as paper, pencils, crayons or their supplies as may be required by the teacher. The following charges will be made regarding abuse and/or destruction of free textbooks and books on loan from the library:

1. Lost book - replacement cost
2. Destroyed book - replacement cost
3. Tearing out pages - replacement cost
4. Marking or writing in or on a book bines – replacement cost

No refunds will be given for textbooks that have been lost, paid for, and then found. The student will keep the textbook if this happens.

VISITORS TO THE SCHOOLS – 6.5

Parents, grandparents, legal guardians, business, and community members are welcome and encouraged to visit District schools. To minimize the potential for disruption of the learning environment, visitors, for a purpose other than to attend an activity open to the general public, are required to first report to the school's main office and receive authorization from the building principal or the principal's designee before the individual may enter the school proper. No one shall be exempt from this requirement. Visitors who are Level 3 or Level 4 sex offenders may only enter a school campus under the provisions listed in Policy 6.10.

Parents and legal guardians are encouraged to participate in regularly scheduled visitation events such as school open houses and parent/teacher conferences. Additional conferences are best when scheduled in advance. Conferences shall be scheduled at a time and place to accommodate those participating in the conference. Visits to individual classrooms during class time are permitted on a limited basis with the principal's prior approval and the teacher's knowledge.

Visitors, including parents, wishing to speak with students during the school day shall register first with the office.

Visitors to the school are directed to not use a 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; or
- Create, send, share, capture, or post audio, video, or photographs of District students unless the visitor:
  - Has received permission to do so by someone authorized to grant such permission on behalf of the student or the student if the student is eighteen (18 years old);
  - Received authorization from the District to do so on behalf of the District; or
  - Is required to do so as part of the individual's job duties, including as a member of the media.

The District has the right to ask disruptive visitors to leave its school campuses. Principals are authorized to seek the assistance of law enforcement officers in removing any disruptive visitors who refuse to leave school property when requested to do so.[1]

VISITOR PROCEDURES

VISITS: The success of your child can be measurably increased if you, the parents, show an active interest in their work. Parents should endeavor to meet with the teacher during the teacher's conference period or after school. All visitors are to report to the office first, upon school arrival. Students are not allowed to bring visitors to school. Students must realize that visitors bring undue hardship upon teachers, students, and administrators.

VOLUNTEER PROGRAM: Volunteer help from patrons and parents is encouraged. Persons interested should make arrangements with the Building Administrator. Volunteers will be placed in the most appropriate setting as determined by the administration.

PARENT INVOLVEMENT: The Superintendent will appoint a Parent Involvement Facilitator at each campus. This person will work with parents, the school and PTSO to involve parents and the community in school activities.

STUDENT VISITORS – 4.16

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.

CONTACT WITH STUDENTS WHILE AT SCHOOL – 4.15

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, to extend authorized by the court order, 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. The District shall not act as a supervisor for non-custodial parent visitation purposes under any circumstance.

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. 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, 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, 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.

5.29—WELLNESS POLICY

The health and physical well-being of students directly affects their ability to learn. Childhood obesity increases the incidence of adult diseases occurring in children and adolescents such as heart disease, high blood pressure and diabetes. The increased risk carries forward into their adulthood. Research indicates that a healthy diet and regular physical activity can help prevent obesity and the diseases resulting from it. It is understood that the eating habits and exercise patterns of students cannot be magically changed overnight, but at the same time, the Board of Directors believes it is necessary to strive to create a culture in our schools that consistently promotes good nutrition and physical activity.

The problem of obesity and inactivity is a public health issue. The Board of Directors is keenly aware that it has taken years for this problem to reach its present level and will similarly take years to correct. The responsibility for addressing the problem lies not only with the schools and the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE), but with the community and its residents, organizations and agencies. Therefore, the District shall enlist the support of the larger community to find solutions that improve the health and physical activity of our students.

Wellness Committee

To enhance the district's efforts to improve the health of our students, a wellness committee shall be formed. It shall be structured in a way to ensure age-appropriate recommendations are made that correlate to the District's grade configurations. The ~~SNPAAC~~ wellness committee shall have the powers and responsibilities delegated to it by statute and Rule and are incorporated into this policy by reference. The overarching goal of the wellness committee shall be to promote student wellness by monitoring how well the District is doing at implementing this policy. The wellness committee shall use modules 1, 2, 3, 4, 10, and 11 of the Centers For Disease Control' (CDC) School Health Index as a basis for annually assessing each school's progress toward meeting the requirements of this policy. The results of the annual assessment shall be included in District's district strategic plan (DSP), provided to each school's principal, and reported to the board. Goals and objectives for nutrition and physical activity shall also be included in the ~~S~~DSP.

The wellness committee shall be made up of Individuals from the following groups to the extent interested persons from each group desire to be included in the development, implementation, and periodic review of the District's wellness policy:

- Members of the District's Board of Directors;
- School administrators;
- School nutrition personnel;
- Teacher organizations;
- Teachers of physical education;
- Parents;
- Students;
- Professional groups (such as nurses);
- School health professionals (such as school nurses, school counselors, and social workers); and
- Community members.

The wellness committee shall provide written recommendations to the District's Child Nutrition Director concerning menus and other foods sold in the school cafeteria. Such recommendations shall be based, at least in part, on the information the Committee receives from the District on the requirements and standards of the National School Lunch Program and from menus for the National School Lunch Program and other food sold in the school cafeteria on a quarterly basis.

The wellness committee will meet at least quarterly. Meeting dates for the wellness committee will be placed on the District's calendar.

School Health Coordinator

To assist the wellness committee in ensuring that the District fulfills the requirements of this policy, a District level School Health Coordinator (Designated District Official) shall be appointed. In addition, a school level School Health Coordinator shall be appointed who shall be responsible for assisting the District level School Health Coordinator in ensuring that each school fulfills the requirements of this policy.

Goals

In its efforts to improve the school nutrition environment, promote student health, and reduce childhood obesity, the District will adhere to the DESE Rules Governing Nutrition and Physical Activity Standards And Body Mass Index For Age Assessment Protocols. To promote nutrition, physical activity, and other school based activities that will improve student wellness, the District, working with the wellness committee, has established the following goals:

1. Implement a grade appropriate nutrition education program that will develop an awareness of and appreciation for nutrition and physical activity throughout the curriculum;
2. Engage students in healthy levels of vigorous physical activity;
3. Strive to improve the quality of physical education curricula and increase the training of physical education teachers;
4. Follow the Arkansas Physical Education and Health Education Frameworks in grades K-12;
5. Not use food or beverages as rewards for academic, classroom, or sports performances;
6. Establish class schedules and bus routes that do not directly or indirectly restrict meal access;

7. Provide students with ample time to eat their meals in pleasant cafeteria and dining areas;
8. Abide by the current allowable food and beverage portion standards;
9. Meet or exceed the more stringent of Arkansas' or the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Nutrition Standards for reimbursable meals and a la' carte foods served in the cafeteria;
10. Restrict access to competitive foods as required by law and rule;
11. Conform new and/or renewed vending contracts to the content restrictions contained in the Rules and reduce district dependence on profits from the sale of competitive foods;
12. Provide professional development to all district staff on the topics of nutrition and/or physical activity;
13. Utilize the School Health Index available from the CDC to assess how well the district is doing at implementing this wellness policy and at promoting a healthy environment for its students.

Food and Beverages Outside of the District's Food Service Programs

The District will ensure that drinking water is available without charge to all students throughout the school including, but not limited to, in the District's food service areas.

All food and beverages sold to students on school campus during the school day by school administrators or school non-licensed or licensed staff (principals, coaches, teachers, club sponsors, etc.); students or student groups; parents or parent groups; or another person, company, or organization associated with the school shall meet the Federal Smart Snacks requirements and Arkansas Nutrition Standards at a minimum. These restrictions include, but are not limited to, food and beverages sold in vending venues (machines, ice chests, cabinets) in school stores or as part of school fundraisers.

All food and beverages provided, but not sold, to students on the school campus during the school day by school administrators or school non-licensed or licensed staff (principals, coaches, teachers, club sponsors, etc.); students or student groups; parents or parent groups; or another person, company, or organization associated with the school shall meet the Federal Smart Snacks requirements and Arkansas Nutrition Standards at a minimum. These restrictions include, but are not limited to, food and beverages provided in vending venues (machines, ice chests, cabinets) in school stores or as part of school fundraisers.

Up to a maximum of nine (9) times per school year, school administration may schedule school wide events where food and beverages provided to students are not required to meet the Federal Smart Snacks standards during the scheduled time. The schedule of the events shall be by school, approved by the principal, and shall be part of the annual school calendar.

Food and beverages outside of the District's food service programs may not be sold, served, or provided to students in the District's food service areas during meal times.

Elementary students shall not have in-school access to vending machines.

The District does not place nutrition restrictions on food or beverages brought from home that are intended for personal consumption only.

Advertising

In accordance with the USDA regulations, oral, written, or graphic statements made for the purpose of promoting the sale of a food or beverage product that are made by the producer, manufacturer, seller, or any other entity with a commercial interest in the product shall only be permitted on school campus during the school day if they meet or exceed the Federal Smart Snacks standards. This restriction does not apply to:

- Materials used for educational purposes in the classroom, including, but not limited to:
  - The use of advertisements as a media education tool; or
  - Designing and implementing the health or nutrition curriculum;
- Clothing, apparel, or other personal items used by students and staff;
- The packaging of products brought from home for personal consumption; and
- Currently existing advertisements on school property, including but not limited to, the exterior of vending machines, posters, menu boards, coolers, trash cans, cups used for beverage dispensing, and other food service equipment; however, all future contracts and replacement items shall meet the Federal Smart Snacks standards.

Adoption Awareness Instruction

The District shall provide any information provided to students on the District's adoption awareness instruction that was in written form to the parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of the student, or person standing in loco parentis to a pregnant student who is enrolled in the District.

Breast Feeding

In addition to providing age-appropriate education for students regarding the nutritional benefits of breastmilk and breastfeeding practices, the District shall provide:

- Space in the District's school facilities for District employees, students, and volunteers who are breastfeeding mothers that is a private, secure, and sanitary room or other location, other than a toilet stall, that contains Access to a power source for a breast pump or any other equipment used to express breast milk where an employee, student, or volunteer can express breast milk;
- Space in the District's school facilities for District students who are breastfeeding mothers that is a private, secure, and sanitary room or other location, other than a toilet stall, where a student can breastfeed the student's child;
- Permission to bring a breast pump and any other equipment used to express breast milk to school;
- Access to a place to safely store breast milk, which shall include, but not be limited to, a refrigerator or cooler in:
  - A nurse's office;
  - A teachers' lounge; or
  - Another private location or location with limited accessibility in which the breast milk may be safely secured;
- Access to a location to clean a breast pump and any other equipment used to express breast milk at school.
- Break time:
  - To an employee or volunteer for the purpose of expressing breast milk that, to the extent possible, shall run concurrently with existing break times; and
  - To a student that is a reasonable amount of time to accommodate the student's need to express breast milk or to breastfeed the student's child on the District's campus;
- That a student shall not incur an academic penalty for expressing breast milk or for breastfeeding the student's child on the District's campus; and
- A student the opportunity to make up any work missed due to expressing breast milk or for breastfeeding the student's child on the District's campus.

Child Care

The District shall provide student mothers and fathers information regarding available child care services.

Community Engagement

The District will work with the wellness committee to:

a. Encourage participation in extracurricular programs that support physical activity, such as walk-to-school programs, biking clubs, after-school walking etc.;
b. Encourage the implementation of developmentally appropriate physical activity in after-school childcare programs for participating children;
c. Promote the reduction of time youth spend engaged in sedentary activities such as watching television and playing video games; and
d. Encourage the development of and participation in family-oriented community-based physical activity programs.

The District will annually inform the public:

- Of the web address where the policy is located;
- Of any changes made to this policy since the previous year;
- Of the health and wellness priority goals in the District's ~~S~~DSP;
- That a printed copy of the policy may be picked up at the District's central office; and
- The amounts and specific sources of funds received and expenditures made from competitive food and beverage contracts.

Assessment of District's Wellness Policy

At least once every three years, with input from the SNPACC, the District shall assess both the District as a whole and individual schools' status in regards to the implementation and compliance of the goals of this policy, including the health and wellness goals in the District's SDSP. The assessment shall be based, at least in part, on:

- The extent to which District schools are in compliance with this policy;
- The extent to which this policy compares to other model local school wellness policies;
- The annual reviews of this policy based on modules 1, 2, 3, 4, 10, and 11 of the CDC's School Health Index; and
- A description of the progress made in attaining the goals of this policy.

On the years the assessment occurs, the assessment results shall be reported to the public, including parents, students, and other members of the community as part of the District's annual report to the public.

The District will update the wellness policy based on the results from the three (3) year assessment.

District Website

The District will place on its website:

- The name, District phone number, and District email address for the District Level School Health Coordinator;
- The names, district phone numbers, and district email addresses for the School Level School Health Coordinators;
- The names of the members of the wellness committee;
- Meeting dates for the wellness committee;
- Information on how community members may get involved with the wellness committee;
- A copy of this policy;
- A copy of the annual review of this policy based on modules 1, 2, 3, 4, 10, and 11 of the CDC's School Health Index; and

A copy of the most recent three (3) year assessment of this policy.

ACCREDITATION

ACCELERATED LEARNING COURSES – 5.21

Definition

"Accelerated learning" means an organized method of learning that enables a student to meet individual academic goals and graduation requirements while pursuing higher levels of skill development, including without limitation the following coursework:

1. A College Board Pre-Advanced Placement and Advanced Placement (AP) course;
2. An International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma Program course;
3. A Cambridge Advanced International Certificate of Education course;
4. A concurrent credit course; and

A substantively similar course or program approved by the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE).

Students in grades seven through twelve (7-12) who take accelerated learning courses or other courses approved for weighted credit by the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) or the Division of Career and Technical Education (DCTE) shall be graded according to the following schedule:

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

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

A = 5 points
B = 4 points
C = 3 points
D = 2 point
F = 0 points

For a student to be eligible to receive weighted credit for an AP, or IB course;

- The course must be taught by an Arkansas licensed teacher who has received the appropriate training required by the appropriate accrediting organization; and
- The student takes the applicable AP or IB examination after completing the entire course. Credit shall be given for each grading period during the course of the year, but shall be retroactively removed from a student's grade for any course in which the student fails to take the applicable exam. Students who do not take the applicable exam shall receive the same numeric value for the grade the student receives in the course as if it were a non-AP or IB course.

DESE shall approve additional courses, including other accelerated learning courses, for weighted credit if the course:

a. Exceeds the curriculum standards for a non-weighted credit class;
b. Meets or exceeds the standards of a comparable accelerated learning course; or
c. Is identified by DESE as an honors class.

For career and technical education courses taken after July 1, 2023, career and technical courses that are eligible for weighted credit are those career and technical education courses that:

- Exceed the curriculum standards for a non-weighted class; and
- Lead to an approved industry-recognized certification or concurrent credit.

A student shall receive weighted credit for each approved career and technical education course upon the student:

- Completing the relevant career and technical pathway; and
- Earning the high-value industry credential aligned with the career and technical pathway.

A student who transfers into the district will be given weighted credit for the accelerated learning courses and other courses approved by DESE and DCTE for weighted credit that were taken for weighted credit at the student's previous school(s) according to the preceding scale.

ALTERNATIVE LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS – 5.26

The District shall provide an eligible alternative learning environment (ALE) for each eligible ALE student enrolled in a District school. The ALE shall be part of an intervention program designed to provide guidance, counseling, and academic support to students who are experiencing emotional, social, or academic problems. Placement of a student in an ALE shall not be punitive in nature.
The superintendent or designee shall appoint an Alternative Education Placement Team, which shall have the responsibility of determining student placement in the ALE. A student may be enrolled in an ALE only on the referral of the Alternative Education Placement Team. The team's placement decision is final and may not be appealed.

The team is to be comprised of the following:

- a school counselor from the referring school;
- the ALE administrator and/or ALE teacher;
- the building principal or assistant principal from the referring school;
- a parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of the student, or person standing in loco parentis (if they choose to participate);
    - The District shall document its efforts to contact the student's parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of the student, or person standing in loco parentis to schedule a meeting or a phone call for a placement meeting at the convenience of the parent legal guardian, person having lawful control of the student, or person standing in loco parentis, and maintain such documentation in the student's Student Action Plan (SAP).
- LEA special education/504 representative (if applicable);
- at least one (1) of the student's regular classroom teacher(s); and
- if the District so chooses, the student.

Students who are placed in the ALE shall exhibit at least two (2) of the following characteristics:

1. Ongoing, persistent lack of attaining proficiency levels in literacy and mathematics
2. Abuse: physical, mental, or sexual;
3. Frequent relocation of residency;
4. Homelessness;
5. Inadequate emotional support;
6. Mental/physical health problems;
7. Pregnancy;
8. Being a single parent;
9. Personal or family problems or situations;
10. Recurring absenteeism;
11. Dropping out from school; or
12. Disruptive behavior.

Before or upon entry into the ALE, the ALE program shall assess the student in order to provide intervention services designed to address the student's specific educational and behavioral needs, with the focus for behavioral needs on long-term improvement of the student's ability to control the student's behavior.

No later than five (5) school days after a student begins alternative education interventions, the Alternative Education Placement Team shall develop a signed agreement between the ALE; the parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of the student, or person standing in loco parentis (if they choose to participate), and the student, outlining the responsibility of the ALE; parent, legal

guardian, person having lawful control of the student, or person standing in loco parentis; and the student to provide assurance that the plan for each student is successful.

No later than one (1) week after a student begins alternative education interventions, the Alternative Education Placement Team shall assess the student's current functioning abilities and all relevant social, emotional, academic, career, and behavioral information and develop an SAP outlining the intervention services to be provided to the student. The SAP may be revised from time to time by the ALE placement team. The SAP shall contain at a minimum:

a. A plan of intervention services to be provided to address the student's specific educational needs and, if appropriate, the student's behavioral needs;
b. Goals and objectives necessary to achieve positive reintegration into the regular educational environment;
c. Exit criteria on which to base a student's return to the regular educational environment;
d. Documentation of the presence of the characteristics listed above that were the reason for the student's referral to the ALE program;
e. Documentation of the specific ALE programming and supports that will address each identified characteristic or situation causing a barrier to the student's success; and
f. A positive behavior or transitional plan prior to a student's return to the regular educational environment.

The district's ALE program shall follow class size, staffing, curriculum, and expenditure requirements identified in the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) Rules.

ALTERNATIVE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT PROGRAM EVALUATION – 5.26.1

The District's Alternative Learning Environment (ALE) program shall be evaluated at least annually to determine its overall effectiveness at providing a non-punitive environment that;

- Is conducive to learning;
- Eliminates traditional barriers to learning; and
- Is in compliance with the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education Rules Governing Student Special Needs Funding.

The evaluation shall specifically address how the use of ALE funds is in alignment with the district's district strategic plan in addressing identified achievement gaps and student performance deficiencies.

CLASS DESIGNATION

In order to be classified as a Freshman, students must have passed the 8th grade.

In order to be classified as a Sophomore, students must have accumulated at least five (5) credits.

In order to be classified as a Junior, students must have accumulated at least ten (10) credits.

In order to be classified as a Senior, students must have accumulated at least seventeen (17) credits.

COLLEGE COURSES– 5.22

A ninth (9th) through twelfth (12th) 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 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 graduation by Mulberry/Pleasant View Bi-County School District.

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 graduation by Mulberry/Pleasant View Bi-County School District.

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.

A student eligible to receive free or reduced price meals shall not be responsible for any of the costs for the student's first six (6) concurrent credit hours so long as the concurrent credit courses are taught on the District grounds and by a teacher employed by the District. Any and all costs of concurrent credit courses beyond the six (6) hours permitted, that are not taught on the District's campus, or are not taught by a teacher employed by the District are the responsibility of the student. Students who are not eligible to receive free or reduced price meals are responsible for any and all costs associated with concurrent credit courses.

PROCEDURES: THE FOLLOWING ARE APPROVED PROVIDERS FOR CONCURRENT CREDIT AT MULBERRY HIGH SCHOOL

WATC (Western Arkansas Technical Center) @ UAFS (University of Arkansas at Fort Smith)

The District will pay tuition for High School students that meet the qualifications for participation in the program. Seniors and Juniors are given priority, Sophomores are ranked by GPA. Students must agree to comply with the following conditions:

1. Mulberry/Pleasant View Bi-County School District will pay tuition costs for approved students enrolled in approved WATC programs of Technology and Health Occupations at University of Arkansas Fort Smith. Students must ride the provided transportation unless previously approved by the administration and parents to drive a personal auto.
2. In order to enroll in the Health Occupations or Technology programs for concurrent credit, a student must:
    A. Have high school counselor and administration's approval.
    B. Demonstrate average or above academic achievement.
    C. Demonstrate responsible attendance and discipline records.
    D. Have parent approval and commitment to education.
3. A "C" average or 2.0 GPA is required in any WATC Technical or Health course and must also maintain a 2.0 GPA in their courses at the high school for students to progress to the next level of the technical program.
4. Counselors will be notified by WATC instructors if student drops, withdrawn or have excessive absences in Technical or Health courses. Students who for any reason drops or withdraw or are dropped or withdrawn from a WATC technology or health classes will be assigned to the high school classes **for no credit** for the remainder of the semester.

Arkansas Career Education (ACE) Courses @ ATU Ozark (Arkansas Tech University)

The District will pay tuition for High School students that meet the qualifications for participation in the program. Seniors and Juniors are given priority, Sophomores are ranked by GPA. Students must agree to comply with the following conditions:

1. Mulberry/Pleasant View Bi-County School District will pay tuition costs for approved students enrolled in approved ACE Courses at Arkansas Tech University Ozark Campus or courses offered at Mulberry High School partnering with ATU Ozark. Students must ride the provided transportation unless previously approved by the administration and parents to drive a personal auto.
2. In order to enroll in the Arkansas Career Education Courses for concurrent credit at ATU Ozark, a student must:
    a. Have high school counselor and administration's approval.
    b. Demonstrate average or above academic achievement.
    c. Demonstrate responsible attendance and discipline records.
    d. Have parent approval and commitment to education.
3. A "C" average or 2.0 GPA is required in any ACE course at ATU Ozark and must also maintain a 2.0 GPA in their courses at the high schools for students to progress to the next level of the program.
4. Counselors will be notified by ATU Ozark instructors or ATU personnel if student drops, is withdrawn or has excessive absences in ACE courses at ATU Ozark. Students who for any reason drop or withdraw or are dropped or withdrawn from an ACE course(s) at ATU Ozark will be assigned to the high school classes **for no credit** for the remainder of the semester.

Virtual Arkansas Concurrent Credit Courses through ATU Russellville (Arkansas Tech University)

The District will pay tuition for High School students that meet the qualifications for participation in the program. Seniors and Juniors are given priority, Sophomores are ranked by GPA. Students must agree to comply with the following conditions:

1. Mulberry/Pleasant View Bi-County School District will pay tuition costs for approved students enrolled in approved concurrent credit courses through Virtual Arkansas and Arkansas Tech University Russellville Campus.
2. In order to enroll in the Virtual Arkansas Courses for concurrent credit at ATU Russellville, a student must:
    a. Have high school counselor and administration's approval.
    b. Demonstrate average or above academic achievement.
    c. Demonstrate responsible attendance and discipline records.
    d. Have parent approval and commitment to education.
    e. Meet all qualifications for College Admissions and Course requirements.
3. Maintain a "C" average or 2.0 GPA in the concurrent credit course through Virtual Arkansas at ATU Russellville and must also maintain a 2.0 GPA in their courses at the high school for students progressing to the next level of the program.
4. Facilitators, Counselors, and Principals will be notified by Virtual Arkansas and ATU instructors or ATU personnel if student drops, is withdrawn or has excessive absences in concurrent courses at ATU Russellville. Students who for any reason drop or withdraw or are dropped or withdrawn from an ATU concurrent course(s) at ATU Russellville will be assigned to the high school classes **for no credit** for the remainder of the semester.

Mulberry High School Partnership with ATU Russellville (Arkansas Tech University) for Composition 1 and 2

The District will pay tuition for High School students that meet the qualifications for participation in the program. Seniors and Juniors are given priority, Sophomores are ranked by GPA. Students must agree to comply with the following conditions:

1. Mulberry/Pleasant View Bi-County School District will pay tuition costs for approved students enrolled in Composition 1 and 2 through Mulberry High School partnering with Arkansas Tech University Russellville Campus.
2. In order to enroll in Composition courses through Mulberry High School Partnering with ATU Russellville, a student must:
    a. Have high school counselor and administration's approval.
    b. Demonstrate average or above academic achievement.
    c. Demonstrate responsible attendance and discipline records.
    d. Have parent approval and commitment to education.
    e. Meet all qualifications for College Admissions and Course requirements.
3. Maintain a "C" average or 2.0 GPA in the concurrent credit course through ATU Russellville and must also maintain a 2.0 GPA in their courses at the high school for students progressing to the next level of the program.
4. Facilitators, Counselors, and Principals will be notified by Virtual Arkansas and ATU instructors or ATU personnel if student drops, is withdrawn or has excessive absences in concurrent courses at ATU Russellville. Students who for any reason drop or withdraw or are dropped or withdrawn from an ATU concurrent course(s) at ATU Russellville will be assigned to the high school classes **for no credit** for the remainder of the semester.

COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES

The Board of Education President or his designee will award diplomas during the commencement exercises. The administration may select a graduation commencement speaker. The four Junior students with the highest cumulative grade point (GPA) will serve as ushers at the Commencement exercises. A student must complete all requirements for graduation to go through graduation exercises.

Homeschooled students and Foreign Exchange students designated as seniors who have participated in activities at Mulberry High School may participate in commencement exercises at the discretion of the high school principal. Homeschool students and Foreign Exchange students designated as seniors allowed to participate in commencement exercises will not be awarded a diploma from Mulberry High School unless they have met State and Local requirements for achieving a diploma issued by Mulberry High School.

Seniors must follow all ceremony dress codes during Baccalaureate and Graduation exercises.

Boys are to wear a dress shirt with a collar ***and tie***, long casual or dress slacks, socks, dress shoes or dress boots (no flip flops or sneakers).
Girls are to wear a dress, long casual slacks, or dress slacks (no jeans or denim material clothing), dress shoes (no flip flops or sneakers).

The high school principal will use discretion and be the final authority on questionable ceremonial attire.

Minimum: meet dress code
Maximum: not allowed to participate in ceremony

Students choosing to participate in the Commencement Ceremony will comply will all administrative requirements.

COMPUTER SCIENCE COURSE PREREQUISITES AND PROGRESSION – 5.16

Traditional Progression

A student who has not previously received a computer science credit may elect to take an introductory level computer science course. A student who passes a computer science course level is eligible to take the next level computer science course in the same computer science course emphasis.

Alternative Progression

A student who does not have credit for any computer science course, the introductory level computer science course for the particular computer science emphasis, or the preceding level course for the computer science emphasis may be placed in a computer science course based on any combination of the following factors:

- The student's grade point average;
- Recommendation from the student's teacher(s);
- Completion of computer science internships or independent studies;
- Demonstration of previous computer science work by the student; or
- Proficiency report from a computer science proficiency evaluation tool.

ARKANSAS COURSE CHOICE PROGRAM – 5.19

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 ~~C,~~ 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 co-curricular 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.

COURSE OFFERINGS - 9th - 12th

Language Arts:

English I, II, III, IV, Journalism, Oral Communications, Creative Writing, Honors English, AP Literature, AP Language, and Transitional Literacy.

Mathematics:

Algebra I, II, ~~III~~, Geometry, Trigonometry/Pre-Calculus (V.A.), Technical Math, Honors Algebra II, AP Calculus (V.A.), Quantitative Reasoning (V.A.)

Science:

Physical Science Integrated, Biology Integrated, Honors Biology Integrated, Environmental Science, Chemistry Integrated, AP Biology

Social Studies:

Civics, World History, U.S. History, Arkansas History, Economics w/Personal Finance, Honors World History, AP U.S. History, American Government, Psychology, Sociology

Fine Arts:

Art I,II, III, and IV, Vocal Music I,II, III, and IV, Instrumental Music I,II, III, and IV, Visual Art Appreciation (V.A.), Theatre I, II, III, IV

Physical Education:

Physical Education, Health, Personal Fitness for Life (V.A.)

Foreign Language:

Spanish I, II and III, German I,II, French I and II (V.A.)

Electives:

Driver's Education, Computer Programming I, II (V.A.), EAST Initiative

Career and Technical Education:

Agriculture;

Introduction to Agriculture, Plant Science 1, Plant Science 2, Ag Mechanics, Concurrent Credit Ag. Metal Fabrication, Concurrent Credit Ag. Structures.

Business;

Introduction to Business, Concurrent Credit Supply Chain & Logistics 1, Concurrent Credit Supply Chain & Logistics 2.

Family & Consumer Science;

Introduction to Food Safety and Nutrition, Culinary Arts and Restaurant Management, Dynamics of Human Relationships, Introduction to Digital Arts, Fashion & Interior Design 1, Fashion & Interior Design 2

*(V.A.) – Virtual Arkansas

*(D.L.) – Digital Learning

DIGITAL LEARNING COURSES – 5.11

Definitions

For the purposes of this policy

"Blended Learning" is education in which instruction and content are delivered through supervised instruction in a classroom and online delivery of instruction with some element of student control over time, place, path, or pace.

"Digital Learning" means a digital technology or internet-based educational delivery model that does not rely exclusively on compressed interactive video (CIV). Digital learning includes online and blended learning.

"Instructional Materials" means:

1. Traditional books, textbooks, and trade books in printed and bound form;
2. Activity-oriented programs that may include:
    a. Manipulatives;
    b. Hand-held calculators;
    c. Other hands-on materials; and
3. Technology-based materials that require the use of electronic equipment in order to be used in the learning process.

"Online Learning" is education in which instruction and content are delivered primarily over the Internet. The term does not include print-based correspondence education, broadcast television or radio, videocassettes, compact disks and stand-alone educational software programs that do not have a significant Internet-based instructional component.

"Public School Student Accessing Courses at a Distance" means a student who is scheduled for a full course load through the District and attends all classes virtually.

Digital Course Offerings

The District shall offer one or more digital learning course(s) through one or more District approved provider(s) as either a primary or supplementary method of instruction. The courses may be in a blended learning, online-based, or other technology-based format and shall be tailored to meet the needs of each student.

All digitally offered courses shall meet or exceed the State Board of Education's curriculum standards and requirements and be capable of being assessed and measured through standardized or local assessments. Additionally, the District shall ensure there is sufficient infrastructure to handle and facilitate a quality digital learning environment.

The District shall annually determine what District created digital learning courses it will provide to our students. The District may also choose to provide digital learning courses by contracting with outside providers of such courses, who have been pre-approved as part of the Arkansas Course Choice by the Division of Elementary and Secondary of Education (DESE). The School Board shall determine the provider method or combination of methods for the District. The Superintendent shall ensure that all digital learning courses provided to District students, regardless of the source of the course, have been approved by DESE.

District created digital courses and any digital courses the district purchases from outside providers shall adhere to the guidelines for the use of digitally transmitted copyrighted materials set forth in Policy 5.8-USE OF COPYRIGHTED MATERIALS as well as applicable statutory requirements.

The District shall require all outside providers to incorporate Policy 5.8 as a condition of the service contract. Failure of the outside provider to abide by Policy 5.8 shall constitute a breach of contract and the outside provider shall be responsible for any costs resulting from such breach.

A student may elect to take any scheduled courses digitally if offered digitally by the District or, if applicable, through the Arkansas Course Choice Program. The student's attendance in the student's digital course(s) shall be determined in accordance with Policy 4.7—ABSENCES.

The District is responsible for providing all instructional materials for each student who enrolls in a District approved digital learning course.

Regardless of any other provisions of this policy, the District may restrict a student's access to digital courses when the student's building principal determines the student's participation in such a course would not be academically appropriate based on the student's past performance in digital courses. Furthermore, the student's building principal may revoke a student's eligibility to continue taking a digital learning course if the student's performance during the semester indicates the student is not succeeding in the course.

DROPPING A COURSE – (Grades 9-12)

To drop a course, a special form must be secured from the Counselor's or Principal's office. The form is to be filled in and signed by the student, teachers, counselor, and principal. Except for emergencies, permission to drop a course will be permitted only during the first week of each semester. If a dropped course is necessary, an alternate course must be available. When a student elects a course, the student is expected to complete the course. No course may be dropped or added after two weeks into a semester with the exception of athletics in which a student would be enrolled in an alternate course as an audit (no credit).

EDUCATIONAL PHILOSOPHY – 5.1

The Mulberry/Pleasant View Bi-County School District assumes the responsibility of providing students attending its schools a high quality education that challenges each student to achieve to their maximum potential. The District shall endeavor to create the environment within the schools necessary to attain this goal. The creation of the necessary climate shall be based on the following core beliefs:

1. The District's vision statement will be developed with input from students, parents, business leaders, and other community members.
2. All students can be successful learners.
3. Students learn at different rates and in different ways.
4. A primary goal shall be to give students the skills they need to be life-long learners.
5. The education of all citizens is basic to our community's well-being.
6. Student achievement is affected positively by the involvement of parents and the community in the schools.
7. The District is responsible for helping cultivate good citizenship skills in its students.
8. Students reflect the moral and ethical values of their environment.
9. All people have a right to a safe environment.
10. Each person is responsible for his/her own actions.
11. Innovation involves taking risks.
12. Schools are responsible for creating the conditions that promote success.
13. Each person is entitled to retain his/her dignity.
14. All people have the right to be treated with respect and the responsibility to treat others respectfully.
15. For teachers to succeed in cultivating high student achievement, they need to be given the materials, training, and environment necessary to produce such results.

GRADE POINT AVERAGE

The following system will be used to figure student grade point averages with respect to club, organization, and athletic participation as well as Honor status.

Advanced Placement and Concurrent Grading Scale			**Standard Grading Scale**	
90 -100	A	5.00	A	4.00
80 - 89	B	4.00	B	3.00
70 - 79	C	3.00	C	2.00
60 - 69	D	2.00	D	1.00
0 -59	F	0.00	F	0.00

The cumulative grade point average (GPA) is quotient of the sums of the assigned grade equivalents and the classes completed. Exclude ALL physical education grades except for the PE/Health grades required in the 9th grade. GPA is calculated to the nearest hundredth.

GRADING – 5.15

Parents, legal guardians, persons having lawful control of a student, or persons standing in loco parentis shall be kept informed concerning the progress of their student. Parent-teacher conferences are encouraged and may be requested by parents, guardians, persons having lawful control of a student, persons standing in loco parentis, 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-(9) 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 grades of a child in foster care shall not be lowered due to an absence from school due to:

(1) A change in the child's school enrollment;
(2) The child's attendance at a dependency-neglect court proceeding; or
(3) The child's attendance at court-ordered counseling or treatment.

The District shall use Standards-based grading in the District's elementary schools.
The grading scale for all schools other than elementary schools in the district shall be as follows:
A =100 – 90
B = 89 – 80
C = 79 – 70
D = 69 – 60
F = 59 and below

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 grade point values for accelerated learning courses and other approved courses for weighted credit shall be one (1) point greater than for regular courses with the exception that an F shall still be worth zero (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 forty (40) days. A student transferred in with a grade of eighty-three percent (83%) earned in ten (10) days at the previous school. The student had a grade of seventy-five percent (75%) in our district's school earned in the remaining thirty (30) days of the grading period. Ten (10) days is twenty-five percent (25%) of forty (40) days while thirty (30) days is seventy-five percent (75%) of forty (40) days. Thus the final grade would be (0.25 X 83) + (0.75 X 75) = 77%.

GRADING SCALE PROCEDURES

Grades assigned to students for performance in a course shall reflect only the extent to which a student has achieved the expressed academic objectives of the course. Grades that reflect other educational objectives, such as the student learning expectations

contained in the common core curriculum may also be given. The following grading system will be used by the Mulberry/Pleasant View Bi-County School District in accordance with the Arkansas State Law.

A	=	90-100%
B	=	80- 89%
C	=	70-79%
D	=	60-69%
F	=	Below 60 %

HOMEWORK – 5.14

Homework is considered to be part of the educational program of the District. Assignments shall be an extension of the teaching/learning experience that promotes the student's educational development. Each student is expected to spend some time in addition to scheduled class instruction to achieve satisfactory work. Some assignments are long range in nature and require planned study time for their completion. Planned study eliminates the necessity of spending too much time completing an assignment the day before it is due. As an extension of the classroom, homework must be planned and organized and should be viewed by the students as purposeful. Homework is classified as either work that was not finished in class, or additional work to be done outside of class. Completion of assignments, either homework or class work, is essential to making a passing grade.

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.

HONOR ROLL AND HONOR GRADUATES – 5.17

HONOR ROLL

Students in grades five through twelve (5-12) who maintain "As" or "As" & "Bs" or a 3.5 GPA each quarter in all courses combined will be recognized as honor roll for that grading period. Semester grades will determine the honor roll at the end of each semester.

Procedures:
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, have a cumulative GPA of 3.5 on a 5.0 scale, successfully completed two (2) AP courses or completed two (2) concurrent courses or one (1) AP and one (1) concurrent course and have accumulated twenty-two (22) units of credit 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 on a 5.0 scale and/or a student who has earned all A's upon completion of the seventh semester and third nine weeks of the student's senior year and who has been enrolled in public school for the entirety of the student's high school career and in Mulberry High School for the student's entire junior and senior years 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 Mulberry/Pleasant View Bi-County School 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 Mulberry High School. Their selection shall be separate from and in addition to selection of the valedictorian from non-consolidated/annexed students enrolled in Mulberry High School.

The honor student with the next highest GPA on a 5.0 scale after the valedictorian has been chosen upon completion of the seventh semester and third nine weeks of the student's senior year and who has been enrolled in public school for the entirety of the

student's high school career and in Mulberry High School for the student's entire junior and senior years shall serve as the salutatorian 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 Mulberry/Pleasant View Bi-County School 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 Mulberry High School. Their selection shall be separate from and in addition to selection of the salutatorian from non-consolidated/annexed students enrolled in Mulberry High School.

The Valedictorian and Salutatorian will be determined as follows:

a. On a 5.O scale, all students with a 5.0 GPA will be considered.
b. The Valedictorian will be the student with the highest number of weighted and/or Advanced Placement classes.
c. The Salutatorian will be the student with the second highest number of weighted and/or Advanced Placement classes.
d. If there is a tie in the number of weighted and/or Advanced Placement classes that the students have taken, then the Verification Committee will determine the Valedictorian and /or Salutatorian based on the highest letter grades made in the weighted and/or Advanced Placement classes.
e. If there continues to be a tie after the above verification process, the students will be declared Co-valedictorians or Co-salutatorians, as applicable.

In the event that no graduating seniors qualify for honor student, the two (2) students with the highest GPA will be named Valedictorian and Salutatorian.
Parents or guardians of a student, or a student eighteen (18) years of age or older, who choose to not have the student publicly identified as an honor roll or honor graduate student must submit a written request that the student not be so identified. This form can be found in the back of the handbook.

MAKE-UP WORK – 4.8

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 in grades 5 – 12 are responsible for asking the teachers of the classes they missed what assignments they need to make up. Elementary students should be provided make-up work by the teacher(s).
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 except at the elementary level.
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.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION POLICY

The law assigns the responsibility for outlining a course of study in physical education to the State Board of Education and the Commission of Education. It clearly directs the local school board and school superintendent to see that the subject is taught in the schools. The following quotation taken from the law specifies what shall be taught, "Said course shall be adapted to the ages, capabilities, and state of health of the pupil in the several grades and department and shall include exercise, calisthenics, formation drills, instruction in personal and community health preventing and correcting bodily deficiency."

PROGRESS REPORTS

Progress reports will be sent to parents during the fifth week of each quarter. By dividing the nine weeks up into equal segments we hope to stay on top of your child's progress.

PROMOTION/RETENTION OF PUPILS

The teacher, parent, or counselor may make recommendation for retention. The student's academic abilities, grades, standard scores, attendance, age, and social adjustment are factors to be considered. Pupils in the K-6 grades are promoted upon the satisfactory completion of the class work on their grade level. Promotion will be made by the recommendations of the teacher and the principal.

Pupils in 7th & 8th grade that fail two or more core subjects may be retained. Promotion of 9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th grades are by subject. When a pupil does not successfully complete a course of study in a particular subject field he/she will be asked to repeat course. Promotion is on a yearly basis, individual student promotion will be determined by a committee consisting of teachers, principals, and counselors.

STUDENT PROMOTION AND RETENTION – 4.55

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.

Each time a student is assessed by use of a high-quality literacy screener, with results 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 (8th) grade shall be notified in writing of the student's independent grade-level-equivalency in reading and, in a parent friendly manner, the student's reading progress.

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.

Promotion or retention of students, or their required retaking of a course shall be primarily based on the following criteria.

PROMOTION/RETENTION OF PUPILS

The criteria must include the following for students in kindergarten through grade four (k-4):

- A student who has not met the third-grade reading standard as defined by the state board shall not be promoted to fourth (4^{th}) grade unless the student has a good cause waiver. The following students may receive a good cause waiver:
- Limited English Proficiency students who have had less than three (3) years of instruction in an English language learner program;
- Students with a disability who are not eligible for the alternate assessment and who have an individualized education program or a 504 plan that reflects that the individual student:
    - Has received an intensive, evidence-based literacy intervention program aligned to the science of reading for more than two (2) years; and
    - Still demonstrates a need in reading proficiency or previously was retained in kindergarten, grade one (1), grade two (2), or grade three (3);
- Students who:
    - Have received an intensive, evidence-based literacy intervention program aligned to the science of reading for two (2) or more years;
    - Still demonstrate a need in reading proficiency and who previously were retained in kindergarten, grade one (1), grade two (2), or grade three (3);
    - Have received a special education referral and a full comprehensive evaluation; and
    - Have not met exceptional education criteria;
- Students who have already been retained in kindergarten, grade one (1), grade two (2), or grade three (3) for one (1) year;
- Students who can demonstrate that they are successful and independent readers and can perform at or above grade level by use of subsequent student assessments or alternative assessments; or
- Other students with necessary, justifiable good-cause exemptions identified as appropriate by the state board, in consultation with reading experts.

The teacher, parent, or counselor may make recommendation for retention. The student's academic abilities, grades, standard scores, attendance, age, and social adjustment are factors to be considered. Pupils in the K-6 grades are promoted upon the satisfactory completion of the class work on their grade level. Promotion will be made by the recommendations of the teacher and the principal.

Pupils in 7th & 8th grade that fail two or more core subjects may be retained. Promotion of 9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th grades are by subject. When a pupil does not successfully complete a course of study in a particular subject field he/she will be asked to repeat course. Promotion is on a yearly basis, individual student promotion will be determined by a committee consisting of teachers, principals, and counselors.

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.

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 is in need of 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.

The SSP for a student in kindergarten through grade three (K-3) who does not meet the reading standard As set by the state board and determined by a high-quality literacy screener or the statewide assessment shall include an individual reading plan for each student. An individual reading plan shall include:

1. The student's specific, diagnosed reading skill needs, including without limitation:
    - Phonemic awareness;
    - Phonics decoding;
    - Text reading fluency;
    - Vocabulary-building strategies; and
    - Self-regulated use of reading comprehension strategies, as identified by high-quality literacy screener data;
2. The goals and benchmarks for the student's growth;
3. How the student's progress will be monitored and evaluated;
4. The type of additional instructional services and interventions the student may receive;
5. The intensive, evidence-based literacy intervention program aligned to the science of reading the student's teacher will use to address the areas of phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension;
6. The strategies the student's parents, legal guardians, or persons standing in loco parentis to the student are encouraged to use in assisting the student to achieve the student's reading goal; and
7. Any additional services the student's teacher determines are available and appropriate to accelerate the student's reading skill development.

All parents, legal guardians, or persons standing in loco parentis shall be notified in writing:

a. Of the content of their child's independent reading plan and progress on the independent reading plan throughout the year; and
b. By no later than October 1 of each year, or as soon as practicable if a student's reading need is identified after October 1:
    - Of their student's eligibility to participate in the literacy tutoring grant program;
    - The process for applying for the literacy tutoring grant program; and
    - Other information provided by DESE.

For each student who does not meet the reading standard established by the state board by the end of third (3rd) grade, including students who are promoted to the fourth (4th) grade under a good cause waiver, the District, during the subsequent summer and school year, shall :

a. Provide at least ninety (90) minutes of evidence-based literacy instruction aligned to the science of reading during each school day;
b. Assign the student to:
    - If the District has a teacher with a value-added model score in the top quartile statewide in English language arts for the past three (3) years, a teacher with a value-added model score in the top quartile statewide in English language arts for the past three (3) years; or
    - If the District is unable to identify a teacher with a value-added model score in the top quartile statewide in English language arts for the past three (3) years, a teacher:
        - With a highly-effective rating according to the Teacher Excellence and Support System, when possible; or
        - Deemed to be a high-performing teacher as defined by a Master Professional Educator designation.
c. Provide parents, legal guardians, or persons standing in loco parentis to students with a "read-at-home" plan to support student early literacy growth, which shall include evidence-based science of reading strategies and tools that are aligned to a student's individual reading plan for parents, legal guardians, or persons standing in loco parentis to use with their student;
d. Notify parents, legal guardians, or persons standing in loco parentis to a student regarding their student's eligibility for a literacy tutoring grant;
e. Be given priority to receive a literacy tutoring grant; and

f. Be given the option to participate in additional intensive, evidence-based literacy intervention programs aligned to the science of reading.

The SSP of a student in kindergarten through grade eight (K-8) who is not performing at or above grade level on the state assessment, as defined by the State Board of Education shall include a math intervention plan. The math intervention plan may include the:

1. Provision of each student with access to high-dosage, targeted math tutoring in the subsequent school year, which shall include three (3) or more tutoring sessions a week in a one-on-one or small-group setting;
2. Assignment to:
   - if the District has a teacher with a value-added model score in the top quartile statewide in math for the previous three (3) years, a teacher, with a value-added model score in the top quartile statewide in math for the previous three (3) years; or
   - if the District is unable to find a teacher with a value-added model score in the top quartile statewide in math for the previous three (3) years, a teacher:
     - With a highly-effective rating in the Teacher Excellence and Support System, when possible; or
     - Deemed to be a high-performing teacher as defined by a Master Professional Educator designation; and
3. Provision of each student with extended time on math instruction during or after school.

All parents, legal guardians, or persons standing in loco parentis shall receive written notification of their student's math intervention plan and progress on the student's math intervention plan throughout the school year.

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.

A student's SSP shall include the recommended sequence of courses for successful completion of the diploma pathway selected by the student but be sufficiently flexible to allow the student to change the student's selected diploma pathway. The school counselor shall meet with the student's parent, legal guardian, or persons standing in loco parentis and the student to review the student's SSP annually and to revise the student's SSP as necessary to identify the courses to be taken each year until all required core courses are completed. Part of the review shall include an explanation of the possible impacts the revisions to the plan might have on the student's graduation requirements and postsecondary education goals. Any change made to a student's SSP as part of the review that amends the student's diploma pathway shall be structured to ensure that the student will meet the high school graduation requirements for the student's chosen diploma pathway and be qualified for admission to a postsecondary educational institution or to enter the workforce. After each review, the student's SSP shall be signed by the student; student's parent, legal guardian, or person standing in loco parentis to the student; and the school counselor.

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.[2]

A student's individualized education program (IEP) may act in the place of the student's SSP if the IEP addresses academic deficits and interventions for the student's failure to meet standards-based academic goals at an expected rate or level and includes a transition plan that addresses college and career planning components. Promotion/retention or graduation of students with an IEP shall be based on their successful attainment of the goals set forth in their IEP or completion of the Alternate Pathway to Graduation when applicable.

Students who either refuse to sit for a statewide assessment or attempt 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 originally administered or scheduled as make-up days shall not be permitted to participate in any non-curriculum

related extracurricular activity, including school dances, prom, homecoming, senior events, and may be prevented from walking or participating in graduation exercises. 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. Students falling under the provisions of this paragraph shall be permitted to attend curriculum related field trips occurring during the school day.

STUDENT ACCELERATION – 4.54

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 process for elementary school students, 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.

REPEATING A COURSE

High school students repeating a course will have both grades recorded for purpose of class rank and computing grade point average. However, the student will only receive one course credit toward graduation.

REPORT CARDS

Each student's progress is reported to parents at the end of each quarter. Grade reports will be distributed in a timely manner at the end of each grading period as determined by the district administration.

SEMESTER TESTS

All students required to take semester tests shall report to class at the designated time and date. Students that are exempt from semester tests are not required to attend school during the time that tests are being administered. Students meeting these requirements shall be exempt from semester tests. (Exclude WATC Program, Virtual Arkansas, and any other concurrent credit program that requires students to take semester tests) 5th through 12th grades are as follows:

- Maintain an "A" average and not be absent more than three (3) days per semester.
- Maintain a "B" average and not be absent more than two (2) days per semester.
- Maintain a "C" average and not be absent more than one (1) day per semester.
- No Major disciplinary referrals (ISS or OSS) or five (5) minor disciplinary referrals including detentions.
- Students must have at least a "C" in the course to be exempt from semester test.
- Students that are present at school on semester test days will be required to attend appropriate classes and take the semester tests.
- Semester test scores for students that qualify for exemption will in no way be detrimental to that class grade. Semester test scores will count as 20% or 1/5 of the semester grade.
- Ten (10) tardies to school will result in a student taking all semester tests.
- Five (5) detentions in a semester will result in a student taking all semester tests.
- Six (6) tardies in a class in a semester will result in a student taking the semester test for that class.

SEQUENCE COURSES

A number of courses offered at Mulberry/Pleasant View Bi-County School District are to be taken in sequence. No student will enroll in courses out of sequence. For example, no student will be allowed to enroll in English II until English I has been completed. Students who have failed any sequence course may be granted special permission from the school administration to enroll in the next sequence course, provided that arrangements have been made to repeat and complete the failed portion of the previous course.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS – 4.45

Graduation requirements will be sent home with students prior to their enrolling in seventh (7th) grade, or when a seventh (7th) through twelfth (12th) grade student enrolls in the district for the first time. This policy is to be included in student handbooks for grades six (6) through twelve (12) and both students and parents must sign an acknowledgement they have received the policy. All students are required to fulfill the Core curriculum or the Alternate Pathway to Graduation when required by their IEP to be eligible for graduation. Counseling by trained personnel shall be available to students and their parents or legal guardians as part of the creation of the student's Student Success Plan.

This policy and the courses necessary for graduation shall be reviewed by staff, students, and parents as part of the annual school district strategic plan development process to determine if changes need to be made to better serve the needs of the district's students. The superintendent, or the superintendent's designee, shall select the composition of the review panel.

Sufficient information relating to the district's graduation requirements shall be communicated to parents and students to ensure their informed understanding; this shall be accomplished through holding an informational meeting for parents, legal guardians, or persons standing in loco parentis to students enrolled in grades six through twelve (6-12) with the school counselor and may be accomplished through any or all of the additional following means:

- Inclusion in the student handbook of the graduation requirements;
- Discussion of the graduation requirements at the school's annual public meeting, PTA meetings, or a meeting held specifically for the purpose of informing the public on this matter; and/or
- Distribution of a newsletter(s) to parents or guardians of the district's students.

Administrators, or their designees, shall train newly hired employees, required to be licensed as a condition of their employment, regarding this policy. The district's annual professional development shall include the training required by this paragraph.

To the best of its ability, the District shall follow the requirements covering the transfer of course credit and graduation set forth in the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children and the Arkansas Military Child School Transitions Act of 2021 for all students who meet the definition of "eligible child" in Policy 4.2—ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS including the waiving of specific courses that are required for graduation if similar coursework has been satisfactorily completed.

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. In addition to the twenty-two (22) units required for graduation by the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE), the district requires an additional zero (0) units to graduate for a total of twenty-two (22) units. The additional required units may be taken from any electives offered by the district. Accelerated learning courses or career education courses that are determined by DESE to be eligible for use in the place of a listed course may be substituted for the course as designated by DESE.

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.

Personal and Family Finance

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

Computer Science

All students shall earn one (1) unit of credit in a computer science or computer science related career and technical education course in order to graduate.

Community Service

Except as otherwise provided by this policy or the student's IEP, each student must receive seventy-five (75) clock hours of community service that is certified by the service agency or organization where the student volunteers or the student's parent. The community service must be in programs or activities, either in Arkansas or outside of Arkansas, that meet the requirements established by the State Board and the District Board of Directors and include preparation, action, and reflection components. A student who transfers into the District after ninth (9th) grade must receive at least the following documented clock hours of community service each year:

- Fifteen (15) hours for students in grade nine (9);
- Twenty (20) hours for students in grade ten (10);
- Twenty (20) hours for students in grade eleven (11); and
- Twenty (20) hours for students in grade twelve (12).

Students transferring into the District after grade nine (9) or students who are graduating early may receive a diploma provided that the minimum requirement for each year the student attends the District is met. The District Board of Directors may grant a waiver of the community service requirement for extenuating circumstances on a case-by-case basis, which may include without limitation:

- A major illness associated with a student or a family member of a student;
- Student homelessness or housing insecurity; and
- Notice to the public school district board of directors if the student is a major contributor to family income.

English: four (4) units

- English 1
- English 2
- English 3
- English 4

Oral Communications: one-half (½) unit

Mathematics: four (4) units

- Algebra or its equivalent***** - 1 unit
- Geometry or its equivalent***** - 1 unit
- All math units must build on the base of algebra and geometry knowledge and skills.
- (Comparable accelerated learning courses may be substituted where applicable)
- An applicable computer science flex credit may be taken in the place of a math credit beyond Algebra I and Geometry.

***** A two-year algebra equivalent or a two-year geometry equivalent may each be counted as two units of the four (4) unit requirement.

Science: three (3) units

- DESE approved biology – 1 credit;
- DESE approved physical science – 1 credit; and
- A third unit that is 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 (1) unit
- American History, one (1) unit
- Other social studies – 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

Economics – one half (½) unit – dependent upon the licensure of the teacher teaching the course, this can count toward the required three (3) social studies credits or the six (6) required Career Focus elective credits.

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.

A student who enlists in a branch of the United States Armed Forces or the National Guard through the military delayed entry program, the National Guard Split Training Option, or other similar early entry program and completes basic training before graduating from high school shall receive two (2) units of the Career Focus graduation requirements.

STUDENT EDUCATIONAL RECORDS

The Family Education Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (FERPA) (Public Law 93-380) states in part that "all academic and personal records pertaining to individual students are confidential and can only be inspected by students, parents and school officials".

1. The school will provide opportunity for parents and students to inspect records upon request.

2. The school officials will work with parents and students to correct any information on records that may be misleading, inaccurate or otherwise inappropriate.

3. The school will obtain written permission from parents or guardians of students to release records except when:
    a. Other school officials within the same school request records and
    b. Officials of other schools or school systems in which the student has enrolled request records.

4. Students that have reached the age of 18 may give permission to release their own records.

5. Any student directory information will be published only after:
    a. A notice of intention to release the information has been published
    b. The student, parent, or guardian has been advised they have the right to refuse the release of such information and
    c. A time limit of five (5) days has been given for refusal to release the information.

6. **Any non-custodial parent** who has been awarded visitation rights by the court with respect to a child shall, upon request, be provided a copy of the current scholastic records of such child by the school district or college attended by the child. (School Laws of Arkansas Act 345 of 1997)

7. **ACT 246** - No school or school district shall use, display, release, or print a student's social security number or any part of the number on any report, identification card, identification badge, or any document that will be made available or released to the public, a student, or a student's parent or guardian without the express written consent of the student's parent.

PERMANENT RECORDS – 4.38

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 graduates 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 upon the transfer of the student to another district.

PRIVACY OF STUDENTS' RECORDS/ DIRECTORY INFORMATION – 4.13

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 ten (10) 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.

For purposes of this policy, the Mulberry/Pleasant View Bi-County 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 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 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.

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. "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**,** 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.

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 at

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

The District shall ensure that all contracts that disclose or make available student personally identifiable information to vendors, including school service contract providers, school service on-demand providers, and other third parties, including without limitation subcontractors of contract providers, include express provisions that safeguard the privacy and security of student personally identifiable information that meet the requirements under A.C.A. § 6-18-2601 et seq. The District shall maintain a list of the school service contract providers that the District contracts with for school services that include or make available student personally identifiable information. The list shall be updated at least once at the beginning of each semester and provided to parents upon request.

TESTING OF STUDENTS

Standardized tests can be very useful to schools to compare its instructional program to other schools in the state and nation. They also provide another source of measuring the progress made by your child. Standardized and teacher made tests are administered to individual and groups throughout the school year to determine ability, interests, aptitudes and progress (Act 999 of 1999). All juniors will take the Armed Forces Test (ASVAB) unless prior arrangements have been made with the administration. Seniors who desire to take the test will be allowed to do so. All students may be given midterm and semester tests. Semester tests will count as 20% or 1/5 of the semester grade. Teachers may give 1st and 3rd nine weeks tests.

Teachers will give tests throughout each 9-week grading period to individuals and groups to determine mastery, ability, and progress.

The Quarterly Assessment will be administered by each building throughout the year. It will be used as an indicator of the student's progress in efforts to better prepare them for the State mandated exams.

State mandated ACT and ATLAS exams will be given to students enrolled in:

- Grades 3-10: ATLAS - English, Reading, Math, Science
- Grade 11: ACT – English, Reading, Math, Science

State mandated norm referenced exam provided by the ADE will be given to each student in grades K-2 three times per year. Please make sure that your child will be present and prepared for all testing.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

The Mulberry/Pleasant View Bi-County School District will follow all Arkansas Department of Education (ADE) and Arkansas Activities Association (AAA) rules of eligibility. Any student in the District meeting age and grade requirements by the ADE and AAA may participate in extracurricular activities. No extracurricular activity will be scheduled before 4:00 p.m. during a regular school day unless approved by the superintendent for extenuating circumstances. Students may participate in a student organization when meeting the requirements for the organization. All students are encouraged to participate in those clubs and activities for which they have an interest.

In addition to the ADE and AAA rules of eligibility, each student must be given permission from each of his or her teachers stating that the student/athlete is maintaining regular attendance and acceptable academic performance. Violations of the disciplinary code may result in suspension from extracurricular activities for a specified period of time. Students suspended from school for any reason will not be allowed to participate in any extra-curricular activities and will not be allowed to participate in any field trips either associated with academic or extra-curricular activities for the duration of the suspension or the remainder of the semester. Students must provide a signed released form by the parents before being allowed to leave campus on any approved trip. Students with a failing grade in any class will not be allowed to participate in field trips until a passing grade is achieved. Mulberry/Pleasant View Bi-County School District will abide by the following policies regarding extra-curricular activities set by the Arkansas School Board Association. 4.56, 4.56.1, 4.56.2.

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES – SECONDARY SCHOOLS – 4.56

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 the student's 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 (1) per week per extracurricular activity (tournaments excepted). 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 wave this paragraph's provisions when the student's failure was due to exceptional or extraordinary circumstances. Students falling under the provisions of this paragraph shall be permitted to attend curriculum related field trips occurring during the school day.

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.

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 the student has successfully passed four (4) academic courses the previous semester.

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

The second semester ninth-grade student meets the scholarship requirements for junior high if the student has successfully passed (4) academic courses the previous semester which count toward the student's 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 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).

HOMELESS STUDENTS

Students who are determined to be experiencing homelessness by the school's homeless LEA shall be eligible for participation in interscholastic activities.

ARKANSAS ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION

In addition to the foregoing rules, the district shall abide by the rules and regulations 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 the student is enrolled in a district school, to ensure all students are eligible for AAA catastrophic insurance.

INTRASCHOLASTIC ACTIVITIES

AAA Governed Activities
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.

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).

School Choice Transfers

A student who transfers under a legal school choice option shall not be denied participation in an extracurricular activity where the student transfers based exclusively on the student's decision to transfer. A student who transfers after June 1 of the year the student enters grades seven through ten (7-10) shall complete a Changing Schools/Athletic Participation form as defined by AAA, which must be signed by the:

- Superintendent of the student's resident school district;
- Superintendent of the nonresident school district to which the student transfers; and
- Parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of the student, or person standing in loco parentis to the student.

The completed Changing Schools/Athletic Participation form shall be filed with the non-resident school district where the student transfers and the AAA. The Changing Schools/Athletic Participation form shall be signed by the superintendent of a student's resident school district and the superintendent of the nonresident school district to which a student transfers unless there is demonstrable evidence of recruiting by the receiving school district personnel or that the student is transferring to the nonresident school district solely for athletic purposes.

A student who transfers into the District and is enrolled in the District by June 1 of the school year the transfer student will be enrolled in grade seven (7), eight (8), nine (9), or ten (10) shall be immediately eligible to participate in an extracurricular activity that is an athletic activity. If a transfer student is not enrolled in the District by June 1 of the school year the student will be enrolled

in grade seven (7), eight (8), nine (9), or ten (10), then the transfer student shall not be eligible to participate in an extracurricular activity that is a varsity athletic activity for up to three hundred sixty-five (365) days.

Procedure

Attendance Requirements:

If a student misses more than four (4) periods on the day of an extra-curricular activity, that student may not participate in the activity. The principal may use discretion in determining participation for the activity based on the reason for the student missing four (4) periods of the school day. If a student has been assigned to out of school suspension on the day of the extra-curricular activity, that student may not attend nor may the student participate in the extra-curricular activity.

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES – ELEMENTARY – 4.56.1

Definitions

"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.

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

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 or other similar events excepted with approval of the Building Principal. All students are eligible for extracurricular activities unless specifically denied eligibility on the basis of criteria outlined in this policy.

A student may lose his/her eligibility to participate in extracurricular activities when, in the opinion of the school's administration, the student's participation in such an activity may adversely jeopardize his/her academic achievement. Students may also be denied permission to participate in extracurricular activities as a consequence of disciplinary action taken by the administration for inappropriate behavior.

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 wave this paragraph's provisions when the student's failure was due to exceptional or extraordinary circumstances.[4] Students falling under the provisions of this paragraph shall be permitted to attend curriculum related field trips occurring during the school day.

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.

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

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.

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITY ELIGIBILITY FOR HOME SCHOOLED STUDENTS – 4.56.2

Home-schooled student means a student legally enrolled in an Arkansas home school and who meets or has met the criteria for being a home-schooled student, as established by A.C.A. § 6-15-503.

Interscholastic activity means an activity between schools' subject to rules of the Arkansas Activities Association that is outside the regular curriculum of the school district, such as an athletic activity, fine arts program, or a special interest group or club.

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.

Home-schooled students whose parents or guardians are legal residents of the school district will be permitted to pursue participation in an interscholastic activity in the student's resident school zone as permitted by this policy.

Home-schooled students whose parent or legal guardian are not residents of the school district will be permitted to pursue participation in an interscholastic activity in the District if;

- The superintendent of the student's resident district and the superintendent of the District both agree in writing to allow the student to participate in interscholastic activities at the District; or
- The student's resident school does not offer the interscholastic activity and the superintendent of the non-resident district agrees to allow the student to enroll in the interscholastic activity.

Although not guaranteed participation in an interscholastic activity, home-school students who meet the provisions of this policy, AAA Rules, and applicable Arkansas statutes shall have an equal opportunity to try out and participate in interscholastic activity without discrimination. The District shall provide a reasonable alternative to any prerequisite for eligibility to participate in an interscholastic activity that the home-schooled student is unable to meet because of the student's enrollment in a home school.

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

To be eligible to try out and participate in interscholastic activities, the student or the parent of a student shall mail or hand deliver the student's request to participate to the student's school's principal before the signup, tryout or participation deadline established for traditional students. Additionally, the student shall demonstrate academic eligibility by obtaining a minimum test score of the 30th percentile or better in the previous 12 months on the Stanford Achievement Test Series, Tenth Edition; another nationally recognized norm-referenced test; or a minimum score on a test approved by the State Board of Education.

A student who meets the requirements for eligibility to participate in an interscholastic activity is required to register for no more than one non-academic course in the District's school where the student is intending to participate in an interscholastic activity that coincides with the interscholastic activity in which the homeschooled student participates and shall be required to be at school only when participation in the interscholastic activity requires other students who participate in the interscholastic activity to be at school.

The student shall regularly attend the class in which the student is registered beginning no later than the eleventh (11th) day of the semester in which the student's interscholastic activity participation is desired. The student must attend the practices for the interscholastic activity to the same extent as is required of traditional students.

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.

A home-schooled student who has met the try out criteria; and who has been selected to participate in the interscholastic activity shall meet the following criteria that also apply to traditional students enrolled in the school:

- standards of behavior and codes of conduct;
- attend the practices for the interscholastic activity to the same extent as is required of traditional students;
- required drug testing;
- permission slips, waivers, physical exams; and
- participation or activity fees.

A home schooled student may begin participating in an interscholastic activity immediately upon being approved to participate by the District if:

- The home schooled student has not withdrawn from an Arkansas Activities Association member school; or
- The student has withdrawn from an AAA member school and enrolled in a home school but did not participate in an interscholastic activity that is a varsity sport at the student's resident district prior to the students withdrawal from the AAA member school.

A home schooled student shall not be eligible to participate for up to three hundred sixty-five (365) days if:

1. The District is the home schooled student's resident district and the home schooled student is not approved to participate in an interscholastic activity at the District by June 1 of the school year the student will be enrolled in grade seven (7), eight (8), nine (9), or ten (10);
2. The District is not the home schooled student's resident district and the home schooled student is not approved to participate in an interscholastic activity that is a varsity athletic activity at the District by June 1 of the school year the student will be enrolled in grade seven (7), eight (8), nine (9), or ten (10); or
3. ~~A~~ The home schooled student withdrew from an AAA member school and participated in an interscholastic activity that is a varsity athletic activity at the student's resident district during the previous three hundred sixty-five (365) days and is seeking to participate in an interscholastic activity that is a varsity athletic activity in the District.

A student who is prohibited from participation in an interscholastic activity due to number 1 shall not become eligible to participate in any interscholastic activity until the completion of the three hundred sixty-five (365) day period. A student who is prohibited from participation in an interscholastic activity that is a varsity athletic activity due to numbers 2 or 3 shall not be eligible for full participation in an interscholastic activity that is a varsity athletic activity until the completion of the three hundred sixty-five (365) day period. A student who is not eligible for full participation may participate in tryouts, practices, classes, or other endeavors associated with the interscholastic activity until the completion of the three hundred sixty-five (365) day period.

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITY ELIGIBILITY FOR PRIVATE SCHOOL STUDENTS – 4.56.3

Interscholastic activity means an activity between schools subject to rules of the Arkansas Activities Association that is outside the regular curriculum of the school district, such as an athletic activity, fine arts program, or a special interest group or club.

"Private school" means a nonpublic elementary or secondary school that is a registered nonprofit and accredited or licensed by an accrediting association recognized by the State Board of Education.

"Private school student" means a student attending a private school.

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

Private school students whose parents, legal guardians, persons having lawful control of the student, or persons standing in loco parentis are legal residents of the school district will be permitted to pursue participation in an interscholastic activity in the student's resident school if the private school the student attends does not offer the interscholastic activity.

Although not guaranteed participation in an interscholastic activity, private students who meet the provisions of this policy, AAA Rules, and applicable Arkansas statutes shall have an equal opportunity to try out and participate in interscholastic activities without discrimination. The District shall provide a reasonable alternative to any prerequisite for eligibility to participate in an interscholastic activity that the private school student is unable to meet because of his or her enrollment in a private school.

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

To be eligible to try out and participate in interscholastic activities, the student or the parent of a student shall mail or hand deliver the student's request to participate to the student's school's principal before the signup, tryout or participation deadline established for traditional students.

A student who meets the requirements for eligibility to participate in an interscholastic activity is required to register for no more than one non-academic course in the District's school where the student is intending to participate in an interscholastic activity that coincides with the interscholastic activity in which the private school student participates and shall be required to be at school only when participation in the interscholastic activity requires other students who participate in the interscholastic activity to be at school.

The student shall regularly attend the class in which the student is registered beginning no later than the eleventh (11^{th}) day of the semester in which the student's interscholastic activity participation is desired. The student must attend the practices for the interscholastic activity to the same extent as is required of traditional students.

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.

A private school student who has met the tryout criteria and who has been selected to participate in the interscholastic activity shall meet the following criteria that also apply to traditional students enrolled in the school:

- Standards of behavior and codes of conduct;
- Attend the practices for the interscholastic activity to the same extent as is required of traditional students;
- Required drug testing;
- Permission slips, waivers, physical exams; and
- Participation or activity fees.

Students who participate in extracurricular or athletic activities under this policy will be transported to and from the interscholastic activities on the same basis as other students are transported.

ATHLETICS AND AWARDS

The Mulberry/Pleasant View Bi-County School District is very proud of the athletic programs and encourages participation.

ELIGIBILITY:

a. The Mulberry/Pleasant View Bi County School District will follow all Arkansas Department of Education (ADE) and Arkansas Activities Association (AAA) rules of eligibility.

b. Must pass a physical exam and show proof of accident/injury insurance.

c. Must follow athletic team rules.

d. If a student misses more than 4 classes on a game day he/she will be ineligible to participate in athletics that day, unless there is prior administrative approval.

e. A student who is too sick to attend at least half of the school day is not permitted to participate in any athletic practice.

Students from grades 9-12 may purchase jackets or sweaters. The school district will provide the "M" award to all athletes who earn a letter for any sport. Athletes earning All-District, All-Region, or All-Star, will be provided appropriate patches. "M" awards and patches will be presented at the Athletic Banquet following the season at no cost to the student. All schools in the District will comply fully with all ADE and AAA rules of eligibility.

BANQUETS

The sponsor will have charge of planning menus and selecting and instructing servers at any school banquets. School time decorating will be limited to the afternoon before the banquet. All other banquets and events are by invitation only.

CHEMICAL SCREENING PROCEDURE

Mulberry/Pleasant View Bi-County School District Athletic and Extra-Curricular Activities Chemical Screen Test Policy:

Philosophy: It is the philosophy of the District students that participate in extra-curricular activities be encouraged and supported in their efforts to develop and maintain a chemical-free life-style. The School board, administration, coaches, and sponsors recognize the use of mood, altering chemicals as a significant health problem for many students, resulting in negative effects on behavior, learning, and the total development of each individual. The misuse and abuse of mood-altering chemicals for some students affect academic growth, achievement, activities participation, and the development of related skills. Others are affected by the misuse and abuse by family, teammates, or other significant persons in their lives.

Purpose: The purposes of the Chemical Screen Test of the Mulberry/Pleasant View Bi-County School District are as follows:

1. Emphasize concern for the health of students in areas of safety while participating in activities and the long-term physical and emotional effects of chemical use on their health.
2. Promote a sense of order and discipline among students.
3. Confirm and support existing state laws which restrain the use of such mood-altering chemicals.
4. Establish standards of conduct for those students who are leaders and standard-bearers among their peers.
5. Assist students who desire to resist peer pressure which directs them toward the use of mood-altering chemicals.
6. Work with the parents to assist in keeping their children free of mood-altering chemicals.

Method:

1. Any student in grades 7-12 who participates in any extra-curricular activity that is offered as a part of the curriculum to students within the Mulberry/Pleasant View School System can be tested. All students participating in any extra-curricular activity may be drug tested during their pre-school physicals with random testing to follow throughout the school year. When a student is no longer actively involved in any extra-curricular activity, their name will be removed from the pool of names for drug testing.
2. Periodically, between 10% to 20% of the students involved in covered activities shall be selected at random by a computer used by a health service provider selected by the District. The number of students selected will be determined by the board. Students selected will be required to submit a urine specimen under the supervision of the District.

Consequence for a Positive Test:

1. If the lab results indicate a positive test, the lab will automatically conduct a retest of the same specimen.
2. If the retest is positive, the school will be notified of the results.
3. At the time the principal/superintendent will attempt to arrange a conference with the parents and students. Results will be communicated at the conference. The student will be automatically placed on probation for a minimum of twenty-one days effective with the lab notice during which time the student will not be allowed to participate in the extracurricular activity.
4. At any point after twenty-one days the student may be tested again at the parent's request. This test will be administered at the parent's expense through the school selected lab with a written copy of the results provided to the principal/superintendent.

5. If the test is negative, probation will be lifted. If the test is positive, the student will not be allowed to continue participating in extra-curricular activities for the remainder of the school year. The coach/sponsors will be notified of this action.
6. To regain eligibility to participate during the next school year, a student must have a negative result on a test administered through the school selected lab. This test shall be administered at the parent's expense.
7. Positive results shall not be provided to police or other law enforcement agencies.
8. If the testing facility determines that the test has been altered, the student will be suspended from participation in any extra-curricular activities for the reminder of the school year.

Records:

All records concerning chemical screen testing shall be maintained in a sealed file under lock and key. The records shall not be kept in a student's regular file Only the School Superintendent, High School building Principal, and High School Counselor shall have access to the files. The files on each student shall be destroyed upon graduation or one year following termination of enrollment. A student's custodial parent/legal guardians may obtain a copy of all chemical test records upon written request.

Failure to be Tested:

If a student and/or parent refuse to sign a permission slip for screening, the student will be removed from the extra-curricular program for the remainder of the year. If a student refuses to submit to screening at any time, the student will be removed from the extra-curricular program for the remainder of the year.

Chemical Screen:

The chemical screen administered by the health service provider shall be limited to the following chemicals: Amphetamines, Barbiturates, Benzodiazepines, Cocaine (Benzoylecgenine), Methaqualone, Opiates, Phencyclidine, Propoxyphene, THC (Cannebineids) Marijuana, and Ethyl Alcohol

Rehabilitation:

The District will provide information to the student/parent regarding rehabilitation counseling opportunities for the student who has a positive test result. Students and their parents will be strongly encouraged to seek assistance in some rehabilitation program.

CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS

The school offers a number of organizations and activities that are supervised and offer a constructive and enriching way to use leisure time. Many of the organizations have requirements that are available from the sponsor of each organization.
Nominations need to be made 5 days before the election of officers, unless the organization by-laws have other requirements. (Classes and organizations)

Organizations available to students are:

Annual Staff	FCCLA
Art Club	FFA
Baseball	Golf
Basketball	Quiz Bowl
BETA Club	Science Club
Cheerleading	Softball
Chess Club	Student Council
Chorus	Tennis
Cross Country	Track
Drama Club	Volleyball
FBLA	

Officers must have a GPA of 2.5 or higher.

BETA members and officers must have a 3.25 GPA or higher.

Students must go through the sponsor when planning an activity. School fraternities, sororities, and secret societies are banned in Arkansas Public Schools.

Each organization and club may use a handbook approved by the Mulberry/Pleasant View Bi-County District School Board, but it shall **not** supersede the district policy handbook or the individual schools student procedural handbooks. When a procedure is questioned in any organizational handbook the building principal will interpret the procedure and make a decision which may be appealed to the superintendent.

DANCES

Mulberry/Pleasant View Bi-County School District Organizations may sponsor dances other than the Jr/Sr Prom. Sponsors must obtain approval to host a dance through the building principal. Upon approval, sponsors must obtain chaperones. Chaperones should be parents of students involved or volunteer school personnel. Attendees will be age appropriate; i.e. K-4 students would not be admitted to a Jr. High dance. Out of school guests must be approved by the sponsor and administration in advance.

ELECTION PROCEDURES

The following procedures will be incorporated for an election of officers within the Mulberry/Pleasant View Bi-County School District:

1. Students desiring to become a candidate for office must have enrolled in this school the semester preceding the spring semester in which they are running for office.
2. Student candidate must have at least a 2.5 average during the present semester (Beta must have a 3.25 GPA), possess leadership ability, and be of high moral character.
3. Continuous absenteeism, three (3) unexcused absences, failure to represent their class, or falling below 2.5 average shall be cause for removal from office.
4. One office per individual in each class or club. Class Officer Elections for the present school year will be held in the previous spring semester. After a slate of candidates has been established, each class will have a meeting and vote.
5. If an office is vacated, a new election will be held in a timely manner following election procedures.

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

The elementary school will allow three class parties each year. Homeroom mothers will be selected from each class to aid in the planning, preparation, and furnishing supplies for the parties. All parties will be scheduled for the last hour of the school day. Students are not expected to finance the party by being required to bring money.

FIELD TRIPS/SCHOOL FUNCTIONS

Students participating in any academic or extra-curricular trip are responsible to complete and submit all work in a timely manner. Any additional days allowed to make up work must be arranged prior to the trip between the student and classroom teacher. Individual students are responsible for securing all appropriate forms and required signatures for permission to attend any approved trip(s). Violations of the disciplinary code may result in suspension from participation in field trips at the discretion of the Principal. Students must also furnish a parental release form for each field trip. Students with a failing grade in any class will not be allowed to participate in field trips until a passing grade is achieved. Also, see bus conduct under general procedures.

Students who receive six (6) or more written disciplinary referrals in a semester may not attend field trips for that semester.
Students with ten (10) or more absences in a semester may not attend field trips for that semester.
Students with a D or F in a course or courses, will not be allowed to attend a field trip until a grade of C or better is achieved. This does not include AAA competitions.
The Building Principal will use discretion and be the final authority on students attending field trips.

FIRE MARSHALS

At the beginning of each school year, fire marshals shall be selected for one – year terms by each class.
Two students will be chosen from each class.
Criteria used in selecting fire marshals will be the same as all other election procedures.

A fire marshal who fails to maintain the criteria listed in the election procedures or fails to perform his/her duties satisfactorily may be removed and replaced by another student from that grade level by the principal upon recommendation by the sponsor.

FUND RAISING – 6.6

All fund raising activities held in the District or in the name of the District must be pre-approved in writing by the Superintendent and affected school principal. Approval will be predicated on the potential for return relative to the time and energy to be invested in the fund raising. Fund raising that conflicts excessively with and/or detracts from student or teacher instructional time in either the planning or the execution of the activity will not be approved.

Neither an individual school nor the District shall be liable for any contract between clubs or organizations and third parties.

Student participation in any fund raising activity shall:
1. Be voluntary. Students who choose not to participate shall not forfeit any school privileges. It shall not be considered discriminatory to reward those who participate; and
2. Not influence or affect the student's grade.

For purposes of this policy, "Door-to-door sales" means the selling of merchandise outside of the child's home and off the school grounds.

Secondary Schools

Fund raising in the secondary schools may only be done by officially sanctioned student clubs, spirit groups, school PTAs, or parent booster clubs. Student clubs and spirit groups must receive written approval from their sponsor and the school principal before submitting the fund raising proposal to the Superintendent.

Door to door fundraising activities are generally discouraged. If approved, students wishing to participate who are under the age of eighteen (18) must return to their sponsor a signed parental notification and permission form.

Elementary Schools (K-6)

Fund raising in the elementary schools may only be done by the school or a school sponsored organization. Door to door fundraising activities are generally discouraged, but there shall be no more than one (1) such activity per school per school year.

Schools must provide written notification of the following to parents or legal guardians of elementary students who participate in fund raising programs~~.~~:
1. Student participation in fund raising programs is voluntary;
2. Students who do not participate will not forfeit any school privileges;
3. Students may not participate in fund raising programs without written parental permission returned to school authorities;
4. An elementary student who sells fund raising merchandise door to door must be accompanied by a parent or an adult; and
5. Unless the school provides supervision, parents must accept responsibility for appropriate adult supervision.

Online Fund Raisers

All school-affiliated online fund raisers must be approved by the superintendent, or the superintendent's designee. The superintendent, or the superintendent's designee, shall act as the point of contact for all school-affiliated online fund raisers. An employee may be disciplined, up to and including termination, if the employee establishes:
a. A school-affiliated online fund raiser without the permission of the superintendent, or the superintendent's designee; or

b. The employee as the point of contact for a school-affiliated fund raiser instead of the superintendent, or the superintendent's designee.

For purposes of this policy, a "school-affiliated online fund raiser" includes, but is not limited to, a fundraiser intended to raise funds for a particular teacher's classroom, grade, student club or organization, or athletic team.

HOMECOMING

Policy: Homecoming candidates must have at least a 2.00 G.P.A. (Same as the athletics requirements).

Maids: Maids must currently be participating in a athletic sport at Mulberry High School and been a student at Mulberry High School for the previous two semesters or must have participated in a athletic sport and be a student in the previous two semesters at Mulberry High School. All senior female athletes who meet the above guidelines will be maids. Two female athletes in the 11th grade and two female athletes in the 10th grade who meet the above guidelines will be selected by their classmates as maids.

Escorts: Maids will select first from the12th grade male athletes, then 11th grade and finally from the 10th grade male athletes who are currently participating in an athletic sport or who participated in an athletic sport in the previous two semesters as her escort for the Homecoming Pep Rally. Parents/Guardians of the maids will escort the maids at the Homecoming Night Activities.

Queens: The Homecoming Queen, chosen by the senior high students (10-12) from the 12th grade maids, will be crowned.

PROM

Mulberry High School Junior/Senior Prom is a formal celebration for the graduating seniors hosted by the junior class. It is not a common dance therefore, the following rules will apply.

PROM RULES:

1. People invited: Members of the Faculty/Staff and spouses, members of the School Board and spouses, and members of the 11th and 12th grades. No one below the 10th grade is allowed from any school. No one over the age of 22 unless a current student or a spouse of current of student.
2. In order to attend the dance you must attend the banquet.
3. Once you enter you may not leave and then return, regardless of the location of prom.
4. All dates must be approved by administration.
5. Cost of prom tickets will be determined by the class sponsor and administration.
6. Students must dress in Formal Attire (Tuxedo or Prom Dress) or Business Casual Attire (Slacks, Khaki, Suit pants, Button down shirt or blouse, appropriate dress or skirt, dress shoes or boots). Hats must compliment the outfit. No jeans, t-shirts, or ball caps will be allowed. The high school principal will use discretion and be the final authority on questionable attire.

DISTRICT DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES

Disciplinary consequences may range from a minimum of a reprimand to a maximum of expulsion.

POLICY STATEMENT

The student code of conduct is comprehensive and governs all phases of student participation with regard to school and school activities. Conduct at **ALL** school sponsored activities shall be the same as if school were in session. All discipline for violation of the code of conduct is understood to be of a corrective and not punitive nature. The basic premise of the student code of conduct is to provide for and ensure an equal education opportunity to all. In order for the code of conduct to be effective, it must have the support of all individuals involved. To make compliance with student code of conduct the teachers, administrators, and staff members will make every possible effort to assist students to comply with the student code of conduct. Management techniques and counseling will be applied in attempts to encourage students to comply with the code.

Students who refuse to comply with the code of conduct will be subject to disciplinary action. The type of action taken will often depend upon the nature of the infraction, and the student's disciplinary history. The program consists of basic actions which may be used singularly or in combination to obtain the desired change of student behavior.

All teachers will attempt to handle all behavioral problems within their own classrooms. After a minimum of three (3) attempts (ex.- writing sentences, teacher detention, parent phone call, etc…) to correct the undesired behavior or the student's failure to complete any of those attempts, the teacher will send that student to the principal's office with documentation of the teachers three attempts to correct the behavior. A teacher may send a student to the office upon the student's first offence if the student's action(s) warrants immediate removal from the classroom in which the student will report directly to the principal's office.

The following documentation process will be followed:

1. The teacher will decide an appropriate and reasonable action to help correct the behavior in accordance with school policy.
2. Any conduct deemed inappropriate will result in a disciplinary referral that will be filed in the principal's office.
3. When a referral comes to the principal, a type or types of behavior modification will be used.
4. A student may be given OSS (out of school suspension). Upon his/her return he/she will be required to meet with the principal or counselor, and possibly the parent as well upon request.
5. In all instances, discretion of the principal may be used to modify penalties suggested whenever extenuating circumstances seem to be present.
6. Maximum penalties may be given whenever the offense warrants stronger discipline.

SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION AND STAFF RESERVE THE RIGHT TO MONITOR AND ADJUST PROCEDURES AND/OR ALL DISCIPLINARY CONSEQUENCES AS NEEDED.

STUDENT DISCIPLINE – 4.17

The Mulberry/Pleasant View Bi-County School District 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.

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 Mulberry/Pleasant View Bi-County School District 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.

Procedures

Teachers, principals, and administrators have the authority to take customary and reasonable measure to maintain proper control and discipline among students placed under their care and supervision. Such measures may include the use of reasonable force in the exercise of lawful authority to restrain or correct pupils and maintain order.

All students are expected to conduct themselves at all times in a manner that will contribute to the best interest of the school system and not infringe on the right of others. Consequences of violating the rules will occur whether the conduct takes place on the school grounds at any time, off the school grounds at a school activity, function, or event, or en route to and from school or a school activity, function, or event.

Disciplinary Complaints

If a student and/ or the parent of a student involved in a disciplinary ruling wish to contest such a ruling, they must state their complaint in writing to the school principal asking that the ruling be changed. If the principal does not satisfactorily resolve the complaint, an appeal is possible to the superintendent, then to the Board of Education.

Disciplinary consequences may range from a minimum of a reprimand to a maximum of expulsion.

STUDENT BEHAVIORAL INTERVENTION AND RESTRAINT – 4.60

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 the student 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.

"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.

Multi-Tiered Behavioral Interventions

The District shall establish a multi-tiered system of behavioral interventions for each student who exhibits social, emotional, or behavioral difficulty that may escalate, if not addressed, to potentially dangerous behavior.

Behavior Intervention Team

A behavior intervention team (BIT) shall be established for each student who exhibits social, emotional, or behavioral difficulty that may escalate, if not addressed, to potentially dangerous behavior. The BIT shall include members who are academic and behavioral assessment and intervention professionals.

A student's BIT 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 BIT;
- 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.

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.

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 the District's behavioral intervention procedures 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;
- 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.

LEVELS OF DISCIPLINE

PRINCIPAL/STUDENT CONFERENCE

Students who breach the code of conduct may receive a formal reprimand.

BEHAVIOR CONTRACT

A contract will be issued; the offense will be discussed as well as options to prevent the behavior in the future and discipline options if action is repeated.

DETENTION HALL

Detention hall may be assigned morning, noon, or after school. Failure to attend detention hall can result in ISS or another form of disciplinary action. Further disciplinary action may be taken if a student receives fifteen (15) or more detentions in one semester.

CORPORAL PUNISHMENT

Mulberry/Pleasant View By-County School District authorizes use of corporal punishment in its discipline policy. Corporal punishment provisions are that the punishment be administered only for cause, be reasonable, follow warnings that the misbehavior will not be tolerated, and be administered by a teacher or a school administrator and only in the presence of a school administrator or his designee, who shall be a teacher or administrator employed by the school district. **(ACT 333 of 1995).** Corporal punishment will be administered under the following guidelines:

- The principal or his designee, including teachers, may administer corporal punishment.
- The student will be advised in the presence of a certified employee as to the charge against him/her.
- Corporal punishment will be administered in the presence of a witness who is a certified employee of the school.
- Punishment will not be administered in the presence of other students.
- Refusal to take corporal punishment or its alternative will result in suspension.
- A written report shall be kept on file in the principal's office of all corporal punishment.

PARENTS WHO DO NOT WANT CORPORAL PUNISHMENT ADMINISTERED TO THEIR CHILD MUST INFORM THE SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION IN WRITING. ALTERNATIVE DISCIPLINARY MEARSURES INCLUDING SUSPENSION WILL BE APPLIED FOR THESE STUDENTS.

CORPORAL PUNISHMENT – 4.39

The Mulberry/Pleasant View Bi-County School District 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.

CORPORAL PUNISHMENT

The Board recognizes the need for firmness in dispensing with any isolated problems calling for disciplinary action which occur in the classrooms and during other activities, whether on or off the school premises. **Accordingly, the Board expects**:

1. That the principal and faculty will always be in a position to take disciplinary action.
2. That disciplinary action will contribute to the general welfare of the school or class as a whole and will be directed toward the positive improvement of citizenship of the group or individual involved.
3. That the teacher will handle his or her own discipline at all times, if at all possible. The more serious problems may be taken to the principal for advice and counsel.

Corporal punishment may be administered by any licensed employee of the district in the presence of the principal or his designee to any pupil for disruptive or unmanageable conduct, insubordination, profane, violent, vulgar, or insulting language, or other conduct that would tend to disrupt the educational process.

If a student refuses to submit to corporal punishment, the student shall receive the alternate punishment of in school suspension or out of school suspension. If the student receives out-of-school suspension he/she is to be removed from school immediately, and will not be readmitted without a conference between the parent/ guardian and administration. **If a parent signs a written note** that they prefer that their child not receive swats and have it placed in the student's folder then the student will receive another form of punishment.

The term "licensed employee" as used in this policy is defined as all personnel who require a license from the Arkansas State Board of Education to gain employment. The term "corporal punishment" as use in this policy is hereby defined as the paddling of a student. Act 333 of 1995

Except for those acts of misconduct which are so socially disruptive in nature as to shock the conscience, corporal punishment shall not be administered unless an attempt has been made to modify the pupil's behavior by some means other than corporal punishment and unless the pupil has been told that a continuation or repetition of his/ her behavior may lead to corporal punishment.

1. It will be administered in the presence of a least one other licensed employee of the district as a witness who shall be advised in the presence of the student the reason for the punishment. A licensed employee is a designee of the principal for corporal punishment.
2. It will not be administered in the presence of other students, nor in a spirit of malice or anger, nor will it be excessive.
3. It will be administered to the lower posterior only.
4. No licensed employee, other than the principal or his designee, shall administer it for another licensed employee.
5. Refusal to take corporal punishment without prior written notification will result in punishment deemed appropriate by the administration, including out of school suspension.
6. The principal or his designee will be notified prior to corporal punishment being administered. A written report signed by the licensed employee administering the corporal punishment, stating the reason for the punishment and the name of the witness, will be filed in the principal's office.

As a matter of routine, the parent or guardian shall be informed in writing of the reason for the punishment and the name of the witness on the disciplinary referral slip.

AFTER SCHOOL SERVICE

After school service may be assigned as a form of disciplinary action.

IN SCHOOL SUSPENSION

In school suspension may be used as form of disciplinary action for more serious offences.

SUSPENSION UNTIL PARENT CONFERENCE

Student may be suspended until a parent accompanies student to school for conference.

SUSPENSION (OUT-OF-SCHOOL SUSPENSION) AND EXPULSION

In some circumstances it will be necessary to suspend a student from school who are unwilling to behave in an acceptable manner or fail to abide by the district attendance policies. In suspension cases the following guidelines will apply:

1. The principal or assistant principal may suspend students for up to ten days. Further action on suspension requires school board approval and may result in expulsion.
2. A suspended student will be counted absent from classes during the duration of the suspension. These absences will count on all attendance policy procedures.
3. Suspended students are prohibited from the campus and all school functions during the suspension time without prior administrative approval.
4. Parents of the suspended student will be notified of the reason for and the duration of the suspension.

SUSPENSION FROM SCHOOL – 4.30

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.

RECOMMENDATION FOR EXPULSION

Students that have numerous and habitual conduct code violations may be recommended for expulsion. A student expelled will not be allowed to attend school or receive credit for a period of time of eleven (11) school days to one (1) year.

- ENROLLMENT OF EXPELLED STUDENT

A student who has been expelled (or who is in the process of being considered for expulsion) from any school district and wishes to enroll in the Mulberry/Pleasant View Bi-County School District, must make a formal request to the School Board of Education. Each student will be considered on an individual basis, and the Board will make the final decision.

EXPULSION – 4.31

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 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 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.

REFERRAL TO LEGAL AUTHORITIES

Students that violate the law will be referred to local law enforcement agencies for consideration for prosecution and may face other school disciplinary action.

STUDENT BEHAVIOR AND DISCIPLINE

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY POLICY

The Mulberry/Pleasant View Bi-County School District believes that academic honesty and integrity are essential to excellence in education. Education is based on learning specific skills, forming lifelong work habits, and developing mature coping skills according to each student's unique abilities. Each student, parent, and staff member has a responsibility to promote an academic culture that respects and fosters individual achievement.

Plagiarism/Cheating
Rationale: Plagiarism or cheating demonstrates a lack of integrity and character that is inconsistent with the goals and values of the Mulberry/Pleasant View Bi-County School District.

Excellent written expression of well-formulated ideas is a fundamental skill for academic and career success. Plagiarism and cheating interfere with the assessment and feedback process that is necessary in order to promote academic growth. Academic dishonesty defrauds the instructor with a false view of a student's strength and weaknesses. It may prevent further instruction in areas of weakness and delay the student in reaching his or her potential.

Plagiarism includes but is not limited to:
• taking someone else's assignment or portion of an assignment and submitting it as one's own
• submitting material written by someone else or rephrasing the ideas of another without giving the author's name or source
• presenting the work of tutors, parents, siblings, or friends as one's own
• using a computer or other means to translate an assignment/homework from one language into another language and submitting it as an original translation

Cheating includes but is not limited to:
• copying, faxing, emailing, or in any way duplicating assignments/homework that are turned in, wholly or in part, as original work

• exchanging and/or providing assignments/homework with other students, either handwritten or computer generated, whether it is believed they will be copied or not
• using any form of memory aid during tests or quizzes without the expressed permission of the instructor
• giving or receiving answers during tests or quizzes. It is the student's responsibility to secure his or her papers so other students will not have the opportunity or the temptation to copy
• accessing a test or quiz for the purpose of determining the questions in advance of its administration

No student needs to cheat or plagiarize. Mulberry/Pleasant View Bi-County School District provides numerous support services for students to help them achieve success honorably. Students who advocate for themselves and seek appropriate help when they need it will not need to cheat or plagiarize. Incidents of plagiarism and/or cheating will be judged in light of what has been taught and what the student is expected to know. If any student is found in violation of the Academic Integrity Policy, the following procedures and consequences will be followed.

Teacher procedures:
1. Confiscate the materials utilized for academic dishonesty
2. Call home to alert the student's parent/guardian of the situation
3. Complete a discipline referral and send it to the student's building principal

First Offense
• Grade of zero (0) will be recorded for the assignment
• Written referral will be submitted to the building principal
• Meeting held which may include the building principal, teacher, student and parent/guardian to review the Academic Integrity Policy

Second Offense and Offenses thereafter
• Grade of zero (0) will be recorded for the assignment. (In the case of a mid-term or final examination, the student will receive a zero on the exam.)
• Written referral will be submitted to the building principal
• Meeting held to include principal, teacher, student and parent/guardian - Academic Integrity Policy will be reviewed
• Follow up meeting between guidance counselor and student

Communication Policy
• Each English teacher will have a lesson dedicated to academic integrity in the beginning of the school year.

ANTISEMITISM PROHIBITED - 4.65

"Antisemitism" means a certain perception of Jews, which may be expressed as hatred toward Jews. Rhetorical and physical manifestations of antisemitism are directed toward Jewish or non-Jewish individuals and/or their property, toward Jewish community institutions and religious facilities. Antisemitism may be expressed in speech; writing; visual forms; and actions, and employs sinister stereotypes and negative character traits.

The following are examples of actions, when taken as a whole, that may constitute antisemitism:

- The targeting of the state of Israel, conceived as a Jewish collectivity;
- Charging Jews with conspiring to harm humanity;
- Calling for, aiding, or justifying the killing or harming of Jews in the name of a radical ideology or an extremist view of religion;
- Making mendacious, dehumanizing, demonizing, or stereotypical allegations about Jews as such or the power of Jews as collective — such as, especially but not exclusively, the myth about a world Jewish conspiracy or of Jews controlling the media, economy, government or other societal institutions;
- Accusing Jews as a people of being responsible for real or imagined wrongdoing committed by a single Jewish person or group, or even for acts committed by non-Jews;

- Denying the fact, scope, mechanisms (e.g. gas chambers) or intentionality of the genocide of the Jewish people at the hands of National Socialist Germany and its supporters and accomplices during World War II (the Holocaust);
- Accusing the Jews as a people, or Israel as a state, of inventing or exaggerating the Holocaust;
- Accusing Jewish citizens of being more loyal to Israel, or to the alleged priorities of Jews worldwide, than to the interests of their own nations;
- Denying the Jewish people their right to self-determination, e.g., by claiming that the existence of a State of Israel is a racist endeavor;
- Applying double standards by requiring of Israel a behavior not expected or demanded of any other democratic nation;
- Using the symbols and images associated with classic antisemitism (e.g., claims of Jews killing Jesus or blood libel) to characterize Israel or Israelis;
- Drawing comparisons of contemporary Israeli policy to that of the Nazis; or
- Holding Jews collectively responsible for actions of the state of Israel.

Antisemitism does not include criticism of Israel similar to the criticism leveled against any other country.

Discrimination and harassment based on antisemitism is expressly prohibited.

The District shall appoint an individual to act as the District's Title VI Coordinator, who shall be responsible for investigating any complaints of discrimination or harassment based on antisemitism. The District shall:

1. Include contact information for the Title VI Coordinator in information that is provided to staff, students, and parents; and
2. Provide the following on the District website that may be accessed through a link titled "Antisemitism/Title VI":
    a. The District's definition of antisemitism;
    b. A statement that antisemitism is prohibited in the District's educational programs and activities;
    c. A statement that complaints of discrimination or harassment based on antisemitism may be filed with the Title VI Coordinator;
    d. Contact information for the District's Title VI Coordinator; and
    e. Information on how to file a complaint of antisemitism with the Title VI Coordinator at the Arkansas Department of Education.

A student or a student's parent may contact the District Title VI Coordinator directly with any complaints of discrimination or harassment based on antisemitism. District employees are responsible for timely notifying the District Title VI Coordinator of any complaints they receive or incidents they witness of discrimination or harassment based on antisemitism.

Complaints of discrimination or harassment based on antisemitism shall be investigated and handled in accordance with Policy 6.7—COMPLAINTS.

A student who is found to have violated the provisions of this policy may be subject to discipline, up to and including expulsion.

The District Title VI Coordinator shall report an incident or complaint of discrimination or harassment under this policy to the Arkansas Department of Education Title VI Coordinator.

In addition to the filing of a complaint under this policy, complaints of discrimination or harassment based on antisemitism may be submitted directly to the Title VI Coordinator at the Arkansas Department of Education.

Nothing in this policy shall be construed to diminish or infringe upon any right protected under the First Amendment to the United States Constitution or Arkansas Constitution, Article 2, §§ 4, 6, and 24.

ARTICLES PROHIBITED AT SCHOOL

The following is a list of articles prohibited at school. This list may or may not be all inclusive.

FIREARMS/WEAPONS	TOBACCO	FIREWORKS	EXPLOSIVES
HORNS/NOISEMAKERS	LASER POINTERS	SKATEBOARDS	

ANY ITEM THAT WILL BE DISRUPTIVE ANY ITEM RESEMBLING A WEAPON

BULLYING/CYBER-BULLYING

Bullying/Cyber-Bullying is described as treating someone abusively either through verbal, physical, or electronic actions. Bullying/Cyber-Bullying is prohibited while in school, on school property, school vehicles, school bus stops, school sponsored activities. It will be treated as harassment. In compliance with Arkansas Law 6-19-514, any school employee who has witnessed or has reliable information that a pupil has been a victim of bullying/cyber-bullying, shall report the incident to the school administration.

BULLYING – 4.43

Definitions

"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; and

“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 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 (5^{th}) 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.

PROCEDURES FOR VIOLATION OF BULLYING/CYBERBULLING

Consequences:
Minimum – Punishment can include, but may not be limited to, written warning or corporal punishment.
Maximum – Expulsion

CELL PHONES AND OTHER ELECTRONIC DEVICES

POSSESSION AND USE OF PERSONAL ELECTRONIC DEVICES – 4.47

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.

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; ~~or~~
- 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.

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

- The personal electronic device is in the student's backpack, bag, locker, or pocket as long as the student does not remove the personal electronic device during the school day;
- The personal electronic device is in the student's vehicle;
- The personal electronic device is in a classroom pouch.
- The personal electronic device is in the Principal's Office.

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; ~~or~~
- 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 Accountability 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 increase by an additional level.

Students are responsible for conducting themselves in a manner that respects the rights of others. Possession and use of any electronic device, whether district or student owned, that interferes with a positive, orderly classroom environment does not respect the rights of others and is expressly forbidden.

Procedures:
Mulberry/Pleasant View Bi-County School District

A telephone is available for student use in the office. Use will be limited to emergencies or other important messages as determined by the office staff. Students should ask permission before using the office phone. Student personal electronic device use is not permitted during the school day except as permitted under policy 4.47. Student personal electronic devices should be turned off and put away (not visible) during the school day. Any student found to be in violation of this rule will be subject to disciplinary actions including the confiscation of that student's personal electronic device. If a student needs to contact their parents during the school day, they must do so through the Principal's Office phone.

Consequences for violating the rule: All incidents will include a parent/guardian contact.

1st Offense: Office documentation, confiscation of device, may be picked up in 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 and one day of lunch detention.

2nd Offense: Office documentation, confiscation of device, may be picked up in 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 and one (1) day ISS.

3rd Offense: Office documentation, personal electronic device is banned from being brought to school rest of the current semester, confiscation of device, may be picked up in 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, 1 day out-of-school suspension (OSS).

4th Offense and any recurring offense: Office documentation and automatic referral to the principal, personal electronic device is banned from being brought to school rest of the school year, may be picked up in 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, and 2 days out-of-school suspension (OSS).

• Any student that refuses to give an electronic device to a staff member when asked will receive a minimum of one day of ISS.

CRIMINAL ACTS

Reasons for suspension or expulsion. The commission of or participation in criminal acts in school buildings, on school property, or at school-sponsored events by students is prohibited by school regulation. Disciplinary action will be taken by school authorities against students involved in criminal acts regardless of whether or not criminal charges result. The following activities are among those defined as criminal under the Laws of the State of Arkansas; however, criminal activities considered under this regulation are not limited to this list.

1. Arson: The intentional setting of fires.
2. Assault and Battery: Threat or physical harm to a person.
3. Burglary and Larceny (Theft): Stealing of school or personal property.
4. Extortion, Blackmail or Coercion: Obtaining money or property by violence or threat of force.
5. Possession of a Firearm: The superintendent shall suspend any student from school for a period of not less than one year for possession of a firearm or a weapon on school grounds.
6. Possession of a Weapon: A student who uses, or threatens to use a weapon of object that might reasonably be considered a weapon to inflict physical injury to any person on the school campus or at school functions shall be recommended for expulsion for the remainder of the year with loss of all credits.
7. Malicious Mischief: Wilful destruction of property.
8. Robbery: Taking property from an individual by force or threat of force.
9. Sale, use, or possession of alcoholic beverages
10. Disturbing the Peace: insult, abuse, or assault of school staff.
    - Any student who insults or uses profanity toward a staff member will receive a minimum of a two day out-of-school suspension.
    - A mandatory suspension home of ten days will be the consequence for any student who makes a written threat, oral threat, threatening gesture(s) or any other implied threat to any staff member
    - A mandatory suspension home of ten days and a mandatory recommendation of expulsion made by the superintendent will be the consequence for any student makes personal contact with any staff member if such contact is in conjunction with a stated, implied, or intentional physical threat.
11. Vandalism: The wilful destruction of school property will result in a minimum of three days suspension from school. In addition, the student will pay the cost of destruction and face possible prosecution. A student's second offence will result in a minimum of five days suspension from school, payment of damages, and prosecution. A third offence will result in recommendation for expulsion.

DISCIPLINE OF HANDICAPPED STUDENTS

Handicapped students that are found to be in violation of the student code of conduct shall be subject to normal and regular school discipline provided that the discipline applied does not abridge their right to a free and appropriate education. The committee developing a handicapped student's individual Education Plan (IEP) shall take into consideration all aspects of the discipline code that will create an unfair environment for the student and include that information in the IEP. Handicapped students may be excluded from school but only in extreme cases and only for duration of not more than ten (10) days. Students that habitually violate the student code of conduct shall be considered for a change of placement to a more appropriate environment. In the event that a handicapped student is suspended from school, the IEP committee shall meet to determine the cause and effect of the suspension with a view toward assessing the effectiveness and appropriateness of the student's placement and toward minimizing the detrimental effect of the suspension. Alternative educational programming will be offered to the student for the duration of the suspension.

DISRUPTION OF THE SCHOOL ENVIRONMENT AND DISORDERLY CONDUCT

Willfully causing a disruption in the educational environment.

DISRUPTION OF SCHOOL – 4.20

Definitions

"Appropriate interim learning environment" means an appropriate learning environment that is used for a period of time not to exceed ten (10) days.

"Appropriate learning environment" means a setting within the District that provides a similar structure to the following, without limitation:

1. A classroom; or
2. In-school suspension.

"Violent or abusive behavior" means, without limitation:

a. Using threatening language;
b. Throwing an item that risks or causes:
    - Harm to another individual;
    - Injury to another individual; or
    - Damage to property;
c. Physically abusing a teacher or another student; or
d. Any other similar action that presents a physical danger or a threat of physical danger to a teacher or another student.

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.

A teacher may, but is not required to, remove a student from class:

- Who has been documented by the teacher as repeatedly interfering with the teacher's ability to teach the students in the class or with the ability of the student's classmates to learn; or
- Whose behavior is so unruly, disruptive, violent, 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.

A student who is removed from class shall:

- Be sent to the office of the principal or the principal's designee;
- Be escorted from the classroom by the school administration if the student refuses to leave the classroom voluntarily;
- Not be returned to the teacher's class until a conference is held; and
- Be placed in another appropriate classroom learning environment until the conference is completed.

The conference shall be held for the purpose of:

1. Determining the causes of the problem that led to the student's removal and possible solutions;
2. Serving as a manifestation determination review if the student removed from the class is a student with a disability;
3. Determining if a behavioral threat assessment is necessary for the student who was removed from the class due to violent behavior.

The following individuals shall be present at the conference:

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

The failure of the parents, legal guardians, persons having lawful control of the student, or persons standing in loco parentis to attend the conference shall not prevent the conference from being held nor prevent any action from being taken as a result of that conference.

Following the conclusion of the conference, the principal or the principal's designee may take any of the following actions against a student who was removed from class:

- Place the student into another appropriate learning environment or into in-school suspension;
- Except for a student who was removed for violent or abusive behavior, return the student to the class; or
- Take other appropriate action consistent with the District's discipline policy, state law, and federal law.

A student who is removed from class three (3) times during the same school year shall be placed in another appropriate learning environment for the remainder of the school year.

The District shall follow all requirements under the IDEA and 504 for students with a disability, including those surrounding a change in placement.

PROCEDURES FOR VIOLATING DISRUPTION OF THE SCHOOL ENVIRONMENT AND DISORDERLY CONDUCT RULE

Consequences:
1st Offense: Student will be counseled and warned , 2nd Offense: Corporal Punishment or ISS, 3rd Offense: OSS

DRESS CODE/APPEARANCE

STUDENT DRESS AND GROOMING – 4.25

The Mulberry/Pleasant View Bi-County School District Board of Education recognizes that dress can be a matter of personal taste and preference. At the same time, the District has a responsibility to promote an environment conducive to student learning. This requires limitations to student dress and grooming that could be disruptive to the educational process because they are immodest, disruptive, unsanitary, unsafe, could cause property damage, or are offensive to common standards of decency.
Students are prohibited from wearing, while on the school grounds during the school day and at school-sponsored events, clothing that exposes underwear, buttocks, or the breast of a female. This prohibition does not apply, however to a costume or uniform worn by a student while participating in a school-sponsored activity or event.

A student shall not be disciplined or discriminated against based upon the student's natural, protective, or cultural hairstyle. A student's natural, protective, or cultural hairstyle includes without limitation afros, dreadlocks, twists, locs, braids, cornrow braids, Bantu knots, curls, and hair styled to protect hair texture or for cultural significance.

The Superintendent shall establish student dress codes for the District's schools, to be included in the student handbook, and are consistent with the above criteria.

PROCEDURES FOR DRESS CODE/APPEARANCE 5th – 12th GRADES

We take pride in the appearance of our students. The dress code is designed to minimize the number of distractions and controversial situations that tend to arise related to fashion trends and slogans that tend to be distasteful and/or vulgar. Students that are found to be in violation of the dress code will be instructed to change into appropriate clothing. If appropriate clothing is not available a parent will be notified. Students will be given appropriate clothing to wear until the end of the day. The following is a list of appearance regulations:

- Students will wear appropriate clothing.
- No student will wear sleeveless tops or tops that expose the midriff.
- Walking shorts and short skirts will be permitted only when the length shall not be shorter than 6 inches above the knee or deemed appropriate by the administration.
- Students will not wear clothing displaying inappropriate, controversial, vulgar or distasteful slogans, alcohol or tobacco advertising, advocating drug use, or the occult.

- Shoes must be worn at all times.
- Students will not wear caps, hats, bandannas, or other head covering in school buildings.
- Students will not wear sunglasses in the school buildings.
- Students wearing overalls will wear bib up and fastened.
- Clothing with holes will require underclothing or spandex to be appropriate.
- Holes in pants cannot be more than 6 inches above the knee
- No skin-tight spandex shorts, tops or clothing.
- No Yoga pants, leggings, etc… allowed unless they are fully covered around the waist area to the thigh area by a shirt or jacket in the front and the back
- No sleep wear that violates the above rules or is deemed inappropriate by the administration.

Students are prohibited from wearing, while on the school grounds during the school day and at school-sponsored events, clothing that exposes underwear, buttocks, or the breast of a female.

Consequences:
1st Offense: Warning and Change of Dress, 2nd Offense: Detention and Change of Dress, 3rd Offense: ISS, After School Service and Change of Dress

PROCEDURES FOR DRESS CODE/APPEARANCE K-4TH GRADES

Dress and appearance must not present health and safety hazards or cause disruption of the educational process. Dress and appearance guidelines are intended to help all of our students focus on learning.

● Students may not wear strapless tops, halter tops, crop tops, shirts with large sleeveless openings, or any clothing that exposes underwear, buttocks, or the breast of a female.
● Students may not wear shorts or pants that are determined by administrators to be inappropriate.
● Students may not wear any clothing with messages that are disruptive or inappropriate. Examples: drugs, alcohol, sexual content, violent content, racial content.
● Students may not wear hats or hoods in the building except on special dress up days or under special circumstances.
● Students may not wear skates or shoes with rollers to school.

Consequences:
Minimum: Parents will be contacted if clothing or student appearance becomes a distraction from learning.
Maximum: Students will be provided a change of clothes or parents may be contacted to bring a change of clothes.

DRUGS AND ALCOHOL

Authorized official of the school shall automatically suspend any student found in possession of, in the act of using alcohol, marijuana and any drug which the student has no prescription from a duly recognized physician. Student shall automatically be suspended who is caught selling or distributing alcohol and/or harmful drugs to other students. These policies apply when the act (s) take place in school, on school grounds, on school buses and/or at any school-sponsored event, during or after regular school hours. Recommendation of expulsion may be made if the situation seems to be sufficiently grave.

DRUGS AND ALCOHOL – 4.24
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 Mulberry/Pleasant View Bi-County 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;1
- 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.

Controlled Substance Discipline Procedures

Students who involve themselves with illegal controlled substances (including alcohol) and participate in school activities are not appropriately fulfilling their responsibilities to properly represent their school and set good examples for others. Therefore, the following policy has been developed for school administrators to follow when controlled substance problems are encountered.

The Mulberry/Pleasant View Bi-County School District prohibits the use, unlawful possession or distribution of illicit drugs, look-alike drugs, drug paraphernalia, the misuse of prescription or non-prescription drugs, being under the influence of drugs/ alcohol, and/ or the use or possession of alcohol by students or persons on school premises, on the school bus or as part of any school activity.

If a student exhibits symptoms of possible drug use, this will give administration reasonable suspicion to act on the problem in order to protect the safety and welfare of other students in school. The parents of the suspected student will be notified.

DISCIPLINARY ACTION TAKEN TOWARD STUDENTS WHO ARE INVOLVED WITH CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES – (The possession, use, sale, or distribution of any controlled substance or paraphernalia shall be prohibited on school grounds, at any school activity, or at any extracurricular activities while a student is enrolled in Mulberry/Pleasant View Bi-County Public Schools.)

Any Violation – The student shall be suspended with a possible recommendation for long term suspension or expulsion. The police and parents will be notified. During the suspension time, the student will not be allowed to attend any curricular or extracurricular activities which occur outside the regular school day. The student will be automatically removed from all extracurricular activities and shall not be allowed to participate, practice, or attend any school activities for the duration of the suspension.

PROCEDURES FOR VIOLATING DRUGS AND ALCOHOL RULE

Consequences:
Minimum – Three (3) day suspension
Maximum – Recommendation for Expulsion

DUE PROCESS

Every student is entitled to due process in every instance of disciplinary action for which the student by be subjected to penalties or expulsion. (Ark. Stat. Ann. 80-1516)

1. Due process is afforded to students in disciplinary cases of some magnitude.
2. The due process rights of students and parents are as follows:
    a) Prior to any suspension, the principal or his/her designee, shall advise the pupil in question of the particular misconduct of which he or she is accused, as well as the basis for such accusation.
    b) The pupil shall be given an opportunity at that time to explain his/her version of the facts to the school principal and his/her designee.
    c) Parents will be notified of suspension and the reason (s) for the suspension shall be given to the parent (s) or guardian of the pupil.
    d) Any parent (s), tutor or legal guardian of a pupil suspended shall have the right to appeal to the superintendent of schools, or the Board of Education when the superintendent initiates the suspension process.
    e) All school district board meetings entertaining such appeals shall be conducted in executive session if requested by the parent or guardian, provided after hearing all testimony and debate, the board of directors shall conclude the executive session and reconvene in public session to vote on such appeal.

FIGHTING

There is to be no fighting on campus. If a student strikes another student with the intent to cause bodily injury, this will be considered fighting. Fighting or threatening to fight at school, or at school-sponsored activities will not be tolerated. An altercation is a fight if any or all the following are present:

- Significant disruption of the educational environment.
- Difficulty in separating the participants.
- Visual or visible evidence of an altercation.

An altercation is an assault if it is a violent action without provocation towards another student and/or school staff member with the intent to do bodily harm.

A fight can occur in these levels:

A. Victim – Attacker

A victim could be classified in two ways – passive or self-defending. If victim status is revealed by investigation, no action would be taken against the victim. Close scrutiny would be directed at the level of self-defense to assure that undue retaliation was not present. If undue retaliation were determined, the self-defender would be classified as a participant.

B. Participant

Some fights do not have a victim/attacker pattern. In this type of fight each person is a participant, actively involved in the fight. Sometimes the involvement is equal; sometimes one participant can be identified as the aggressor or as the more violent.

C. Co-Participant

A co-participant is a student that is found through investigation to be actively involved in instigating a fight for pleasure, video purposes, etc.… The punishment for being a co-participant shall be the same as the participant.

STUDENT ASSAULT OR BATTERY – 4.21

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.

PROCEDURES FOR VIOLATING THE FIGHTING RULE

Consequences for grades 5-12:
1st Offense: Three (3) days Out of School Suspension and Law enforcement may be contacted.
2nd Offense: Five (5) days Out of School Suspension and Law enforcement may be contacted.
3rd Offense: Ten (10) days OSS, Recommendation for Expulsion and Law enforcement will be contacted.
Consequences for grades K-4:
1st Offense: Paddling or one (1) day ISS
2nd Offense: Paddling or two (2) days ISS
3rd Offense: OSS

FOOD AND DRINKS

No unauthorized open drinks or food items will be allowed in the school buildings or classrooms during times of classroom instruction.

GANGS AND GANG ACTIVITY – 4.26

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.
The following actions are prohibited by students on school property or at school functions:

1. Wearing or possessing any clothing, bandanas, jewelry, symbol, or other sign associated with membership in, or representative of, any gang;
2. Engaging in any verbal or nonverbal act such as throwing signs, gestures, or handshakes representative of membership in any gang;
3. Recruiting, soliciting, or encouraging any person through duress or intimidation to become or remain a member of any gang; and/or
4. Extorting payment from any individual in return for protection from harm from any gang.

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.

HALL CONDUCT

Running in the halls is prohibited. During classes all unnecessary traffic in the halls should be avoided. Scuffling, pushing and shoving are definitely forbidden.
Consequences:
1st Offense: Warning, 2nd Offense: Detention, 3rd Offense: ISS or OSS.

INSUBORDINATION, INSOLENCE, OR DISRESPECT

Willful disobedience and misconduct or disrespect to teachers, administrators of staff in class, campus or approved school activity.

INSULT OR ABUSE OF LICENSED PERSONNEL

Employees are protected from abusive language and conduct by state law. An employee may report to the police any language which is calculated to:
1. Cause a breach of the peace;
2. Materially and substantially interfere with the operation of the school; and/or
3. Arouse the person to whom the language is addressed to anger, to the extent likely to cause imminent retaliation.

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

PROCEDURES FOR VIOLATING THE INSUBORDINATION, INSOLENCE, OR DISRESPECT RULE

Consequences:
1st Offense: Warning, Detention, Corporal Punishment, or ISS
2nd Offense: Corporal Punishment or ISS
3rd Offense: Three (3) days OSS

LASER POINTERS – 4.28

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; en 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.

PROHIBITED CONDUCT – 4.18

Students and staff require a safe and orderly learning environment that is conducive to high student achievement. Certain student behaviors are unacceptable in such an environment and are hereby prohibited by the Board. 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 and use of a personal electronic device except as authorized by Policy 4.47 or by the student's IEP or 504 Plan;
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, sexual orientation, gender identity, 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; and
22. Bullying;
23. Operating a vehicle on school grounds while using a wireless communication device;
24. Theft of another individual's personal property; and
25. Antisemitism

The Board directs each school in the District to develop implementation regulations for prohibited student conduct consistent with applicable Board policy, State and Federal laws, and judicial decisions.

PUBLIC DISPLAY OF AFFECTION

Inappropriate contact is strictly forbidden.
Consequences:
1st Offense: Warning, 2nd Offense: Detention, 3rd Offense: ISS or OSS.

SEARCH AND SEIZURE

Searches will be conducted in a discretionary manner and only when there is reasonable cause that there may be items on a person or in his possession that would hinder or disrupt the normal education process of the school.
Items seized during a search will be in the control of the school and will be transmitted to the appropriate authorities when necessary. In most cases items will not be returned. In no instances will items be returned before appropriate disciplinary action has been taken and a parent conference held.

- Lockers
  a) Students lockers are property of the school district. Lockers are pre-assigned to pupils. Therefore, lockers and the contents thereof are subject to periodic administrative search without student permission.
  b) Disciplinary action may range from student conference to expulsion from school as directed by due process.
- Student Search
  a) A search of a student will be limited to situations where the school administration has reasonable cause to believe the student is concealing evidence of an illegal act, contraband, controlled substance, or has violated a school rule.
  b) Law enforcement officials may be requested to assist in a personal search.
  c) Personal searches will be conducted in a private place by the principal or his designee and under his supervision. An adult witness (school employee) will be present at all times during searching proceedings.
  d) Student permission will be requested before a personal search is conducted. A search warrant may be obtained if a student denies permission of a personal search except in cases where there is reasonable suspicion that a student is concealing a weapon of any type.
  e) Strip and/or pat searches will be done by a school official or law enforcement official of the same sex under the supervision of the principal or his designee.

SEARCH, SEIZURE, AND INTERROGATIONS – 4.32

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. 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 afterhours telephone number.

STUDENT REGULATIONS

- Students shall be responsible for arriving at class prepared for class with appropriate materials.
- Students must have permission from parents and school administration to leave campus.
- Students will not eat or drink in any classroom during regular class time. (except water)
- Students will conduct themselves appropriately inside all school buildings.
- Students will conduct themselves appropriately in the lunchroom.
- Students will not make close contact of any nature with another student at school.
- No student will be allowed to drive a private vehicle to an off campus school-sponsored activity without expressed and written parental and school administrative permission.
- Students will be provided school transportation to off campus activities. Students will return from off campus activities via school transportation. The only exception is if a student is returning home with a parent, and that parent has signed a sign–out sheet with the school staff in charge.
- Students are expected to show proper respect to all persons with whom they come in contact. This includes students, teachers, school staff members, school administrators and visitors.

4.27—STUDENT SEXUAL HARASSMENT

The Mulberry/Pleasant View Bi-County 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;
- 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, or
    b. Uses the rejection of sexual conduct as the basis for academic decisions affecting that individual,
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 individualized supportive measures to the complainant unless declined in writing by the complainant and shall provide individualized supportive measures that are non-disciplinary ad 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) 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) 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 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.

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 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.

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

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 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.

PROCEDURES FOR VIOLATING THE STUDENT SEXUAL HARASSMENT POLICY

Minimum – Punishment can include, but may not be limited to, written warning or corporal punishment.
Maximum – Expulsion

TOBACCO, ELECTRONIC NICOTINE DELIVERY SYSTEMS, AND RELATED PRODUCTS – 4.23

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, or under any other name or descriptor.

Procedures

This policy prohibits the use of any and all nicotine products, including ENDS (Electronic Nicotine Delivery System), at all campus and off campus, school sponsored events.
The Mulberry/Pleasant View Bi-County School District prohibits the wearing or use of gear that advertises tobacco or tobacco paraphernalia, including all nicotine and ENDS products, by students, faculty, and staff. The Mulberry/Pleasant View Bi-County School District also prohibits tobacco company sponsorship, marketing, and giveaways.

Tobacco education classes may be offered for all K-12 classes during the school year

The Mulberry/Pleasant View School District informs students/staff about tobacco cessation programs available within the community or Arkansas Tobacco Quitline (1-800-QUIT-NOW). School counselors and community are encouraged to establish voluntary tobacco cessation programs at their schools.

PROCEDURES FOR VIOLATING THE TOBACCO POLICY

Consequences:
1st Offense: Corporal Punishment, Detention, ISS, or OSS
2nd Offense: Participation and Completion of Cessation Program, Detention, ISS, or OSS
3rd Offense: Three (3) days OSS and Parent Conference

WEAPONS AND DANGEROUS INSTRUMENTS – 4.22

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. 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.

VEHICLES

STUDENTS' VEHICLES – 4.33

Students who have presented a valid driver's license and proof of insurance to the appropriate office personnel, may drive their 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 for any reason during the school day 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.

PROCEDURES FOR VEHICLES

Operating a motor vehicle on campus and driving to school is a privilege. Any student that cannot or will not operate a vehicle in a safe manner will not be allowed driving privilege at all district schools. All students must comply with the following:

- Students must have a valid Arkansas driver's license.
- Students must operate a properly licensed and insured vehicle.
- Driving permits must be obtained from the Principal's office.
- Vehicle must be parked at the designated parking place and left there.
- Reckless driving will result in the suspension of driving privileges.
- Students will not sit in parked vehicles on campus. Immediately upon entering the campus, student drivers will park their car and leave the car to go to into the school.
- Students will not visit their vehicles without expressed permission from the school office.
- For students who drive to school and are tardy first period, driving privileges will be lost for two days on the fourth (first hour) tardy. This will increase by two days for each succeeding tardy, e.g., fifth tardy/four days loss of driving privileges.

ANY VIOLATION OF THE STUDENT DRIVING POLICY MAY RESULT IN THE SUSPENSION OR REVOCATION OF DRIVING PRIVILEGE.

VIDEO SURVEILLANCE AND OTHER STUDENT MONITORING – 4.48

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 one day 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 as determined by board policy or student handbook**;** any release or viewing of such records shall be in accordance with current law.

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

MARVIN PRIMARY DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES

OFFICE REFFERALS

Being sent to the office could result in any of the following disciplines, at the administrator's discretion:

- Lunch Detention
- Paddling
- In-School Suspension
- Suspension/Expulsion

After every major infraction the Parent/or Guardian will be notified by phone or by letter and reminded of possible suspension. A conference will be held with the Parent/or Guardian after each major infraction, if possible.

After suspension, Parent/or Guardian must accompany the student, before being admitted to school, for a conference and told of possible expulsion at next offense.

Any parent (s) or legal guardian of a pupil suspended shall have the right to appeal to the Superintendent of schools.

The following list of infractions is not intended to be exclusive or all-inclusive. All types of infractions may not be included and so modifications will be made at the discretion of the principal. In all instances, discretion of the principal may be used to modify penalties suggested whenever extenuating circumstances seem to be present.

Minor Offenses

- Talking out of turn
- Chewing gum
- Bringing food or other similar items into class
- Inattentiveness in class
- Abusive language or action to other students: name-calling, etc. (This does not include profane or vulgar language)
- Inconsiderate conduct toward fellow students
- Failure to observe the dress code (Student will be sent home to change)
- Insubordination, insolence, or disrespect to administrators, teachers, or staff.
- Tardiness, Students arriving at school after 8:05 a.m. must check in through the office. Tardies for each class will be recorded by the teachers. See Tardy Policy.

Major Offenses

- Refusing to accept discipline as prescribed by a teacher or principal
- Truancy (absence from school without knowledge of parents and school)
- Skipping class
- Stealing
- Willful destruction of property (Students pay for property)
- Fighting
- Possession of anything which could be considered a weapon

- Indecent acts
- Participation in disruptive acts
- Possession of firearms and fireworks on school property
- Use of offensive, vulgar, or profane language
- Possession of, use of, or under the influence of alcohol or drugs
- Smoking, use of any tobacco product
- Refusal of student to identify himself to proper authorities
- Constant and/or continued infraction of a minor offense
- Gambling
- Physical assault on school staff
- Harassment
- Failure to attempt a reasonable academic effort

DISCIPLINE PROCEDURES:

Minor Offenses

GRADE K--4

Classroom Discipline:

1. Name on Board
2. Contact parent or guardians
3. Detention
4. Sent to office and/or corporal punishment

Major Offenses

Discipline:

1. Parent contacted and conference with the Principal
2. Paddling or ISS
3. Contact parents or guardians and out of school suspension
4. Possible Expulsion

Modifications will be made at the discretion of the teacher (Minor) or Principal (major). In all instances, discretion of the principal may be used to modify penalties when extenuating circumstances seem to be present. Expulsion may occur when continued attendance at school will be unacceptably disruptive to the educational program, or when attendance will cause unreasonable danger to other students and faculty members.

An atmosphere of calm is essential to learning and nothing so contributes to this atmosphere as:

- Quiet voices
- Gentle handling of lockers, books, desks
- Good Conduct in traffic areas —hall, lobbies, cafeteria, and classrooms
- Library — is a quiet zone

Students are expected to begin work promptly when instructed to do so

BEHAVIOR NOT COVERED IN THE AFOREMENTIONED GUIDELINES:

The school reserves the right to punish behavior which is not conducive to good order and discipline in the school, even though such behavior is not specified in the preceding written causes for suspension or expulsion.

CHRONIC RULE VIOLATORS

Students who continuously violate school rules in and out of the classroom and jeopardize the day to day learning of our students.

- **When, in the judgment of the building administrator, students have repeatedly violated school rules to the point of interfering with the educational process the student will be suspended and/or recommended for expulsion.**

PHOTOGRAPH/VIDEO
NON-PERMISSION/OPT-OUT FORM

(PARENTS: Complete and return this form only if you do NOT give permission for your student's image to appear in possible school publications, including postings on the website.)

From time to time, photographs or videos of students are taken during the school day for use in district and educational news releases, publications, video productions, social media, educational projects, and the district website.

If you do NOT wish to have your child photographed/videotaped for news media or school publicity purposes, sign and return this form to the school's principal. This form applies only to the current school year. Please fill out a new form each school year if you do not want your child's image published.

If you are electing to OPT OUT, please check the boxes below:

- ☐ PLEASE DO NOT PUBLISH OR IN ANY WAY USE MY IMAGE/PHOTO AND/OR VIDEO FOR MARKETING, COMMUNICATIONS, OR PUBLIC RELATIONS PURPOSES.
- ☐ PLEASE DO NOT INCLUDE MY CHILD IN YEARBOOK PHOTOS

_____
Name of Student (Printed)

_____
Signature of parent (or student, if 18 or older)

_____
Date form was filled (To be filled in by office personnel)

Please note that if your student participates in public events (such as a sporting event or drama production that is open to the community) the school/district may have little or no control over photographs taken by media, other parents, or community members attending the event.

Students 18 years of age do not require parental consent for photo use. For more information, contact the District Office at 479-997-1715

4.13F—OBJECTION TO PUBLICATION OF DIRECTORY INFORMATION

(Not to be filed if the parent/student has no objection)

I, the undersigned, being a parent of a student, or a student eighteen (18) years of age or older, hereby note my objection to the disclosure or publication by the Mulberry/Pleasant View Bi-County School District of directory information, as defined in Policy No. 4.13 (Privacy of Students' Records), concerning the student named below. The district is required to continue to honor any signed opt-out form for any student no longer in attendance at the district.

I understand that the participation by the below-named student in any interscholastic activity, including athletics and school clubs, may make the publication of some directory information unavoidable, and the publication of such information in other forms, such as telephone directories, church directories, *etc.*, is not within the control of the District.

I understand that this form must be filed with the office of the appropriate building principal within ten (10) school days from the beginning of the current school year or the date the student is enrolled for school in order for the District to be bound by this objection. Failure to file this form within that time is a specific grant of permission to publish such information.

I object and wish to deny the disclosure or publication of directory information as follows:

Deny disclosure to military recruiters ____

Deny disclosure to Institutions of postsecondary education ____

Deny disclosure to Potential employers ____

Deny disclosure to all public and school sources ____

Selecting this option will prohibit the release of directory information to the three categories listed above along with all other public sources (such as newspapers), **AND** result in the student's directory information **not** being included in the school's yearbook and other school publications.

Deny disclosure to all public sources ____

Selecting this option will prohibit the release of directory information to the first three categories listed above along with all other public sources (such as newspapers), but permit the student's directory information **to be included** in the school's yearbook and other school publications.

_____

Name of student (Printed)

_____

Signature of parent (or student, if eighteen (18) or older)

_____

Date form was filed (To be filled in by office personnel)

4.29F—STUDENT ELECTRONIC DEVICE and INTERNET USE AGREEMENT

Student's Name (Please Print)_____ Grade Level_____

School_____ Date_____

The Mulberry/Pleasant View Bi-County 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. 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.
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_____

4.35F—MEDICATION ADMINISTRATION CONSENT FORM

Student's Name (Please Print) _____

This form is good for school year _____. 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 medications to my student:

Name of medication _____

Name of prescribing health-care provider _____

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 _____

4.35F2—MEDICATION SELF-ADMINISTRATION CONSENT FORM

Student's Name (Please Print) _____

This form is good for school year _____. 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 the health care provider has prescribed the rescue inhaler, auto-injectable epinephrine, and/or nasal spray epinephrine for the student and that the student needs to carry the medication on the student's 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, auto-injectable epinephrine, and/or nasal spray epinephrine.

If the school nurse is available, the student shall demonstrate the student's skill level in using the rescue inhaler~~s~~, ~~and/or~~ auto-injectable epinephrine, and/or nasal spray epinephrine to the nurse.

Rescue inhalers, ~~and/or~~ auto-injectable epinephrine, and/or nasal spray 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, or nasal spray epinephrine shall also provide the school nurse with a rescue inhaler, ~~or~~ an epinephrine auto-injector, and/or nasal spray epinephrine 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 _____

4.35F3—GLUCAGON AND/OR INSULIN ADMINISTRATION CONSENT FORM

Student's Name (Please Print) _____

This form is good for school year _____. 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 school has developed an individual health plan (IHP) acknowledging that my child has been diagnosed as suffering from diabetes. The IHP authorizes the school nurse to administer Glucagon or insulin to my child in an emergency situation.

In the absence of the nurse, trained volunteer district personnel may administer to my child in an emergency situation:

Glucagon _____

Insulin _____

I hereby authorize the school nurse to administer Glucagon and insulin to my child, or, in the absence of the nurse, trained volunteer district personnel designated as care providers, to administer the medication(s) I selected above to my child in an emergency situation. I will supply the medication(s) I selected above to the school nurse 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, possible side effects, and any other pertinent instructions (such as special storage requirements) or warnings.
.
I acknowledge that the District, its Board of Directors, its employees, or an agent of the District, including a healthcare professional who trained volunteer school personnel designated as care providers shall not be liable for any damages resulting from his/her actions or inactions in the administration of Glucagon or insulin in accordance with this consent form and the IHP.

Parent or legal guardian signature _____

Date _____

4.35F4—EPINEPHRINE EMERGENCY ADMINISTRATION CONSENT FORM

Student's Name (Please Print) _____

This form is good for school year _____. 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 or nasal spray epinephrine to administer epinephrine in emergency situations when the individual 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 health-care provider'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 _____

4.35F4—EPINEPHRINE EMERGENCY ADMINISTRATION CONSENT FORM

Student's Name (Please Print) _____

This form is good for school year _____. 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 health-care provider'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 _____

4.35F5—ALBUTEROL EMERGENCY ADMINISTRATION CONSENT FORM

Student's Name (Please Print)_____

This form is good for school year _____. 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 health-care provider'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 _____

4.35F6—STRESS AND EMERGENCY DOSE MEDICATION ADMINISTRATION CONSENT FORM

Student's Name (Please Print) _____

This form is good for school year _____. 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 school has developed an individual health plan (IHP) acknowledging that my child has been diagnosed as suffering from adrenal insufficiency. The IHP authorizes the school nurse to administer a stress or emergency dose medication to my child in an emergency situation.

Date of health-care provider's order _____

Circumstances under which the stress or emergency dose medication may be administered _____

_____

Other instructions _____

_____

In the absence of the nurse, trained volunteer district personnel may administer a stress dose or emergency dose medication to my child in an emergency situation.

I hereby authorize the school nurse to administer a stress or emergency dose medication to my child, or, in the absence of the nurse, trained volunteer district personnel designated as care providers, to administer the stress or emergency dose medication to my child in an emergency situation. I will supply the stress or emergency dose medication to the school nurse 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, possible side effects, and any other pertinent instructions (such as special storage requirements) or warnings.

I acknowledge that the District, its Board of Directors, its employees, or an agent of the District, including a healthcare professional who trained volunteer school personnel designated as care providers shall not be liable for any damages resulting from his/her actions or inactions in the administration of the stress or emergency dose medication in accordance with this consent form and the IHP.

Parent or legal guardian signature _____ Date _____

4.35F7—STRESS DOSE MEDICATION SELF-ADMINISTRATION CONSENT FORM

Student's Name (Please Print) _____

This form is good for school year _____. 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 a stress dose medication. 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 stress dose medication 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 adrenal insufficiency 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 stress dose medication; and
    - Has been instructed on the details of his or her medical condition and the events that may lead to an adrenal crisis.

If the school nurse is available, the student shall demonstrate his/her skill level in administering the stress dose medication to the nurse.

Stress dose medication 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 stress dose medication shall also provide the school nurse with a dose of the stress dose medication to be used in emergency situations.

I understand this form authorizes my student to possess and use the medication included on this form while on school grounds and at school sponsored events but that distribution of the medication 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 _____

Mulberry/Pleasant View Bi-County School District
Medication Form

NOTE: A separate form must be completed for each medication administered

Student's Name _____ Date of Birth _____ Grade ___

The school nurse (or designee) has my permission to take a photograph of my student for identity purposes.

Signature of Parent/Guardian _____ Date _____

Name of Medication _____ **Dosage** _____

Time to be taken _____ **Ordering Physician** _____

Reason for Medication _____

In case of an Emergency, call _____

I certify that ***at least one*** dose of the medication has ***previously been given*** and **NO** adverse reactions were experienced. Therefore, I give permission for the school nurse (or designee) to administer the above medication to my child.

For an oral controlled substance, in the unavailability of a school nurse, ***the parent may delegate*** to the following designee, _____ to administer the medication at school.

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 Guardian Date

Note: Medication **MUST BE** in current original container from the pharmacy. The medication will only be administered according to the physician's directions on the container.

Date	Pill Count	Brought by	Signature/Signature (two persons)	Comments

4.41F—OBJECTION TO PHYSICAL EXAMINATIONS OR SCREENINGS

I, the undersigned, being a parent or guardian of a student, or a student eighteen (18) years of age or older, hereby note my objection to the physical examination or screening of the student named below.

Physical examination or screening being objected to:

____ Vision test

____ Hearing test

____ Scoliosis test

____ Other, please specify_____

Comments:

_____
Name of student (Printed)

_____
Signature of parent (or student, if 18 or older)

_____
Date form was filed (To be filled in by office personnel)

4.56.2F— HOME SCHOOLED STUDENTS' LETTER OF INTENT TO PARTICIPATE IN AN EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITY AT RESIDENT DISTRICT

Student's Name (Please Print) _____

Parent or Guardian's Resident Address

Street _____ Apartment _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code_____

Student's date of birth __/__/__ Last grade level the student completed _____

Student has demonstrated academic eligibility by obtaining a verifiable minimum test score of the 30th percentile or better in the previous 12 months on the Stanford Achievement Test Series, Tenth Edition, or another nationally recognized norm-referenced test approved by the State Board of Education._____

Name of test, Date taken, and score achieved_____

Extracurricular activity(ies) the student requests to participate in

_____

Course(s) the student requests to take at the school _____

Proof of identity ____

Date Submitted __/__/__

Parent's Signature _____

4.56.2F2— HOME SCHOOLED STUDENTS' LETTER OF INTENT TO PARTICIPATE IN AN EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITY AT NON-RESIDENT DISTRICT

Student's Name (Please Print) _____

Parent or Guardian's Resident Address

Street _____ Apartment _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code_____

Student's date of birth __/__/__ Last grade level the student completed _____

Student has demonstrated academic eligibility by obtaining a verifiable minimum test score of the 30th percentile or better in the previous 12 months on the Stanford Achievement Test Series, Tenth Edition, or another nationally recognized norm-referenced test approved by the State Board of Education._____

Name of test, Date taken, and score achieved_____

Extracurricular activity(ies) the student requests to participate in

_____

Course(s) the student requests to take at the school _____

Proof of identity ____

Date Submitted __/__/__

Parent's Signature _____

As the superintendent of the above student's resident district, I agree that the above student may participate in extracurricular activities at _____ School District.

Resident Superintendent's Signature: _____

As the superintendent of the _____ School district, where the above student desires to participate in extracurricular activities, I agree to allow the student to participate in extracurricular activities at _____ School District.

Non-resident Superintendent's Signature: _____

2026 - 2027 Mulberry/Pleasant View School Calendar

Four-Day Week School Year Calendar

Troy Denn, Superintendent — **Admin Office: 479-997-1715**

August 2026

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28*	29
30	31					

September 2026

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25*	26
27	28	29	30			

October 2026

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30*	31

November 2026

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13*	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

December 2026

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18*	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

January 2027

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15*	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

February 2027

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12*	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28						

March 2027

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19*	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

April 2027

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16*	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

May 2027

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

School Events:

Aug 6, 2026 Open House (5pm--7pm)
Aug 11, 2026 First Day of School--1st Nine Weeks Begins (36 days)
Oct 13, 2026 2nd Nine Weeks Begins (35 days)
Oct 15, 2026 Parent/Teacher Conferences (4:15-8:30pm)
Jan 6, 2027 3rd Nine Weeks Begins (34 days)
Mar 5, 2027 4th Nine Weeks Begins (38 days)
Mar 11, 2027 Parent/Teacher Conferences (4:15-8:30pm)
May 6, 2027 Graduation (7:30pm)
May 19, 2027 Last Day of School
May 20, 21 25, 26, 27, 2027 Make Up Days (If Needed)
*Denotes Foods of Minimal Nutritional Value Day (class parties)

School Holidays 2026 - 2027 (No School)

October 16, 2026 Fall Break	March 12, 2027 Spring Holiday
November 24 - 27, 2026 Thanksgiving	March 23-26, 2027 Spring Break
Dec. 22, 2026 - Jan. 5, 2027 Christmas Break	

Brad Williams	Lori Stuart	Heather Smyth
Mulberry High School Principa	Intermediate/Jr High Principal	Marvin Primary Principal
479-997-1363	479-997-8469	479-997-1495