## WYNNE PUBLIC SCHOOLS



# District Student Handbook 2025-2026

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## **SECTION I: GENERAL INFORMATION**

#### WELCOME

A very cordial welcome is extended to each of you attending Wynne Schools. You are beginning a new phase of your life—a very important one—that carries with it many opportunities and responsibilities. As you attend Wynne Schools, you will receive training designed to prepare you to take your place in the adult world.

#### **MISSION**

District

To commit to the learning, achievement, safety, and well-being of the whole child

High School

To educate students for tomorrow through innovation

Junior High School

WJHS will prepare students for higher achievement by partnering with families and the community to create positive relationships and empower students to succeed in academics and life.

Intermediate School

We place individual student success above All else. Our Vision: Every student at the Wynne Intermediate School of Innovation will mature academically, socially and emotionally using their hands, hearts and minds.

Primary

Equipping students with a world-class education and inspiring them to be respectful, responsible citizens

#### Visitor Identification

Visitors to the school are required to report immediately to the school office to identify themselves and their business on campus. Visitors with business at the school are welcome. For safety and security, all visitors will register in the school office and obtain the appropriate identification badge. Law enforcement officials will detain a person on school property without an appropriate identification badge. All people on school grounds, in school buildings, or at school-sponsored events must identify themselves to school authorities upon request.

#### TITLE I – School/Teacher/Parent/Student Compact

WYNNE SCHOOL DISTRICT

#### TITLE I SCHOOL/PARENT/TEACHER/STUDENT COMPACT K-12 2024-2025

As a component of the school-level family and community engagement plan, each schoolwide Title I school will jointly develop a school-parent compact. The purpose of this compact is to support students not performing on grade level. The Wynne School District's schools provide a high- quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment, to enable students to meet the state's challenging student performance standards. The compact also outlines ways each family member is responsible for supporting their child's learning. Families student-learning standards at the following websites may access https://dese.ade.arkansas.gov/Stakeholders/parents-and-families and www.wynneschools.org. To emphasize the importance of communication between families and teachers on an ongoing basis, the school will schedule parent teacher conferences twice a year at which the compact will be discussed as it relates to the individual child's achievement; supply mid-nine week, and quarterly reports to all families on their student's progress; provide reasonable access to staff; and provide opportunities for families to volunteer, participate, and observe in their child's classroom. To the extent practicable the compact will be in a language that parents/ families can understand. The district and its schools believe family engagement is a key factor in students' educational experience and desires a partnership between the home and the school; therefore, we ask parents and students to read the compact and incorporate it into your educational routines and daily life.

As a Parent, I will encourage and support my child's learning, therefore I will strive to:

- Promote a positive attitude toward school and personnel, and ensure my child attends school regularly and on time.
- Support the school's discipline policy and encourage my child to resolve conflicts in positive, non-violent ways.
- Provide a time and place for the completion and review of homework and monitor the Home Access Center (HAC).
- Encourage good study habits and my child's efforts, and be available for questions.
- Respond to notices from the school, communicating with my child's teacher, participating in decisions related to my child's education, and keeping my phone numbers and addresses up-to-date.
- Read with my child, listen to my child read, and promote positive use of my child's extracurricular time.
- Participate, as possible, on school committees, and engage in other school activities and volunteer opportunities.

As a Student, I will take responsibility to improve my academic achievement to the best of my ability, therefore I will strive to:

- Attend school with a positive attitude and the necessary supplies, ready to learn, every day.
- Engage in learning activities and ask questions when I need help and exhibit proper time-management skills
- Read regularly, or ask my family to read with me at home, and work to complete and return homework assignments.
- Take school-work, notes, and other information home and return any necessary information.
- Treat all students, teachers, adults, and property in the school with respect always.
- Know and follow all school rules in the classroom, on the bus, and at activities.
- Avoid bullying and report incidents as needed while working to resolve conflicts in positive, non-violent ways.

As a Teacher, I will encourage and support students' learning, therefore I will stive to:

- Provide challenging tasks, a high-quality curriculum, and instruction in a supportive with the appropriate supplies and equipment.
- Encourage all students, acknowledge their ideas, and regularly monitor their progress with care, concern, and respect.
- Communicate with families and students regarding student's procedures, progress, and educational decisions. ➤ Respect student diversity, including cultural, racial, and ethnic differences.
- Help children resolve conflicts in positive, non-violent ways.

#### School Agreement

It is important that students achieve, therefore the school will strive to:

- Work with staff members in providing resources to help parents work with their children at home and fosters greater understanding of the curriculum.
- Promote professional learning regarding the value and benefit of family contributions, and strive to support families through engagement opportunities.
- Provide a friendly, welcoming environment in the school.
- Provide a safe and orderly learning environment with the appropriate supplies and equipment that promote academic success.
- Help children resolve conflicts in positive, non-violent ways.

Parent Signature	Date	
Student Signature	Date	
Teacher Signature	Date	
Principal Signature	Date	

#### 4.11—EQUAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY

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

Inquiries on non-discrimination may be directed to Ms. Stephanie Lyons, who may be reached at:

Wynne School District 1300 North Falls Blvd Wynne, AR 72396 slyons@wnneschools.org 870-238-5030

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 http://wdcrobcolp01.ed.gov/CFAPPS/OCR/contactus.cfm; for the address and phone number of the office that serves

#### 4.40-HOMELESS

your area, or call 1-800-421-3481.

The Wynne 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, including all appeals. It is the responsibility of the District's LEA 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:

- 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
- 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 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.

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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.

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

#### 1. 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;
- 2. 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;
- 3. Are living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations, or similar settings; and
- 4. 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.

#### 4.52—STUDENTS WHO ARE FOSTER CHILDREN

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 Arkansas Department of Education (A.D.E.), and individuals involved with each foster child to ensure that the foster child is able to maintain his/her continuity of educational services to the fullest extent that is practical and reasonable.

The Superintendent or his/her 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 his/her 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 him/her. 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 his/her 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 ADE that is postmarked by no later than May 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, rules for standards of accreditation, or other applicable rule or regulations; 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.

McKinney-Vento Act/Education for Homeless Children and Youth (EHCY):

The EHCY program is authorized under Title VII-B of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11431 et seq.) which was re- authorized in 2015 by Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). Wynne Public Schools

seeks to address the challenges that homeless children and youths may face in enrolling, attending, and succeeding in school. Each homeless child and youth have equal access to the same free, appropriate public education, including a public preschool education, as other children, and youths. Information and rights and services may be found on the district's website at www.wynneschools.org under parents/students; parent center on the McKinney Vento Homeless Assistance ACT page and under the NEWS section of the district website.

Please direct questions and requests for assistance to:

Wynne Public Schools McKinney Vento Liaison	or	Public School Program Advisor
Sherry Breckenridge		State Coordinator Homeless Education
Wynne District Parent Center		Arkansas Department of Education
1500 N. Lemons St.		Jessica Hickman
Wynne, AR 72396		Office: (501)-683-5428
Office: 870-587-0350		Jessica.Hickman@ade.arkansas.gov
sbreckenridge@wynneschools.org		

#### NON-DISCRIMINATION AND SECTION 504 POLICY

No pupil shall be discriminated against because of age, color, disability, parental status, marital status, race, national origin, religion, sex or veteran status. Parents who have a temporary or permanent disability may request the District to provide appropriate accommodations necessary

for them to participate in essential instructional activities of their students. Students who are at least eighteen (18) years of age may submit their own requests.

It is the policy of the Wynne School District to provide a free appropriate public education to each qualified student with a disability within its jurisdiction, regardless of the nature or severity of the disability. 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.

Under Section 504, due process rights of qualified students with disabilities and their parents are guaranteed in the Wynne School District. Glenda Vance serves as the Coordinator of Section 504 and other equity issues for the Wynne School District. She may be contacted at P.O. Box 69, Wynne, AR 72396, or by phone at 870-238-5030, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

#### ANNUAL REQUIRED NOTIFICATION

This is to inform the parents, teachers, guardians and school employees that the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA) Inspection and Management Plan for the Wynne Public Schools is located in the administrative office of each campus and can be reviewed during normal business hours.

#### 4.15—CONTACT WITH STUDENTS WHILE AT SCHOOL

#### CONTACT BY PARENTS

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

#### CONTACT BY NON-CUSTODIAL PARENTS

If there is any question concerning the legal custody of the student, the custodial parent shall present documentation to the principal or the principal's designee establishing the parent's custody of the student. It shall be the responsibility of the custodial parent to make any court ordered "no contact" or other restrictions regarding the non-custodial parent known to the principal by presenting a copy of a file-marked court order. Without such a court

order on file, the school will release the child to either of his/her parents. Non-custodial parents who file with the principal a date-stamped copy of current court orders granting unsupervised visitation may not eat lunch, volunteer in their child's classroom, or otherwise have contact with their child during school hours and the prior approval of the school's principal. Such contact is subject to the limitations outlined in Policy 4.16, Policy 6.5, and any other policies that may apply.

Arkansas law provides that, in order to avoid continuing child custody controversies from involving school personnel and to avoid disruptions to the educational atmosphere in the District's schools, the transfer of a child between his/her custodial parent and non-custodial parent, when both parents are present, shall not take place on the school's property on normal school days during normal hours of school operation. The custodial or non-custodial parent may send to/drop off the student at school to be sent to/picked up by the other parent on predetermined days in accordance with any court order provided by the custodial parent or by a signed agreement between both the custodial and non-custodial parents that was witnessed by the student's building principal. 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.

#### CLASSROOM DISRUPTIONS

Wynne Schools place a high priority on classroom instruction time. Every effort is made to eliminate unnecessary and unscheduled disruptions. The following are some ways parents can help:

- Schedule appointments so students are not checked out of school or returned to school during a class.
- Do not check students out of school during the last fifteen (15) minutes of the day except in emergency situations or for medical appointments.
- Arrange transportation with your child before sending him/her to school. Calling the school office to have a
  message sent to your child is very disruptive. Parents should notify their child's teacher in writing if the
  child is being transported home in a way other than the usual way. If a daycare is involved, the parent
  should communicate with the daycare as well as the school.
- Students' toys are not allowed at school.
- Party invitations will not be allowed to be delivered or handed out at school unless the entire class receives
  one.
- Wynne Primary, Wynne Intermediate, and Wynne High School do not accept deliveries. Ex: Food, Flowers, or Gifts

#### **EMERGENCY INFORMATION FORMS**

The Emergency Information Form that is sent home each year is probably the single most important document parents are asked to complete and return. Student safety and well-being often hinge on the accuracy of the information on this form. During emergency situations, precious moments are lost when information is not accurate and up-to-date. If any telephone numbers, addresses, place of employment, etc. change during the school year, PLEASE NOTIFY THE SCHOOL.

#### ACCIDENT AND STUDENT INSURANCE

The school does not carry liability insurance and is immune from liability and from suit for damages. (A.C.A. § 21-9-301) It is strongly recommended that parents purchase student insurance to cover their child while at school, particularly if no other health coverage is in force.

#### CHECKING STUDENTS OUT DURING THE SCHOOL DAY

Please avoid checking-out your child early unless you have an appointment for the child, such as a doctor/dentist appointment that cannot be scheduled at another time. Also, the end of the school day is a difficult time for teachers to keep children focused and working; parents checking- out children during the last fifteen (15) minutes of school embellishes this problem. Please avoid checking-out your child during the last fifteen (15) minutes of the day.

When it is necessary for students to leave school during the day, the best practice is for the parent/guardian to enter the building and complete the check-out log in the office. Identification will be required. In the event the parent/guardian is unable to enter the building and the student is leaving school early, a note or phone call from the parent/guardian is acceptable. If the note or phone call is questionable, the office personnel will make every effort to contact the parent/guardian to verify permission.

Any student in grades kindergarten through fifth grade who is checked in after 8:30 or checked out before 3:00 will be counted absent half a day.

#### WJHS Check Out Procedure

Students who become ill at school, have an appointment, or need to check out for other reasons, must sign out through the school office. This procedure does not automatically serve as an excuse for this absence. WJHS students will be allowed to check out with a parent/guardian note and/or email only. A parent/guardian phone number will need to be included on the checkout note for verification purposes. \*\*\*No phone call checkouts will be allowed because of safety concerns. Only those listed on the student check out list may check out that student, unless notified by a parent/guardian otherwise. Students who are checked out and miss more than nine (9) minutes of class will be counted absent for that period. Anyone checking a student out must be listed by the parent or guardian during annual registration updates. Once a student has signed out of school for any reason, they MUST leave the campus immediately.

#### WHS Check Out Procedure

Students who become ill at school, have an appointment, or need to check out for other reasons, must sign out through the school office. This procedure does not automatically serve as an excuse for this absence.

- WHS students will be allowed to check out with a parent/guardian note if turned in to the office by 8:00 am the day of the intended check out. A parent/guardian phone number will need to be included on the checkout note for verification purposes.
- \*\*\*No phone call or email checkouts will be allowed because of safety concerns.
- Only those listed on the student checkout list may check out that student, unless notified by a parent/guardian otherwise. Students who are checked out and miss more than ten (10) minutes of class will be counted absent for that period.
- Anyone checking a student out must be listed by the parent or guardian during annual registration updates.
- Once a student has signed out of school for any reason, they MUST leave the campus immediately.
- In order for students 18 or older to sign themselves out, a note from the

student's parent is to be on file indicating the parent is aware that the student is making her/his own decisions. Students abusing this option (more than five times per year) may be considered absent, truant, and/or lose the option to sign themselves out.

WHS is a closed campus, and we strongly discourage students from checking out at lunch. This typically causes unnecessary tardiness and classroom interruptions. Advisory and Lunch are restricted check-out times and require the following in order to check out:

- 1. A parent or guardian ONLY (not others on the checkout list legal guardians only) present to check the student out.
- 2. If a parent note has been sent to check the student out, the student must be going to an appointment, they MUST return with a note from the appointment. IF THE NOTE ISN'T BROUGHT, THE ABSENCE WILL BE UNEXCUSED.
- 3. If a student has four or more advisory absences, he or she will not be exempt from semester exams.

#### **OFF-CAMPUS EVENTS**

Students at school-sponsored events, both on and off campus, shall be governed by school regulations and are subject to the authority of school personnel. Actions by students that violate these regulations, or the refusal to obey reasonable instructions of school personnel, may result in the loss of the privilege to attend these events and may result in disciplinary action applicable under the regular school program.

Any student who misbehaves at a school-related activity is subject to losing the privilege of attending all school-related activities for the remainder of the year, as well as being subject to all applicable discipline policies.

Elementary students should not be left at school or dropped off to attend school related activities, such as ballgames, without adult supervision.

Requests by parents to take their children from a school event, such as field trips or extracurricular events, should be made in writing and approved by the principal at least a day prior to the activity.

All student athletes shall ride transportation provided by the District to away contests. Once an event has concluded, the parent/legal guardian may contact the coach in person and sign off on a form that they are checking out their child to take home with them. This release may ONLY be signed by the parent/legal guardian. Once this process is completed, the athlete is no longer in the care of the coach, but now of the parent/legal guardian. Student athletes cannot be signed out by other relatives, siblings, or anyone else unless the request is made in writing and approved by the principal at least 24 hours prior to the activity. Students are NOT permitted to ride home with other students/boyfriend/girlfriend under any circumstances.

#### Field Trips

Students must be in good standing to attend any field or class trips. Good standing will be determined by the building principal based on attendance, academics, and overall student behavior.

If a parent attends a school-sponsored trip and serves as a chaperone, other children may not attend the field trip with the parent i.e. younger siblings, nieces, etc.

#### K-5 FIELD TRIP POLICY

All students must ride the bus on field trips.

#### APPEALS PROCEDURE

The Wynne School Board recognizes that there are times when parents do not agree with the actions taken or the decisions made by school personnel. If a parent wishes to appeal a decision or action taken by a school official, the parent must begin with the person who made the decision. Further appeals should be made to the next level in the organization. The organizational levels are as follows:

Level 1: Teacher/Coach/Athletic Director Level 2: Assistant Principal

Level 3: Principal

Level 4: Assistant Superintendent Level 5: Superintendent

Appeals will be referred back to the appropriate level if the person at that level has not had an opportunity to hear the appeal.

#### TELEPHONE REGULATIONS

Students may use the telephone in the principal's office with the principal's permission only in case of emergency or for school business. Individuals will not be called from class to the telephone except in an emergency or for school business. The school secretary will take a message, to be delivered at a break, from a parent or guardian for any student. Parents should not routinely phone the school with messages and directions about how their child should get home that day. Please arrange transportation with your children before sending them to school and notify the school of any changes to normal routine.

#### FREEDOM OF SPEECH AND ASSEMBLY

Students are entitled to expression of personal opinions as long as the rights of others are not violated and provided that the expression does not cause disruption of the classroom educational process. Obscenities are prohibited. Students may assemble peaceably. To avoid disruption of the educational process, all student meetings must function as a part of the educational process or as authorized by the principal. Meetings that interfere with the operation of the school are prohibited.

#### PICTURE PUBLICATION

From time to time the school may wish to publish individual student work or class projects on the school or district web pages, on school calendars, or in other school publications. In these circumstances, published images of a student or reference to his/her work may include the use of the student's first and last name or use of the student's initials. The student's last name, address and/or phone number will not be published on the Internet or the school or district web pages at any time. Parents desiring that their child's picture and first name not be used on a website or in other publications should notify their child's principal in writing or with an email.

#### 4.37-EMERGENCY DRILLS

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

The District shall annually conduct a lockdown drill at all schools in the District in collaboration with local law enforcement and emergency management personnel. The lockdown drill training will include the 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.

#### 4.44- NATIONAL ANTHEM

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.

#### 4.46—PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND MOMENT OF SILENCE

The Pledge of Allegiance shall be recited:

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

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

#### 4.56-ELIGIBILITY TO PARTICIPATE IN EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

All student eligibility and participation is governed by the Arkansas Activities Association. Wynne High School is a member of the AAA and follows all regulations.

High School – Grades 7-12

- Extracurricular activities shall not be a hindrance or interference to classroom instruction.
- Non-instructional activities will be scheduled evenly over the school day.
- Students shall abide by student organization constitutions, rules and guidelines.
- In order to participate in extracurricular activities, a student must have and maintain the grade or grade point average specified in the by-laws and/or constitution of the student's activity/organization or pass the number of courses with grades as required by the Arkansas Department of Education as contained in Regulatory Bulletin 98-54, dated November 1997. Copies of the above cited bulletin are available from the principals' offices and from coaches.
- Absenteeism will affect participation. A student is not permitted to participate in extracurricular activities or athletic competitions (including practice) if he or she misses more than half a day of school unless a doctor's note is provided or the student receives PRIOR administrative approval.
- Disciplinary action, such as In-School Suspension, Saturday class and suspension may affect a student's future eligibility for participation in extracurricular activities, student groups and special school functions.
- After four (4) weeks of a semester, students who drop a course will receive a failing grade for that semester which may affect eligibility in student organizations and/or extracurricular activities.
- A student may participate in two (2) or more activities even though there are occasional scheduling conflicts. However, a student in grades 9-12 can only participate in one (1) non-credit class during the school day (Act 675).
- It shall be the responsibility of the teachers/sponsors to anticipate direct conflicts and agree on a plan which will permit the student to participate without penalty in the other activity. At the same time, students should be aware of the constitution that governs their actions in participating in extracurricular activities.
- When schedules conflict and there is a way for the student to participate in both activities, it is the responsibility of the student and/or parent to do so even at extra expense and/or sacrifice.
- Lack of Attendance or chronic absenteeism could result in lack of participation in extracurricular activities.

## 4.56—EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES – SECONDARY SCHOOLS

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.

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

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

#### Extracurricular Eligibility

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

Any student who refuses to sit for a Statewide assessment or attempts to boycott a Statewide assessment by failing to put forth a good faith effort on the assessment as determined by the assessment administrator/proctor, or whose parents do not send their student to school on the dates the assessments are administered or scheduled as make-up days shall not be permitted to participate in any non-curriculum related extracurricular activity. The student shall remain ineligible to participate until the student takes the same or a following statewide assessment, as applicable. The superintendent or designee may waive this paragraph's provisions when the student's failure was due to exceptional or extraordinary circumstances. 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 he/she has successfully passed four (4) academic courses the previous semester.

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

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

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

#### ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS: Senior High

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

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

#### STUDENTS WITH AN INDIVIDUAL EDUCATION PROGRAM

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

#### ARKANSAS ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION

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

#### INTERSCHOLASTIC ACTIVITIES

#### **AAA-Governed Activities**

Students participating in interscholastic 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 interscholastic 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 interscholastic extracurricular activities. Interscholastic activities designed for a particular grade(s) or course(s) shall require the student to be enrolled in the grade(s) or course(s).

AAA standards allow a student to participate in an SIP for a maximum of two consecutive semesters and require the student to improve his/her GPA by at least 10% by the end of the first semester to remain eligible for the second semester. By the end of the second semester, the student must have attained a 2.0 GPA to be eligible for competitive interscholastic activities. Following one or more semesters where the student has attained a 2.0 GPA, this cycle may be repeated.

#### WEATHER RELATED CLOSING PROCEDURES

When it becomes necessary to close school, the decision will be made as early as possible. Decisions will be made based on road conditions rather than weather forecasts. Students and parents will be notified through the following communication sources.

- KATV Television (Channel 7)
- KAIT Television (Channel 8)
- WMC Television (Channel 5)
- KWYN (Radio)
- The school phone notification system

Should conditions develop during the school day, which warrant early dismissal from school, these same sources, listed above, will be notified. The decision to dismiss school earlier than the regular time will be made as late as is practical and will, if at all possible, come after lunchtime. Parents/guardians are urged to be certain that students know what to do if school should be let out early. Parents/guardians will not be contacted by phone before school is dismissed.

School closings will be announced day-to-day. The school will not announce multiple day closings. Snow routes will be used when appropriate.

#### 4.14—STUDENT MEDIA AND THE DISTRIBUTION OF LITERATURE

#### Student Media

All student media that are supported financially by the school or by use of school facilities, or are produced in conjunction with a class shall be considered school-sponsored media. School-sponsored media does not provide a forum for public expression. Student media, as well as the content of student expression in school-sponsored activities, shall be subject to the editorial review of the District's administration, whose actions shall be reasonably related to legitimate pedagogical concerns and adhere to the following limitations: Advertising may be accepted for media that does not condone or promote products that are inappropriate for the age and maturity of the audience or that endorses such things as tobacco, alcohol, or drugs.

- Media may be regulated to prohibit communications determined by the appropriate teacher, student media advisor, and/or administrator to be ungrammatical; poorly written; inadequately researched; biased or prejudiced; vulgar or profane; or unsuitable for immature audiences.
- Media may be regulated to prohibit the dissemination of material that may reasonably be perceived to
  advocate drug or alcohol use; irresponsible sex; conduct that is otherwise inconsistent with the shared
  values of a civilized social order; or to associate the school with any position other than neutrality on
  matters of political controversy.
- 3. Prohibited media includes those that:
  - a. Are obscene as to minors;
  - Are libelous or slanderous, including material containing defamatory falsehoods about public figures or governmental officials, and made with knowledge of their falsity or a reckless disregard of the truth;
  - c. Constitute an unwarranted invasion of privacy as defined by state law;
  - d. Suggest or urge the commission of unlawful acts on the school premises;
  - e. Suggest or urge the violation of lawful school regulations;
  - f. Scurrilously 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 18;
- 3. State that the views expressed are not necessarily those of the School Board or the employees of the district.

#### Student Distribution of Non-school Literature, Publications, and Materials

A student or group of students who distribute ten (10) or fewer copies of the same non-school literature, publications, or materials (hereinafter "non-school materials"), shall do so in a time, place, and manner that does not cause a substantial disruption of the orderly education environment. A student or group of students wishing to distribute more than ten (10) copies of non-school materials shall have school authorities review their non-school materials at least three (3) school days in advance of their desired time of dissemination. School authorities shall review the non-school materials prior to their distribution and will bar from distribution those non-school materials that are obscene, libelous, pervasively indecent, or advertise unlawful products or services. Material may also be barred from distribution if there is evidence that reasonably supports a forecast that a substantial disruption of the orderly operation of the school or educational environment will likely result from the distribution. 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 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 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 5 days.

The Superintendent, along with the student media advisors, shall develop administrative regulations for the implementation of this policy. The regulations shall include definitions of terms and timelines for the review of materials.

#### **ELEMENTARY CELEBRATIONS**

We recognize that due to the increasing prevalence of food allergies and other health issues affecting our students we must be proactive and do our part to protect everyone by monitoring food, snacks, treats, and drinks that are consumed in our schools. We must be diligent to protect everyone by eliminating any possible source of harm. Food that is brought to school for parties or celebrations <u>must be</u> store bought, prepackaged, and in the sealed container it was purchased in prior to use. No homemade food items will be allowed for parties. Students will be allowed to individually bring homemade or home-baked foods for personal snacks, lunches, etc. However, the sharing of these snacks or passing out snacks to others will not be permitted. Party invitations will not be allowed to be delivered or handed out at school unless the entire class receives an invitation. Students are not allowed to receive gifts for their birthday or any other holiday celebration. Birthday treats are prohibited.

#### CHILD NUTRITION

Students should not skip meals. The district expects each child to eat a nutritious lunch each day. Call your child's school office to get information about free and reduced lunches.

eTrition, a computerized program, is used for collecting, recording and monitoring student cafeteria accounts. Students are encouraged to pay

for lunch by the week or month. Parents are welcome to mail checks directly to: Wynne Public School, c/o Child Nutrition, P.O. Box 69, Wynne, AR 72396. Parents may be notified weekly when their child's eTrition lunch account is low.

The cost of student meals for the 2023-2024 school year is as follows:

#### **Breakfast**

Paid \$1.75 K-12

Reduced\$.30

Primary/Intermediate Lunch

Paid \$2.50 Reduced \$ .40

High School/Junior High Lunch

Paid \$2.75

Reduced \$ .40

#### **ELEMENTARY SNACKS/LUNCHES**

Students may not have a carbonated drink in a bottle or a can, fast food drinks, energy drinks, or coffee. Students will be asked to throw such items away if brought into the school. Water and juices are acceptable.

Lunch or snacks dropped off in the front office must be done prior to 9:00 a.m. Items brought past that time will not be accepted.

Students cannot have commercial food items delivered to the cafeteria for consumption. Carbonated drinks in cans or bottles are not allowed during lunch.

#### WIS Water Bottle Policy

- The container must contain water only. No juice, soda, coffee, addables (flavors), or energy drinks.
- The container must be plastic, clear and have a fully closable lid of some sort; this will be a screw-on lid or a push top. Large tumblers are not to be carried.

Students who bring food from home should only bring enough for themselves. Students who are checked out to eat lunch may not bring food back to campus.

School lunches are closed to visitors. Students may be checked out for lunch/recess times, and must be checked back in before the end of the recess.

The Child Nutrition Department operates under the "Offer versus Serve" policy which allows students a choice of three of the five meal components that are offered daily. Students who do not eat certain foods may ask the workers to omit them from their trays.

#### 4.50—SCHOOL MEAL MODIFICATIONS

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 shall request additional information so that a proper and safe meal can be provided.

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

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

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

Wynne School District Meal Policies Adopted September 21, 2020

#### MEAL CHARGE POLICY

The Wynne School District recognizes that 1) students need healthful school meals to stay focused during the school day regardless of their family's ability to pay for them or when they lack funds in their meal account at the time of service, and 2) the importance of maintaining the Dinancial integrity of the Child Nutrition Department by receiving timely payment for meals served. This policy will outline expectations and procedures for minimizing unpaid meal charges, collecting delinquent meal charges (negative balances), minimizing identiDication of children with insufDicient funds, and supporting the designation and offsetting of debt.

#### PROCEDURES & DEFINITIONS

7 CFR 245.5: A code of federal regulations that outlines eligibility for Federal child nutrition programs.

Meal Charge: A charge made by any student or staff participating in school meal programs that either does not have money in their meal account or in hand to cover the cost of a meal at the time of service.

Negative Balance: A balance in a meal account that is negative \$0.01 or more.

Reimbursable Meal: A meal that meets the Federal meal pattern and is eligible for Federal reimbursement to the District. This does not include single meal components, extras, or ala carte items.

Meal BeneGit Eligibility: Eligible to receive free or reduced-priced meals, snacks, and/or milk under 7 CFR 245 based on household income, qualiDication for other approve assistance programs, like the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), or "Other Source" categories, such as enrolled homeless, migrant, runaway: or foster child.

Prior-year Eligibility: A student's eligibility for receipt of beneDits from the previous school year is carried into the current school year for up to 30 operating days, beginning on the Dirst operating day of the assigned school year. Prior year's eligibility remains in effect until a new eligibility determination is made or, if no determination is made, for up to thirty (30) operating days. After thirty (30) operating days, if no new determination is made, the student will return to full paying status.

Delinquent Debt: An unpaid meal charge considered to be collectable and efforts are made to do so.

#### Wynne School District Meal Policies

#### COMMUNICATION

- 1. In accordance with 7 CFR 245.5, each school year all parents or guardians of children in attendance at schools participating in a Federal school meal service program will be informed in writing of the availability of reimbursable school meals and meal charge policy.
- 2. The meal charge policy will be provided to all District staff responsible for enforcing any aspect of the policy.
- 3. The District will send a general notiDication of prior year status expiration dates to all families to remind them of the optional opportunity to turn in an application for the new school year.
- 4. To maintain privacy, the District will make every attempt to address unpaid meal charges with adult members of the household using discrete letters, phone calls and other communication.

#### ENSURING ACCESS TO SCHOOL MEALS

- 1. Paper applications are available and can be turned in at the school cafeteria, school ofDice. or the Child Nutrition Department. Applications are also made available on the school website to print and complete. (www.wynneschools.org)
- 2. The Child Nutrition Department is allowed 10 days to process a meal beneDit application after it is received. Families are responsible for meal payments while an application is being processed and will be notiDied of their eligibility determination.
- 3. Meal beneDit applications are available in English and Spanish
- 4. Application assistance is available through the Child Nutrition Department.
- 5. Meal beneDit eligibility determination from another district will be accepted when a student transfers between districts to ensure there is no gap in meal beneDits.
- 6. Families can add money to a student's account by sending money (cash or check) with the student to pay in the cafeteria or in line at the cash register. An online payment system is available at www.EZSchoolpay.com. There is a convenience fee associated with each transaction. Families can set up an auto draft and notiDication options to maintain sufDicient funds in the account.

#### MANAGING UNPAID MEAL CHARGES

- 1. Payment of unpaid meal charges is the responsibility of the student's family, regardless of meal beneDit eligibility. Families who have unpaid meal charges prior to being approved for free or reduced meals are responsible for remitting payment for charges accrued regardless of meal beneDit eligibility.
- 2. To maintain privacy of children eligible for meal beneDits and minimize unpaid charges, the district will prohibit the charging of ala carte or extra items by any child who has a negative balance. This does not apply if they want to purchase a reimbursable meal.

#### Wynne School District Meal Policies

#### DELINQUENT DEBT

- 1. Unpaid meal charges become delinquent debt at the point of service and remain delinquent as long as they are considered collectible and efforts are being made to do so.
- 2. The Child Nutrition Department will work proactively with administrators, staff, and families throughout the school year to minimize and collect unpaid meal charges considered to be delinquent debt. All negative balances must be brought to a \$0 balance by the end of the current school year.

#### NOTIFICATIONS OF DELINQUENT DEBT

- 1. Parents are notiDied of delinquent debt through emails that are sent out twice a week through our Etrition program. Text messages are also set up to go out once a week as a reminder.
- 2. Any negative balances over (\$15.00) will receive a phone call from the Child Nutrition OfDice to give a friendly reminder of their delinquent debt.
- 3. Any negative balances over (\$25.00) will receive a letter from our Child Nutrition OfDice requesting payment of the delinquent debt.

Meal accounts that belong to students who are inactive or not enrolled in Wynne Public Schools and are unused for at least one academic year are considered abandoned meal accounts.

#### WELLNESS POLICY

Act 1220 of 2003 requires that schools establish no more than nine (9) school-wide events which permit exceptions to the food and beverage limitations established by A.C.A. 20-17-133, 134 and 135. The schedule of events shall be by school, approved by the principal, and shall be part of the annual school calendar. All food brought to school must be prepared in a commercial food establishment.

These items may not be given during meal times in the areas where school meals are being served or consumed.

The policy does not restrict what parents may provide for their own child's lunch or snacks. Parents may provide food of minimum nutritional value or candy items for their own child's consumption, but they may not provide restricted items to other children at school. This policy does not apply to special needs students whose IEP plan indicates the use of food or candy for behavior modiDication.

#### PURPOSEFUL COMMUNITY

We ask for your support as we strive for excellence in our Child Nutrition Department. Our priority is always to serve your children delicious, healthy and well-balanced meals in an inviting atmosphere. However, there is a responsibility on the part of the students and parents to satisfy all Dinancial obligations to the breakfast/lunch program in a timely manner.

Wynne Public Schools is an equal opportunity provider.

#### Wynne School District Parent Engagement Plan Summary 2025-2026

Summary of District Schoolwide Plan 2025-2026

To view the District TI Plan, summary or student handbook go to <a href="www.wynneschools.org">www.wynneschools.org</a> and select State Required Information or the Parent Center. Paper copies of the plan may be obtained by contacting Sherry Breckenridge, District Parent Coordinator, at <a href="mailto:sbreckenridge@wynneschools.org">sbreckenridge@wynneschools.org</a> or

The Wynne School District understands the importance of engaging families and community in promoting higher student achievement, and keeping goodwill. The curriculum follows the challenging Arkansas Academic Standards. The district encourages meaningful, productive family and community engagement resulting in mutually beneficial

You may also contact Dr. Sandra Smith, Federal Programs, at 870-238-5030 or email ssmith@wynneschools.org.



Goal 1: Engage staff, students, and families in the development of a single district-wide plan in the AR App that aligns its goals from School Improvement, Health and Wellness, Student Success, and Family and Community Engagement plans into one plan to improve academic outcomes for students, provide safe and healthy schools and a quality educational workforce. This plan reflects the needs of the schools in the district while following the best practices and guidelines of state and federal programs. The district collaborates with parents in the development of its plan, policies, and strategies to address the engagement needs of students and their families.



Goal 2: To ensure all students will learn at their maximum potential and that every graduate of the Wynne School District will leave prepared for success in the 21st Century. The district provides support and technical assistance to the schools to improve scores and academic outcomes for students thus enabling them to be college or career ready. Effective teaching throughout the district will give students their greatest potential for success. The district will vertically align its curriculum for continuous learning K-12 in all subject areas. We will also provide virtual learning opportunities to meet students' needs.



Goal 3: Build parents' capacity to have an active role in educational decisions and improving their children's academic achievement. The district wants all parents to have a voice in its plans, policies, and programs that meet the needs of students and families, and will provide parent nights, workshops, materials, and training to help parents work with their children to improve achievement. Communicating with parents as partners, and understanding their importance to students' education is vital to students' success in life.



Goal 4: Continue to coordinate with other organizations, businesses, and community partners, i.e., preschool, head start, and post-secondary institutions, to provide additional supports, wraparound services, and resources to families that encourage and support the education of their children, support classroom instruction and college/career planning. Due to a tornado March 31, 2023, WHS was totally destroyed and a portion of WIS was damaged. The focus will be on rebuilding efforts for staff and students to ensure that students are learning in a safe environment. We will also focus on meeting the mental health needs of students and staff along with physical needs. As the Wynne School District strives to become a District of Innovation. We will collaborate with our educational partners to enhance classroom instruction.



Goal 5: Evaluate the content and effectiveness of the District Plan and Title I Needs Assessment data in improving the academic quality of all schools through the process of spring review meetings at school and district levels with family and community engagement committees and school community councils. The Title I Assessments provide stakeholder feedback and testing data provides information to support the learning on each campus. Barriers, needs, and strategies are identified and addressed.

#### 5.2—PLANNING FOR EDUCATIONAL IMPROVEMENT

Each school in the district, in collaboration with administrators, teachers, other school staff, parents, the community, and students, shall develop a school-level improvement plan (SLIP) to:

- Establish goals or anticipated outcomes based on an analysis of students' needs;
- Identify student supports and evidence-based interventions and practices to be implemented;
- Describe the professional learning necessary for adults to deliver the supports or interventions;
- Describe the implementation timeline for monitoring of the interventions and practices for effectiveness;
- Describe the timeline and procedures for evaluation of the interventions and practices for effectiveness; and
- Evaluate and modify a parent, family, and community engagement plan.

Some of the data that shall be considered when developing the SLIP includes, but is not limited to:

- Statewide assessment results;
- Interim assessment results;
- Similarly situated school's SLIPs; and
- Evaluation(s), including staff, students, and community feedback, of the existing SLIP.

The SLIP is to be reviewed on an ongoing basis with reports to the board on the implementation progress of the SLIP throughout the year of implementation. By May 1 of each year, the SLIP to be implemented in the upcoming school year shall be presented to the District Board of Directors for review and approval. The District will post the District's SLIP(s) to the District's website under State-Required Information by August 1 of each year.

The district shall develop, with appropriate staff; school board members; and community input, a school district support plan (SDSP). The SDSP, in coordination with the District's SLIPs, shall

- Specify the support the District will provide to the District's schools;
- Collaboratively establish priorities regarding goals or anticipated outcomes with the District's schools, including feeder schools;
- Identify resources to support the established priorities;
- Describe the time and pace of providing support and monitoring for the established priorities;
- Describe the measures for analyzing and evaluating that the District support was effective in improving the school performance; and
- Establish, evaluate, and update a parent, family, and community engagement plan.1

If the District's data reflects a disproportionality in equitable access to qualified and effective teachers and administrators, the District shall develop and implement strategies to provide equitable access as part of the SDSP. The District shall post the District's SDSP to the District's website under State-Required Information, including any updates to the District's SDSP.

The District's Board of Directors shall hold a meeting by October 15 of each year to provide a report that systematically explains the District's policies, programs, and goals to the community. The District's report shall detail the progress of the District and the District's schools toward accomplishing program goals, accreditation standards, and proposals to correct any deficiencies. The report shall be made available to the public, including by posting a copy on the District's website under State-Required Information no later than ten (10) days following the meeting. The meeting shall provide parents and other members of the community the opportunity to ask questions and make suggestions concerning the District's program.

#### 6.11—PARENTAL/, FAMILY, AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT - DISTRICT

The Wynne School District understands the importance of involving parents and the community in promoting higher student achievement and the general goodwill between the district and those it serves. Therefore, the district strives

to develop and maintain the capacity for meaningful and productive parental and community involvement that will result in partnerships that are mutually beneficial to the school, students, parents, and the community. To achieve such ends, the district shall work to

- 1. Involve parents 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 parental involvement activities;
- 3. Have a coordinated involvement program where the involvement activities of the district enhance the involvement 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 and the community the State's content and achievement standards, State and local student assessments, and how the district's curriculum is aligned with the assessments, and how parents can work with the district to improve their child's academic achievement;
- 5. Provide parents 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 parental involvement 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 involvement programs that will promote positive partnerships between school and parents;
- 7. Keep parents informed about parental involvement programs, meetings, and other activities they could be involved in. Such communication shall be, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand:
- 8. Find ways to eliminate barriers that work to keep parents from being involved in their child's education. This may include arranging meetings at a variety of times and being creative with parent/teacher conferences;
- 9. Find and modify other successful parent and community involvement programs to suit the needs of our district;
- 10. Train parents to enhance and promote the involvement of other parents;

Provide reasonable support for other parental involvement activities as parents may reasonably request.

To ensure the continued improvement of the district's parental/community involvement program, the district will conduct an annual review of its parental involvement 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 is distributed to parents of the district's students and provided, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand.

## SECTION II: RESIDENCY & ENROLLMENT

#### 4.1-RESIDENCE REQUIREMENTS

**Definitions** 

"In loco parentis" means relating to the responsibility to undertake the care and control of another person in the absence of:

- 1. Supervision by the person's parent or legal guardian; and
- 2. Formal legal approval.

"Reside" means to be physically present and to maintain a permanent place of abode for an average of no fewer than four (4) calendar days and nights per week for a primary purpose other than school attendance.

"Resident" means a student whose parents, legal guardians, persons having legal, lawful control of the student under order of a court, or persons standing in loco parentis reside in the school district.

"Residential address" means the physical location where the student's parents, legal guardians, persons having legal, lawful control of the student under order of a court, or persons standing in loco parentis reside. A student may use the residential address of a legal guardian, person having legal, lawful control of the student under order of a court, or person standing in loco parentis only if the student resides at the same residential address and if the guardianship or other legal authority is not granted solely for educational needs or school attendance purposes.

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, or other persons having lawful control of the person under an order of a court 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 parents, guardians, or other persons having lawful control of him or her under an order of a court, the person must actually reside in the District for a primary purpose other than that of school attendance. However, a student previously enrolled in the district 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 his/her 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.

#### **4.2-ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS**

To enroll in Wynne Public Schools, the child must be a resident of the Wynne School District as defined in District policy 4.1-RESIDENCE REQUIREMENTS, meet the criteria outlined in policy 4.40-HOMELESS STUDENTS or in policy 4.52-STUDENTS WHO ARE FOSTER CHILDREN, be accepted as a transfer student under the provisions of policy 4.4-STUDENT TRANSFERS, or participate under a school choice option and submit the required paperwork as required by the choice option.

Students may enter kindergarten if they will obtain the age of five (5) on or before August 1 of the year in which they are seeking initial enrollment. Any student who has been enrolled in a state accredited or state approved kindergarten program in another state for at least sixty (60) days, who will become five (5) years old during the year in which he/she is enrolled in kindergarten, and who meets the basic residency requirement or school attendance may be enrolled in kindergarten upon written request 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 parents or legal guardian agrees with placement in the first grade; otherwise, the child shall be placed in kindergarten.

Any child may enter first grade at Wynne Primary school if the child will attain the age of six (6) years 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 age six (6) years during the school year in which he/she 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 his/her parent or legal guardian presenting for enrollment.

Prior to the child's admission into the Wynne School District:

- 1. The parent, guardian, or other responsible person 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 Department of 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 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 or guardian;
  - f. United states military identification; or
  - g. Previous school records.
- 3. The parent, guardian or other responsible person 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.
- 4. The Board of Education reserves the right, after a hearing before the Board, not to allow any person who has been expelled from another school district to enroll as a student until the time of the person's expulsion has expired.

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

A student enrolled in the District who has an immunization exemption may be removed from school during an outbreak of the disease for which the student is not vaccinated at the discretion of the Arkansas Department of

Health. 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.

#### Uniformed Services Member's Children

For the purposes of this policy,

"active duty members of the uniformed services" includes members of the National Guard and Reserve on active duty orders pursuant to 10

U.S.C. Section 1209 and 1211;

"uniformed services" means the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard as well as the Commissioned Corps of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and Public Health Services;

"veteran" means: a person who served in the uniformed services and who was discharged or released there from under conditions other than

dishonorable.

"Eligible child" means the children of:

- active duty members of the uniformed services;
- members or veterans of the uniformed services who are severely injured and medically discharged or retired for a period of one (1) year after medical discharge or retirement; and
- members of the uniformed services who die on active duty or as a result of injuries sustained on active duty for a period of one (1) year after death.

#### An eligible child as defined in this policy shall:

- 1. be allowed to continue his/her enrollment at the grade level commensurate with his/her grade level he/she was in at the time of transition from his/her 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 his/her previous school;
- 3. enter the District's school on the validated level from his/her 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 his/her 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 his/her previous school based on his/her 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 he/she has been placed under the legal guardianship of a non custodial parent living outside the district by a custodial parent on active military duty.

#### 4.3-COMPULSORY ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENTS

Every parent, guardian, or other person having custody or charge 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 a District shall enroll and send the child to a District school with the following exceptions:

- 1. The child is enrolled in private or parochial school.
- 2. The child is being homeschooled and the conditions of policy (4.6-HOMESCHOOLING) 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, guardian, or other person having custody or charge of the child elects not to have him/her attend kindergarten. A kindergarten waiver form prescribed by regulation of the Department of Education must be signed and on file with the District administrative office.
- 4. The child who has received a high school diploma or its equivalent as determined by the State Board of Education.
- 5. The child age sixteen (16) or above who is enrolled in a post-secondary vocational-technical institution, a community college, or a two (2)-year or four (4)-year institution of higher education.
- 6. The child age sixteen (16) or seventeen (17) who has met the requirements to enroll in an adult education program as defined by A.C.A.§ 6-18-201 (b).

#### 4.4-STUDENT TRANSFERS: ACCREDITED / NON-ACCREDITED OR HOME SCHOOL

The Wynne District shall review and accept or reject requests for transfers, both into and out of the district, on a case by case basis at the September and January regularly scheduled board meetings.

The District may reject a non-resident'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.

Any student transferring from a school accredited by the Department of Education into the Wynne School District shall be placed into the same grade the student would have been in had the student remained at the former school. 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 credit, and promotions from other accredited Arkansas public educational entities.

Any student transferring from a school that is not accredited by the Department of Education to a District school shall be evaluated by District staff to determine the student's appropriate grade placement. A student transferring from homeschool will be placed in accordance with Policy 4.6—HOME SCHOOLING.

The Board of Education reserves the right, after a hearing before the board, not to allow any person who has been expelled from another district to enroll as a student until the time of the person's expulsion has expired.

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.

#### 4.5 SCHOOL CHOICE

#### Standard School Choice 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.

#### Definition

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

#### TRANSFERS INTO 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 has a lack of capacity by the District having reached ninety percent (90%) of the maximum student population in a program, class, grade level, or school building authorized by the Standards or other State/Federal law.

The District shall advertise in appropriate broadcast media and either print media or on the Internet to inform students and parents in 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. 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 May 1 of the year preceding the fall semester the applicant would begin school in the District. 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 May 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 July 1, the Superintendent shall notify the parent and the student's resident district, in writing, of the decision to accept or reject the application.

#### **Accepted Applications**

Applications which fit within the District's stated capacity standards shall be provisionally accepted, in writing, with the notification letter stating a reasonable timeline by which the student shall enroll in the District by taking the steps detailed in the letter, including submission of all required documents. If the student fails to enroll within the stated timeline, or if all necessary steps to complete the enrollment are not taken, or examination of the documentation indicates the applicant does not meet the District's stated capacity standards, the acceptance shall be null and void.

A student, whose application has been accepted and who has enrolled in the District, is eligible to continue enrollment until completing his/her 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 his/her resident district; 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 completing his/her secondary education.

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

### REJECTED APPLICATIONS

The District may reject an application for a transfer into the District under Standard School Choice due to a lack of capacity. However, the decision to accept or reject an application may 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. If the provisionally approved applicant subsequently does not enroll in the District, the provisionally rejected applicant could be provisionally approved and would have to meet the acceptance requirements to be eligible to enroll in the District.

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 both the resident and nonresident districts, 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 May 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

For the purposes of this section of the policy, a "lack of capacity" is defined as when the receiving school has reached the maximum student-to- teacher ratio allowed under federal or state law, the DESE Rules for the Standards for Accreditation, or other applicable rules. There is a lack of capacity if, as of the date of the application for Opportunity School Choice, ninety-five percent (95%) or more of the seats at the grade level at the nonresident school are filled.

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"; and
- Except for students who are transferring under Uniformed Service Member Dependents School Choice, the student's parent, guardian, 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 May 1 of the

school year before the school year the student intends to transfer to both the sending and receiving school districts.

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 guardian, 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 guardian, 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 both the resident and nonresident districts, 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, guardians, 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 guardian, 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 or guardians 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, legal guardian, person having lawful control of a student, or person standing in loco parentis to the student shall submit a school choice application by mail, e-mail, or in person to 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, legal guardian, person having lawful control of the student, or person standing in loco parentis that qualifies the student under this section; and
- b. A copy of the official orders, assignment notification, or notice of mobilization of the student's parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of the student, or person standing in loco parentis.

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

The superintendent of the nonresident district shall notify the parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of the student, or person standing in loco parentis of the student in writing whether the student's application has been accepted or rejected within fifteen (15) days of the nonresident district's receipt of the application. A student's transfer under the Uniformed Services Member Dependent School Choice is effective immediately upon the nonresident district's written notification of an acceptance.

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

The parent, legal guardian, person having lawful control of a student, or person standing in loco parentis to a student 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.

#### 4.59—ACADEMIC COURSE ATTENDANCE BY PRIVATE SCHOOL AND HOME-SCHOOLED STUDENTS

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 schooled student may request to attend on its website by:<sup>1</sup>

- 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:<sup>1</sup>

- 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 schooled student's request for attendance if the District's acceptance would:<sup>2</sup>

- 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 schooled 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 schooled 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 schooled 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 schooled student shall:

- Indicate the course(s) the private school or home schooled 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 schooled 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 schooled student attending academic courses in the District shall be borne by the student or the student's parents.

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

4.6 HOME SCHOOL

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.

# **SECTION THREE: ACADEMICS**

## 4.45—GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS FOR THE CLASS OF 2026

Information regarding Graduation requirements will be sent home with students prior to their enrolling in seventh (7 th) grade, or when a seventh (7 th) through twelfth (12 th) 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 of each; 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 Smart Core curriculum and 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 1 unit to graduate for a total of 23 units. The additional required unit must be taken from any Career and Technical course offering. 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.

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

Oral Communications: one-half (1/2) 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)
- A 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

- a. DESE approved biology 1 credit;
- b. DESE approved physical science 1 credit; and
- c. 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 (1/2) unit

Note: While one-half  $(\frac{1}{2})$  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 (1/2) unit

Economics – one half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) 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 (1/2) 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.

A student who completes at least seventy-five (75) clock hours of documented community service in grades nine (9) through twelve (12) at any certified service agency or a part of a service-learning school program shall receive one (1) Career Focus credit.

## 4.45.1—GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS FOR THE CLASS OF 2027 AND THEREAFTER

Information regarding Graduation requirements will be sent home with students prior to their enrollingin 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 31 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 of each; 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 1 unit to graduate for a total of 23 units. The

additional required unit must be taken from any Career and Technical course offering. 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 – 9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th

Oral Communications: one-half (1/2) 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)
- A 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

- a. DESE approved biology 1 credit;
- b. DESE approved physical science 1 credit; and
- c. 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  $(\frac{1}{2})$  unit

Physical Education: one-half (1/2) unit

Note: While one-half  $(\frac{1}{2})$  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 (1/2) unit

Economics – one half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) 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.

The district requires an additional 1 unit to graduate for a total of 23 units. The additional required unit must be taken from any Career and Technical course offering.

#### GRADE CLASSIFICATION

High school students must have completed the following number of credits in order to be classified as sophomores, juniors, and seniors:

Freshman - a student promoted from the 8th to the 9th grade.

Sophomore - Five and half (5.5) credits to be classified as a sophomore.

Junior - Eleven (11) credits to be classified as a junior.

Senior – Sixteen and half (16.5) credits to be classified as a senior.

### THE ARKANSAS ALTERNATE PATHWAY TO GRADUATION

Starting with the 2019-20 school year, students with an Individualized Education Program (IEP), who have significant cognitive disabilities, can earn a high school diploma by utilizing the Arkansas Alternate Pathways per Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). This pathway will be implemented this year for ninth graders, adding an additional grade each year with full implementation for grades nine through twelve in the 2022-23 school year.

Beginning with the 2019-20 school year, incoming freshmen with IEPs who are not participating in Smart Core must either meet the requirements for the core pathway or alternate pathway in order to graduate.

## 5.12—COMPUTER SCIENCE INTERNSHIPS AND INDEPENDENT STUDIES

Internships

The Board of Directors believes that students who intend to begin careers immediately upon high school graduation or intend to complete post- secondary training prior to starting a career can benefit from an internship experience. The desired outcomes of the District's internship program include students advancing computer science skills, sharpening soft-skills, and learning new skills while in a workplace environment. The internship program provides intense, competency-based worksite immersion in advanced computer science concepts while linking the internship participants to current resources, information, and guidance from computing professionals.1

Students who wish to participate in the internship program shall submit an application to the high school counselor. In order for a student to be eligible to participate in the internship program, the student must have:

1. Received enough credits to qualify as a junior;

#### 2. Either:

- Have at least one (1) credit from an ADE approved computer science course; or
- Submit computer science work product that satisfactorily demonstrates the competencies expected within the Arkansas Department of Education (ADE) Computer Science Standards to the high school counselor; and
- 3. At least a 2.0 GPA.

The student participating in an internship program is responsible for making sure the high school counselor receives documentation authenticated by the student's supervisor of the hours worked by the student, proof of the student having completed projects, and regular evaluations of the student's work by the student's internship supervisor.

A student who completes a computer science internship shall receive credit for the internship as a Computer Science Flex Credit based on the amount of documented on-the-job work hours as follows:

- a. Half (1/2) credit for completing sixty (60) on-the-job work hours; or
- b. One (1) credit for completing one hundred twenty (120) on-the-job work hours.

## Independent Studies

A Computer Science Independent Study Program shall be designed to enrich the student's computer science educational experience. A student who desires to complete an independent study shall:

#### 1. Either:

- Have at least one (1) credit from an ADE approved computer science course; or
- Submit computer science work product that satisfactorily demonstrates the competencies expected within the ADE Computer Science Standards to a local advisor;
- 2. Develop an educational plan that is tied directly to extending the computer science concepts found within:
  - The most current revision of the Arkansas High School Computer Science Standards;
  - College Board AP Computer Science Principles or A; and/or
  - IB Computer Science SL or HL;
- 3. Submit the study plan to a local advisor for approval;
- 4. Have at least a 2.0 GPA; and
- 5. Produce a final product for presentation.

The advisor is responsible for reviewing, monitoring, and approving the student's study plan. The study plan should include anticipated objectives that allow the advisor to evaluate the student's study progress. The student is responsible for submitting regular written reports to the advisor concerning the student's progress towards the student's independent study goals.

The student's hours of study shall be documented by the most appropriate of the following methods:

- Being assigned a class period during the instructional day that is dedicated to the student's independent study;
- Using the District's system to track student time for digital courses if the student's attendance and assignments are through a digital classroom; and
- Using another hour tracking system approved by the district Superintendent that provides for accurate tracking of hours and provides safeguards against improper reporting by the student.

A student who completes a computer science independent study shall receive credit for the independent study as a Computer Science Flex Credit based on the amount of documented study hours as follows:

a. Half (1/2) credit for completing sixty (60) study hours; or

b. One (1) credit for completing one hundred twenty (120) study hours.

#### Graduation Requirements - High School (EARLY GRADUATION)

According to Act 275 of 1997, any student enrolled in a public high school in Arkansas and has earned the number of credits required by the local school district for graduation shall be eligible to graduate from high school without regard to the grade level the student is enrolled in at the time such credits are earned. Graduation ceremonies will be held one time per academic school year as set by the school board. Any student who intends to graduate early must complete and file the appropriate paperwork with the principal prior to the first day of school of his/her junior year of high school. If a student chooses early graduation and completes the necessary units of credits, he/she will be allowed to participate in graduation ceremonies; however, the student forfeits eligibility to participate in all other senior class activities (this includes honor graduate, prom, homecoming, etc.) Final class rank will not be determined until after spring graduation exercises. Students who complete graduation requirements prior to September 1, will be awarded a diploma from the previous year.

#### Home School Students Graduating from WHS

Any home school student who re-enters a resident school district must attend classes for at least nine (9) months immediately prior to graduation before the student can become eligible to receive a high school diploma from the resident school district.

#### Merit and Distinction Diploma (Class of 2028 and after)

Every student in Arkansas should graduate from high school "success-ready" with the knowledge, skills, abilities, and habits to succeed on their chosen path, with options including enrollment in a postsecondary training or degree program, enlistment in military service, and employment in a career that provides a family-sustaining wage. Beginning with the entering ninth-grade class of 2024-25, all students will have the benefit of flexible college and career readiness pathways to guide high school course selection and progress toward high school graduation. The success-ready pathways in this document are encouraged to be used to guide the purposeful selection of courses toward a student's postsecondary aspirations and career goals - as part of their career focused electives and student success planning. Completion of a success-ready pathway leads to eligibility to earn a Diploma with Merit or a Diploma with Distinction by demonstrating readiness at the culmination of that pathway. Schools will have an opportunity to earn points in accountability for students graduating with merit or distinction.

## Diploma with Merit

Complete a Success-Ready Pathway

Career focused credits, fine arts, career and technical education, and advanced academic course purposefully selected to build a pathway to students's unique postsecondary and career aspirations and demonstrate one of the following:

- Identified Credential of Value in High Wage, High Demand (H2) career field
- 12 or more college credit hours with a Certificate of Proficiency or
- 12 or more college credit hours with 9 hours in Academic Core
- AP Scholar (3 or higher on 3 AP exams)
- AP Scholar with Honor (3 or higher and 3.25 ave. On 4 AP exams)
- Seal of Biliteracy (and any completer status)

#### Diploma with Distinction

Complete a Success-Ready Pathway and demonstrate one of the following:

- College Technical Certificate+
- Associates Degree

- Cambridge AICE diploma (not offered in Wynne School District)
- IB diploma (not offered in Wynne School District)
- AP Scholar with Distinction (3 or higher and 3.25 ave. On 5 AP Exams)
- AP Capstone Diploma (Seminar, Research, and 3 or higher on 4 or more AP Exams)
- Youth Apprenticeship leading to Registerd Apprenticeship

### HONOR GRADUATE REQUIREMENTS

Rank in class will be determined based on their earned GPA and on the cumulative average of the grades from all courses. Final class ranking for identifying honor graduate status will be computed at the end of eight (8) semesters (May of the senior year). Students will be advised on

preliminary GPA and class ranking at the end of six (6) semesters and seven (7) semesters. For students graduating in less than eight (8) semesters, the final GPA and ranking will be computed at the time the graduation requirements are completed.

Effective with the graduating class of 2028 and beyond, the honor graduate designation will be as follows for students meeting the honor graduate requirement:

- 1. With Highest Honor-Summa Cum Laude GPA 4.0 or better (Wear a gold stole at graduation)
- 2. With High Honor Magna Cum Laude GPA 3.75 3.9999 (Wear a silver stole at graduation)
- 3. With Honor Cum Laude GPA 3.50 3.7499 (Wear a bronze stole at graduation)

In addition to meeting graduation requirements for Wynne Schools a student must:

• Have a 3.5000 cumulative GPA at the end of eight semesters. GPA not rounded up from four places;

The only decimal numbers that are rounded off are the fifth decimal place (1.00005 would round to 1.0001)

- Completes all local requirements for Graduation as defined by the State Board of Education and the Wynne Board of Education
- Completes two courses of the same foreign language
- Earn a minimum of two credits from AP.
- Completes a minimum of twelve (12) Accelerated Learning Courses (honors / AP® including taking the appropriate AP exam and/or concurrent credit courses).

Honors Chemistry

- Must be enrolled at Wynne High School, beginning with the first semester of junior year
- Must be an eight semester graduate

AP English Literature

- Complete a Merit or Distinction and/or Diploma and/or an approved WHS pathway
- Enrolled in four or more classes each semester on-site at WHS for two (2) of the last (3) semesters
- Successfully complete 24 credits by the end of eight semesters

Accelerated Learning Courses (\*course option for honor graduate status)

Honors English 9 Honors Physical Science Integrated

Honors English 10 Honors Biology Integrated

AP English Language AP Biology

Integrated College English (Composition 1 & 2)

AP Environmental Science

Concurrent Literature I & II Honors Physics

AP Calculus AB Honors Civics/Economics
Honors Algebra I Honors World History
Honors Geometry AP US History

Honors Algebra II Concurrent American History (Before 1865 & After

1865)

Pre-Calculus Concurrent Western Civilization I & II

College Algebra Concurrent Biology
College Calculus I & II Concurrent Chemistry
AP Chemistry Concurrent Physics

AP World History Concurrent Anatomy & Physiology I & II

AP Seminar Concurrent Physical Science

AP Research

3<sup>rd</sup> Level Foreign Language

AP Courses and courses listed on the Arkansas Department of Education Post-Secondary Credit of Academic Core may count as advanced track courses.

All other courses listed in the Wynne High School Course Description Guide are regular-level courses.

\*For a student to receive weighted credit for an AP class, he or she must complete the AP test at the end of the class, and the student's course must be taught by an Arkansas licensed teacher who has received the appropriate training required by Arkansas statute and Arkansas Department of Education rules or is in the process of completing an Additional Training Plan.

## AP Medallion / Top 10 / Speakers

The student will receive a medallion with a ribbon to be worn at graduation if he/she meets the following requirements.

In addition to meeting all Honor Graduate Requirements a student must:

- No grade w/value point less than 3.0 in grades 9-11 (8th if taking Algebra I and/or Physical Science) and first semester of 12th grade.
- Has been continuously enrolled at WHS for four consecutive semesters as a full-time on-site student (enrolled in 6 courses), to include the spring semester of the Senior Year.
- Complete 14 Accelerated Learning Courses, four of which were at the AP level. Concurrent do not count as or replace the AP course requirement.
- Home-schooled students must enter WPS during the first semester of his/her freshman year to be eligible.
- Students who have replaced a grade in order to improve their GPA are not eligible for the AP Medallion / Top 10 / Speaker.

#### SELECTION OF GRADUATION SPEAKERS

Graduation Speakers will be chosen from Senior students who meet the above criteria:

- Has the highest rank GPA among the students who have met the criteria to graduate Summa Cum Laude and Top 10.
- Has been in continuous enrollment at WHS for at least 4 consecutive semesters, to include the final semester that leads to the student's graduation.

GPA will be used to determine class rank with the exception of students with a modified curriculum. In the event of a tie the students who have taken a weighted credit course and whose GPA exceeds a 4.0 will have their GPA and class ranking figured on the number of credits required for graduation. This is to prevent students from being penalized for taking a larger number of credit classes. Any grade lower than an "A" must be included in the 23 credits and all weighted credit grades will be counted in the 23.

## PARTICIPATION IN COMMENCEMENT

• Have completed ALL graduation requirements by the last day of school for seniors.

- Are in attendance in good standing at Wynne High School during the spring semester or completed requirements at the end of the fall semester.
- Students must pay all fines, cafeteria balances, or other monies owed to the school in order to participate in the commencement.
- Graduating seniors are expected to practice for commencement exercises to be eligible to participate in the ceremony.
- Students who have met WHS graduation requirements and are in attendance in good standing at the Arkansas School for Mathematics, Sciences and the Arts, Arkansas School for the Deaf, Arkansas School for the Blind, or approved special education day school or day treatment center.
- Students who do not ride the bus to graduation will not be allowed to participate in graduation without prior approval from the principal.
- Seniors who are subject to disciplinary action that results in an expulsion from school are ineligible to participate in commencement.
- Seniors who are found to have violated policies at the end of the semester or during graduation practice, may not be allowed to participate in commencement.
- All requirements for graduation must be met in full before a student can receive a diploma.

#### GRADUATION DRESS CODE

All seniors participating in graduation ceremonies must adhere to the appropriate graduation attire which includes: Boys:

- White collar shirt with tie or bow tie
- Dark or khaki dress pants/slacks (No jeans)
- Dress shoes or boots (no tennis shoes or sandals)
- Girls
- Appropriate dress, skirt/blouse, dress pants
- NO spike high heels or flip flops.

Nothing is to be worn outside the gown, all stoles, cords, and collars MUST be school issued. No personalized stoles, cords, or collars will be allowed.

Nothing may be worn on the graduation cap/mortarboard except the official school issued graduation tassel. No paint, dye, or coloring may be used on the cap or gown to personalize or decorate. The cap should be worn so the point of the cap is directly over the center of your head. In other words, if a person were to stand directly above you, the cap should look like a diamond. NOTHING SHOULD BE ON TOP OF YOUR CAP!!!

Place the tassels on the right side of the cap. Keep the tassels there as you sit through the ceremony.

In order to ensure a dignified and distinguished graduation ceremony, all graduates wanting to participate in the commencement ceremony are qualified to wear a school used cap and gown. Graduates may only wear stoles, cords, and medals that were earned while they were a student at Wynne High School (WHS) and were presented by a recognized club and/or organization affiliated with WHS. Please refer to the following rules concerning graduation regalia.

### Medals

• AP Scholar Medal (3.5 GPA and 14 Honors/AP Courses)

## Stoles

- Honor Graduates (Gold, Silver, Bronze)
- Class Officers
- ROTC / Military provided

- Collars
- Honor Society Cords
- Boys and Girls State
- CTE Completers
- Mu Alpha Theta
- EACC

### **GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS**

- No cell phones on the field
- All attendees MUST be seated
- No posters, balloons, or noise makers of any kind will be allowed

### SENIOR YEAR TIMELINE OF EVENTS LEADING UP TO GRADUATION

- Senior Sunrise 1<sup>st</sup> Day of School
- Senior Orientation August
- Senior Pictures Fall Semester
- Order Cap & Gowns Fall Semester
- Financial Aid Night October
- ASVAB Test Fall Semester
- WorkKeys Fall & Spring Semester
- Notify Graduation Speakers first week of April
- Senior Parent Graduation Information Meeting April
- Senior Meeting to vote on Escorts and Ushers April
- Notify Seniors in jeopardy of failing at the 6 and 12 week mark
- Senior Checkout and Finals Week prior to Graduation
- AP Examinations May
- Graduation Practice Morning of Graduation (8:00 am)
- Other events that will take place in the weeks leading up to Graduation: CTE Completer Banquet, Senior Breakfast, Athletic Banquet, Scholarship Banquet, Local Scholarship Awards and Senior Signing Day, Senior Sunset, Impact Diplomas, Senior Walk, Spring Fling.

## Senior Release Program

The Earned Release Program provides Senior students the opportunity to gain additional experience and training in jobs and college courses. Students may request two class periods (one block) to be used for earned release at the end or the beginning of the school day. The following requirements MUST be met:

- Students must be in their senior year of high school
- An Earned Release Agreement form must be signed by parents and students before the first day of earned release enrollment.
- Students MUST have their own transportation and follow correct procedures for signing in or out of the building.
- Seniors who have applied and been accepted into an internship program may carry fewer academic classes and be dismissed from school early or arrive later to intern providing they are meeting graduation requirements and maintaining passing grades. Students enrolled in internship must carry at least 4 courses + internship (5 total)
- Students who are pursuing special programs and have the approval of the principal.
- Students pursuing eight or more college credit hours (3 or more courses)

- Students qualifying with the first three bullets above may enroll in as few as five total courses.
- Fifth year seniors are only required to enroll in the number and types of courses necessary to fulfill their graduation requirements.
- Students in special education who may be completing goals stated in their Individualized Education Program (IEP).
- Students must maintain passing grades in all of their courses and meet all attendance policies for credit.
- The student is enrolled in full time college courses and does not have any onsite classes at WHS.
- Seniors enrolled in Wynne Virtual Academy (WVA) may enroll in as few as five total course.
- Students MUST attend Advisory on the days they have onsite courses.

## APPROPRIATE BEHAVIOR FOR GRADUATION CEREMONY

The Wynne High School graduation ceremony reflects over one hundred years of school pride and tradition. This is a once-in-a-lifetime experience that recognizes the completion of 13 years of formal education, and the beginning of adulthood. It is an important ceremony and it creates a memory that parents and students will treasure throughout their lives. Because of the importance of this occasion, we ask that you celebrate this ceremony with pride, respect, and dignity.

Spectators can help a great deal by not applauding, cheering, whistling, etc., when a favorite student's name is called. The noise from this action prevents the next student's name from being heard. We will ask you to hold your applause. Each student deserves the same recognition and each family enjoys hearing the name of their student called.

We expect graduates to display the utmost respect to all speakers and program participants. Inappropriate behavior by graduating seniors will be addressed by staff members, the disruptive graduate may be escorted from the graduation ceremony, and his or her diploma may be withheld until a later date. It is our sincere desire that this will not occur. We do not want anyone to be embarrassed.

#### GRADE POINT AVERAGE AND RANK IN CLASS PROCEDURES

The student's GPA will be determined by the grades received on credit classes (those classes in which a student earns a unit toward graduation). All credit classes attempted, will be counted in the GPA.

Point values for grades for Advanced Placement and all other courses for calculating GPA and class rank are as follows (Act 1070 of 1991)

Grading	Regular / ADV Honors	Weighted Credit Courses
A = 90 - 100%	4 pts.	5 pts.
B = 80 - 89%	3 pts.	4 pts.
C = 70 - 79%	2 pts.	3 pts.
D = 60 - 69%	1 pt.	2 pts.
F = 59% and below	0 pts.	0 pts.

In order to receive weighted credit for AP level courses, students must take <u>both</u> semesters of the AP course <u>and</u> take the appropriate AP exam. Weighting will be reduced to a 4.0 scale on the final transcript for students who do not take AP exams or drop the course.

Weighted credit for Transfer Students - Credit for Advanced Placement or International Baccalaureate courses shall be honored by the Wynne School District only if the district offers the opportunity for weighted credit in that same course.

Final class ranking will be computed on the basis of eight (8) semesters. Students will be advised on preliminary GPA and class ranking at the end of six (6) and seven (7) semesters.

To qualify for graduation speakers a student must have been enrolled at Wynne High School for three (3) of the last four (4) semesters beginning with the first semester of the junior year.

### MATH AND SCIENCE SCHOOL SENIORS

### Act 1326 or 1997

Students who attended school at the Wynne School District prior to acceptance to the Arkansas School for Mathematics and Sciences may elect to participate in graduation activities the year they graduate. Students attending the Math and Science School will be sent a questionnaire at the beginning of their fourth year of high school in which they are to indicate which activities they plan to attend. The questionnaire will be sent to the last address of record in school district records. Failure to return the questionnaire by October 1 will constitute a waiver of the election to participate.

Math and Science students will be responsible for the costs of these activities to the same extent as Wynne students, and agree by participating to abide by the Student Handbook of Wynne High School at these functions.

Math and Science students who violate provisions of the Student Handbook at senior activities may be barred from attending one or more future events upon recommendation of the senior high school principal, subject to appeal to the superintendent, whose decision shall be final.

Math and Science students who participate in the graduation ceremony are not eligible to be recognized as honor graduates. Math and Science students who choose to participate in graduation ceremonies will not receive diplomas issued by the Wynne School District, but will instead be presented with certificates of recognition. Math and Science students who elect to participate in the Wynne High School graduation must make arrangements to secure the proper cap and gown and to attend graduation practice.

## SEAT TIME WAIVER (SENIORS ONLY)

Act 867 of 2017 repeals and amends state statutes governing student attendance. Specifically, Ark. Code Ann. 6-18-210 and 6-18-211 were repealed to allow greater flexibility in meeting the educational needs of students. The repeal of these two sections removes the requirement that students enroll in no less than 350 minutes of planned instructional time each day and allows students to pursue other educational/work opportunities during the school day. Given that the seat time requirements have been rescinded, the Wynne School District may allow 12th grade students to participate in a modified scheduling policy. All participants in the modified scheduling policy must meet with the guidance counselor to make sure the student is on track to meet or exceed all graduation requirements. Participation in this program is not required, and 12th grade students may enroll in a full day's course load if they choose.

## 5.22—CONCURRENT CREDIT

A ninth (9) through twelfth (12) grade student who successfully completes a college course(s) from an institution approved by the Division of Elementary and Secondary 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. Unless approved by the school's principal, prior to enrolling for the course, the concurrent credit shall be applied toward the student's graduation requirements as an elective.

As permitted by the DESE Rules Governing Grading and Course 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. Participation in the concurrent high school and college credit program must be documented by a written agreement between:

- The student;
- The student's parent(s) or legal guardian(s) 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 institution of higher education the student attends to take the concurrent credit course.

Students are 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). 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, or other school functions.

Students will retain credit earned through the concurrent credit program that was applied toward a course required for high school graduation from a previously attended, accredited, public school.

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.

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.

### 5.21 ACCELERATED LEARNING COURSES

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 Programme course;
- 3. A Cambridge Advanced International Certificate of Education course;
- 4. A concurrent credit course; and
- 5. 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 Arkansas Department of Education shall be graded according to the following schedule.

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A = 100 - 90
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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 AP exam. Students who do not take the AP exam shall receive the same numeric value for the grade he/she receives in the course as if it were a non-AP 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.

Students who transfer into the district will be given weighted credit for the accelerated learning courses and other courses approved by the Arkansas Department of Education (DESE) and DCTE; for weighted credit that were taken for weighted credit at the student's previous school(s) according to the preceding scale.

## ADVANCED PLACEMENT SCORE REPLACEMENT CREDIT POLICY

Any student that takes an Advanced Placement course, scores the appropriate score for an accredited college or university, has the college or university apply it to an official transcript, may petition Wynne High School to also add it to their high school transcript and receive credit for the specific college course. It may replace the specific grade level course credit. A committee of certified teachers shall convene to determine eligibility.

E.g. A student takes AP English Literature, scores a 3 on the AP English Literature exam, ASU-Beebe accepts the score of 3 and awards the student with English Composition 1 credit. A committee of certified teachers will convene. Wynne High School will then accept or deny the English Composition 1 credit. If accepted, Wynne High School will apply it to the student's transcript.

English Composition 1 could then replace the student's 12 grade English credit.

## The New Arkansas Academic Challenge Scholarship

The Academic Challenge Program provides educational assistance to Arkansas residents in pursuit of higher education. Additional funding made possible by the Arkansas Scholarship Lottery has allowed the expansion of the Arkansas Academic Challenge Scholarship. The universal online application may be found at <a href="https://www.adhe.edu.">www.adhe.edu</a>. By completing this online form, students can search and apply for scholarships and grants, create an individual account, check the status of their applications, receive alerts and notices through email, and manage their individual account 24/7.

Award amounts are determined by the legislature.

Eligibility requirements: An applicant must be an Arkansas resident and U. S. citizen or lawful permanent resident; be accepted for admission at an approved Arkansas institution of higher education in a program of study that leads to a baccalaureate degree, associate degree, qualified certificate, or a nursing school diploma; not have earned a

baccalaureate degree; and completed the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) (although there will be no maximum income cap). Additional eligibility criteria for "traditional" students (which includes graduating high school seniors) are that the student must enroll in the fall semester immediately after high school or place the scholarship on hold up to one year; enroll full time each semester; and graduate from high school in the current year. Traditional students graduating from Wynne High School must achieve a 19 on the ACT composite or the equivalent score. The deadline to apply is June 1. Nontraditional student regulations as well as more information on the Arkansas Academic Challenge Scholarship, the GO Grant, and other state programs may be found at the Arkansas Department of Higher Education's website (www.adhe.edu) or by calling 501-371-2050. You may email them at finaid@adhe.edu

### GRADING AND REPORTING SYSTEM

Elementary students receive one (1) permanent grade on their permanent record for each subject per year. High school students receive one (1) permanent grade on their permanent record for each subject per semester. That grade comes at the end of the year and is an average of the grades for each grading period during the year. The district, in order for parents to monitor their child's progress, will issue a grade report at the end of each grading period and will schedule two (2) parent conferences during the school year.

Parents may also call the school office to schedule appointments with their child's teacher(s) if extra communications is necessary. Student's grades shall reflect only the extent to which a student has achieved the expressed educational objectives of the course.

K-5

Grades K - Fifth will assign grades based on the following percentage levels:

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

#### Junior High/High School

Parents/guardians shall be kept informed concerning the progress of their students. Parent-teacher conferences are encouraged and may be requested by parents, guardians, or teachers. If the progress of a student is unsatisfactory in a subject, the teacher shall attempt to make contact and/or schedule a parent-teacher conference. In the conference, the teacher shall explain the reasons for difficulties and shall develop, cooperatively with the parents/guardians, a plan for remediation to increase the probability of the student's success. The school shall also send timely progress reports throughout each semester to keep parents/guardians informed of their students' progress. Report cards with final grades will be sent at the end of each semester. Semester grades will be determined using the following:

Average of Eighteen weeks grade = Semester grade

## ALTERNATIVE METHODS TO EARN CREDIT

#### Credit Recovery

The purpose of the credit recovery classes is to provide students who have failed an academic course the opportunity to retake the course and earn credit toward high school graduation requirements. These courses are taught through self-paced online coursework. A student has the ability to complete more than one class per semester. When a student seeks to recover credit for any non-concurrent high school course, the original grade of "F" from the first attempt remains on the student's transcript and the grade earned on the second attempt, credit recovery course, or correspondence course also is placed on the student's transcript in the semester that the recovery course is completed. When a student seeks to recover credit for a concurrent college course, the student's transcript will be changed to a grade of "NC" (No Credit) for the original attempt and the grade for the second attempt will be placed on the transcript.

## Retaking/Repeating Courses

Students may retake only a previously failed course, a course in which credit was pulled, or a course taken in 8th grade for high school credit. Courses taken in 8th grade with a passing grade may only be repeated one time in the 9th grade year. Failed AP courses will be repeated as regular classes, if offered. Non-core courses may be retaken only once. Both courses will be shown on the transcript with the first being shown as a "NC" (no credit). The retake grade will be used for GPA and class rank.

If a student earns an F or D in a course, he or she may retake the course if there are seats available. The highest grade earned becomes the official grade, which will go on the transcript and be used to calculate the GPA. Summer school courses are considered credit recovery and are not the same as retaking a course.

Students may retake a course if dissatisfied with their grade in that course. (A regular course may be taken to replace the grade in an AP or Honors course, but will not be weighted as an AP grade.) In order to replace the grade, the course must be retaken in the regular school session onsite. If it is a higher grade, the grade on the retaken course will replace the grade on the transcript. Students retaking courses will be allowed to use the improvement grade to improve their overall GPA. However, by doing so, you will not be able to improve your status to become an honor graduate or to improve your rank within the honor graduates.

## Summer School

The primary reason for summer school is for students who fail a course during the regular school year. This gives the student the ability to make up the credit lost and continue with new classes the following school year. Core classes that are offered in summer school are English (levels 9, 10, 11, and 12), Math (Algebra I & II, Geometry, and Topics), Science (Physical Science, Biology, Chemistry, Environmental Science), and Social Studies (Civics, Economics, World History, and American History).

Summer school classes are offered as "credit recovery" only, unless otherwise specified. A maximum of a half unit (one semester) of credit per summer may be earned through "Summer School."

### **EACC Career Center**

It is mandatory for the students who attend EACC Career Center to use the transportation provided by the Wynne School District. Students will be subject to the same standard of conduct that presides over the Wynne Transportation Department, and the bus driver will file bus conduct reports as seen appropriate.

In the event you must be removed from the bus due to conduct that is not conducive to the safety of other students, you will be dropped from the EACC Career Center. If your assignments require your vehicle to be present, you must see the principal and other arrangements may be made. Very few requests to drive will be permitted.

## COLLEGE VISITS

Juniors and seniors may be absent from school in order to visit a college or university. Seniors will be allowed three days and juniors will be allowed two days. Visits will be permitted until May 1. The administration may pre-approve additional college visitation days or extend the deadline date. College Visit forms may be picked up in the WHS Attendance office. Verification of the visit must be turned in to the office upon the students return to school. The student is expected to fully participate in any and all classroom activities upon his/her return to school and the student is responsible for any and all work he/she may have missed per the make-up work policy.

## Course Schedule Change

The first five days of each semester shall be designated as the high school courses schedule change adjustment period. Students taking concurrent courses shall have ten days to add/drop specific concurrent courses. Any changes requested after these set adjustment periods will require principal's approval.

#### NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY / SCHOLARSHIP BANQUET (LETTER W AWARD) REQUIREMENTS

The National Honor Society is composed of students in grades 10, 11, and 12 who have met eligibility requirements and have been invited to chapter membership. Candidates for membership must have been in attendance at Wynne High School for at least one semester. In addition, candidates must do all of the following:

- 1. Earn a grade point average of at least 3.5 for consecutive the previous spring and current fall semesters. The extra quality point for AP classes is included in the calculations. Honors classes do not award the extra quality point.
- 2. Take at least three advanced-level courses during the previous spring and current fall school year or a combination of three advanced-level courses and/or core college courses as noted in the Wynne High School handbook.
- 3. Have no grade below a C for either semester.
- 4. Be a member of the sophomore, junior, or senior class.
- 5. Be approved by a majority of the faculty council. The basic objectives of the chapter are to encourage and reward scholarship, citizenship, service, and leadership. Members support service projects in the school and community.

Students who meet the above criteria will be awarded the Letter W and the annual scholarship banquet. The annual scholarship (Letter W) banquet is held during the spring semester. Its purpose is to promote higher academic achievement and to honor those who have distinguished themselves in this area.

#### WJHS LETTER W AND OTHER ACADEMIC AWARDS

WJHS hosts an annual awards assembly near the end of each school year to celebrate and recognize students' academic accomplishments. This event highlights a variety of honors, including the Letter W Award, Cari Latham Award, and the President's Education Award. Additional achievements may also be acknowledged as part of the celebration, reinforcing the school's commitment to academic excellence and student success.

- The Letter W Award is awarded in each subject area to the student achieving the highest GPA within their class. Additionally, students who maintain straight A's across all subjects will also be recognized with a Letter W Award.
- The President's Education Award is presented to students transitioning to high school who have maintained a record of academic excellence by earning all A's and B's throughout their junior high years.
- The Cari Latham Award honors students who have demonstrated exceptional academic achievement by earning all A's in every subject during each year of junior high.

Awards are based on the first three nine weeks of the current school year.

### 4.55- STUDENT PROMOTION/RETENTION POLICY

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

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

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. 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.

For Junior High students: 6th-grade students who make 3 or more F's in an academic subject for a yearly grade may not be promoted to the next grade. For 7th-grade and 8th grade - 2 or more F's in an academic subject

These subjects are: Reading, English, Math, Science, and Social Studies. Excessive absences may be a factor for retention; attendance will be considered with other factors.

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

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

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

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

#### An SSP shall be created:

- 1. 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.

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 or retention of students with an IEP shall be based on their successful attainment of the goals set forth in their IEP. 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.

### **HOMEWORK**

The Wynne School District recognizes homework as a beneficial extension of the instructional program. The term homework refers to school related work that is assigned to be completed by the student after the regular instructional day has been completed. At the beginning of each school year, each teacher will send home a written explanation of his/her homework expectations for the year.

The district has established the following guidelines for homework.

- Kindergarten: minimal; as needed.
- Grades 1-2: This is the beginning of the expected practice of homework as a part of the student's educational program. Homework is assigned at the discretion of the teacher.
- Grades 3-12: Assignments are given which, in the judgment of the teacher, will assist the student
  to learn and develop initiative and responsibility. Homework is a regular part of the educational
  program. With a student having multiple teachers in these grade levels, coordination between
  teachers is important.

## PERMANENT RECORDS

Permanent school records, as required by the Arkansas Department of Education, 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.

## 4.13—PRIVACY OF STUDENTS' RECORDS/ DIRECTORY INFORMATION

Except when a court order regarding a student has been presented to the district to the contrary, all students' education records are available for inspection and copying by the parent of his/her student who is under the age of eighteen (18). At the age of eighteen (18), the right to inspect and copy a student's records transfers to the student. A student's parent or the student, if over the age of 18, requesting to review the student's education records will be allowed to do so within no more than forty five (45) days of the request. The district forwards education records, including disciplinary records, to schools that have requested them and in which the student seeks or intends to enroll, or is already enrolled so long as the disclosure is for purposes related to the student's enrollment or transfer. The district shall receive written permission before releasing education records to any agency or individual not authorized by law to receive and/ or view the education records without prior parental permission. The District shall maintain a record of requests by such agencies or individuals for access to, and each disclosure of personally identifiable information (hereinafter "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.

The District discloses <u>PII</u> 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 <u>PII</u> 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 Wynne 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, 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 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:

Family Policy Compliance Office

U.S. Department of Education 400 Maryland Avenue, SW

Washington, DC 20202

### 5.3—CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT

Sequential curricula should be developed for each subject area. Curricula are to be aligned with the curriculum frameworks and used to plan instruction leading to student proficiency on the Arkansas content Academic Standards. Curricula should be in alignment with the District's vision, mission, goals, and educational philosophy. Student achievement is increased through an integrated curriculum that promotes continuity and a growth in skills and knowledge from grade to grade and from school to school. Therefore, the Board desires that unnecessary duplication of work among the various grades and schools be eliminated and that courses of study and their corresponding content guides be coordinated effectively.

The Board of Education is responsible for reviewing and approving all instructional programs offered by the District as well as approving significant changes to course or course materials before they are implemented. The Superintendent is responsible for making curriculum recommendations.

Each school shall review each curriculum area annually to address the continued relevancy, adequacy, and cost effectiveness of individual courses and instructional programs and to ensure each area is aligned with the current curriculum frameworks and course content standards approved by the State Board of Education. Each school's administration shall implement a monitoring process to ensure that the instructional content of each course offered is consistent with the content standards and curriculum frameworks approved by the State Board of Education.

Legal References: Standards for Accreditation 9.01.2, 7.04.2 1-A.1, 1-A.4

A.C.A. § 6-15-101 A.C.A. § 6-15-1505(a) A.C.A. § 6-15-2906

# SECTION IV: STUDENT BEHAVIOR POLICY

### 4.7-ABSENCES

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 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 enriches the learning environment and promotes a continuity of instruction which results in higher student achievement.

Students attending vocational and off campus educational facilities will be held accountable to Wynne School District's attendance policies and/ or the off campus facility.

#### 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 and the student brings a written statement to the principal or designee upon his/her return to school from the parent or legal guardian stating such reason. A written statement presented for an absence having occurred more than five (5) school days prior to its presentation will not be accepted.

- 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 will be determined on a case by case basis; or
- 7. Participation in an organization and/or club 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 waiver or whose immunizations are not up to date.
- 12. A maximum of three (3) parents notes per semester will be accepted for illnesses.
- 13. Vacations pre-approved by the building principal. The request must be submitted in writing at least 2 weeks before the absence.
- 14. 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.
- 15. 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.
- 16. 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, 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;
- 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 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.

At any time prior to when a student exceeds the number of excused absences permitted by this policy, the student, or his/her parent, guardian, or person in loco parentis may petition the school or district's administration for special arrangements to address the student's excused 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 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.

#### Unexcused Absences

Absences not defined above or not having an accompanying note from the parent or legal guardian, presented in the timeline required by this policy, shall be considered as unexcused absences. Students with ten (10) unexcused absences in a course in a semester shall not receive credit for that course. At the discretion of the principal after consultation with person(s) 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 four (4) unexcused absences, his/her parents, guardians, or persons 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, guardian, or persons 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, guardian, or person 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 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. Students are required to complete all assignments missed during their suspension. The student will receive credit for their assignments.

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.

Note that high school students may be denied credit for classes with more than 10 unexcused absences. Campus principals will offer credit appeals to seniors at the end of second semester for the classes that are required for graduation.

Lack of attendance or chronic absence could result in non-participation in extracurricular activities.

## EACC Attendance (Career & Tech Center, Onsite, and or Online Courses)

#### EACC CLASS ATTENDANCE Policy

Regular class attendance and punctuality are important parts of the educational process and are required at EACC. All arrangements for a class absence are to be made with the instructor. It is the student's responsibility to initiate these arrangements, and it is the instructor's decision to accept or reject make-up work. Because each class session is important, excessive absences may result in a grade of "F" and subsequent loss of course credit. During the fall and spring semesters, a student is judged to be excessively absent when the number of absences exceeds twice the number of times a class meets in a week.

Students enrolled in the Concurrent Credit course will be dropped after missing 4 class periods. Students enrolled in the Career and Tech Center will be dropped after missing 6 class periods. Total absences include excused and unexcused absences but should a student incur excessive medical or bereavement leave the student will have the opportunity of a hearing with an administrator, career coach, and EACC faculty.

All students enrolled in EACC Online Courses will be required to come to the WHS campus once a week for weekly monitoring. If the student is not on track with assignments or the grade falls below a C the student will be required to attend onsite everyday in which that class is scheduled. Failure to attend will result in an absence. The student will be dropped after missing 4 times.

Wynne Virtual Academy Students Activity and Extracurricular Policy

Students in grades 9-12 who are in good standing may participate in regular school activities just as if enrolled in full-time face-to-face activities. Students must meet all AAA eligibility requirements to participate in competitive athletics, band, and choir.

Virtual Students are allowed to participate in athletics, band, choir, ROTC, EAST, Career and Technical classes, concurrent classes, and other extracurricular activities as long as they stay on target and continue to pass all core requirements. These courses may require students to come on campus to participate. Regular school attendance for these programs is required with a hybrid schedule.

Attendance will be pulled weekly from the online platform and capture a student's coursework activity. Students must log in and complete enough coursework to stay on track for completion by the end of the semester to be counted as present each day. Students must keep their courses on target, in the blue. Grade checks will be conducted every 6 weeks (6 times per year). Students NOT on track may be placed on an Activity Ban and/or ruled ineligible until work is complete and the student is back on track academically.

## Semester Exams and Semester Test Exemption 6-8

All Students at WJHS will take First Semester Exams. There are no exceptions.

Second Semester Exemption Policy

80% average and no more than 5 absences (this includes both excused and unexcused), no out of school suspensions, and no more than 3 in-school suspension days.

Exemption is determined on a class by class basis for each student.

Criteria to earn exemption status if a student has not met the absences requirement, students may qualify by meeting one of the following:

C average or better AND

- Score a 3 or 4 on the Winter 2026 ATLAS Interim (2nd interim) or
- Show growth based on Fall and Winter 2026 ATLAS Interim scale score.
- Math scores will exempt math, science scores exempt science, and literacy scores exempt literacy, and all other classes for the above options.
- Grade and discipline apply for all exemption options.

## WHS Exemption Policy

All classes require a cumulative semester exam. Students have the option of taking a semester exam even if they meet exemption parameters. If a student chooses to take a final exam when they meet exemption parameters, the grade will only be used if it improves their semester grade. Appeals on exemptions should be directed to a campus principal. Exemptions cannot be appealed past the campus level. The campus principal's decision is final. Students may exempt a semester exam in a class if they have:

- Must have the following Community Service Hours
  - 9th Fall at least 10 hours / Spring at least 15 hours
  - 10th Fall at least 25 hours / Spring at least 35 hours
  - 11th Fall at least 50 hours / Spring at least 60 hours

- 12th Fall at least 70 hours / Spring at least 75 hours (Class of 2026 is excluded from this requirement)
- Four or fewer absences in Advisory.
- 70% or better in the specific class (of exemption) for the semester,
- Four or fewer absences in the specific class for the semester,
- Four or fewer tardy marks in the specific class for the semester,
- No zeroes in the grade book for the semester in the specific class for the semester, and
- No fines or fees for the class.
- No more than 4 days of OSS, ISS, or combined OSS/ISS for the year
- Cannot be on a school activity ban
- An additional absence will be allowed for each of the following
  - 12th only (both semesters) or 11th (Spring Only) Scoring 19 or higher on the ACT (1 Day), Scoring 22 or higher (2 Days), Scoring 25 or higher (3 Days)
  - 11th Grade ONLY for Fall exemption scoring a 3 or 4 or meeting growth on Spring Geometry, ELA, or Biology (1 Day for each)
  - 10th Grade for Fall exemption scoring a 3 or 4 or meeting growth on Spring Algebra/Geometry, ELA, or Biology (1 Day for each). 10th Grade for Spring exemption scoring 3 or 4 or move 1 level (growth) on Spring Interim Geometry, ELA, or Biology (1 Day for each)
  - 9th Grade for Fall exemption scoring a 3 or 4 or meeting growth on Spring Math, ELA, or Biology (1 Day for each). 9th Grade for Spring exemption scoring 3 or 4 or move 1 level (growth) on Spring Interim ELA, Algebra/Geometry, or Biology (1 Day for each).
- All Seniors must have taken the ASVAB in order to be eligible for exemption in the fall.

Exemptions are allowed for all students each semester, except students in AP Courses where students are required to take a fall exam.

All absences (medical, excused, unexcused, etc.) count. Should a student incur excessive medical or bereavement leave the process of studying, preparing, and learning for the exam helps ensure the learning process despite any type of leave. The only absences that are not counted are school business and college visits. Earning exemptions are an incentive and not guaranteed.

Students who are considered exempt will be allowed to take their semester test if they choose to do so. In this case, if the test raises the student's grade it will be averaged and accepted. However, if it lowers the student's grade it will not count against that student. Students who are not considered exempt are required to take semester exams and their grade on the test will be averaged into their semester grade.

### **TARDIES**

## <u>K-5</u>

- Any student arriving after 7:55 AM will be counted as tardy.
- Any Student arriving after 11:30 will be counted as half a day's absence.
- Any student checked out before 3:00 will be counted as a half-day absence.
- 2 Tardies are equivalent to ½ day's absence

#### Grades 6-12

Promptness is an important character trait that the junior high and high school staff is encouraged to model and help develop in our school's 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.

Disciplinary Consequences:

- 1st Offense Warning;
- 2nd Offense Lunch detention for one day;
- 3rd Offense Lunch detention for three days;
- 4th Offense Saturday School;
- 5th Offense & Beyond In-school suspension.

9-12 Tardy Policy (Cumulative) - 1st Block tardies are excluded

First-Four Tardy: Verbal warning to student (absence if two occur in same class)

Fifth and Sixth Tardy - Saturday School

Seven or more - ISS, Revoke off campus ID

Tardies are counted on a per semester basis.

Tardy is defined as any student that is not in his/her assigned classroom when the tardy bell begins to ring. If a student is absent 10 minutes or more of a class period, he/she will be considered absent for that period, anything less than 10 minutes will be considered tardy.

## 1st Block Tardy Senior High Only

A student will receive a warning for their first two tardies during each semester and be allowed to go to class. When a student reaches his or her third, fourth, and fifth tardy, they will be assigned to Saturday School. A student tardy 6 times or more will be assigned to in-school suspension. A student reporting to school after 8:10 a.m. will be counted absent first period.

### Primary/Intermediate

Being prompt to school is one of the essential elements in having each day begin smoothly for your child and the child's classmates. <u>If a student is tardy to school</u>, the parent or guardian must come into the school office to sign-in the student. This helps ensure the safety of your child. This also eliminates the possibility that students are late without their parents being aware of their tardiness. Any student in grades kindergarten through fifth grade who is checked in after 8:30 or checked out before 2:45 will be counted absent half a day.

Habitual tardiness is disruptive to the education of the child. Equally important is the disruptive impact on the other students as the flow of the class is disrupted by the child's late entry, requiring the teacher to take time away from the class in order to get the tardy student on task with the other students.

## Maintaining Academic Integrity

In accordance with the mission statement of Wynne High School, students are to be independent thinkers, responsible, and held to high standards. Therefore, we strive to impress consciousness of academic integrity and honesty upon our students, as well as respect for the works of others.

Plagiarism is a form of academic dishonesty that is taken very seriously. In efforts to prepare our students for the higher levels of education, as well as the workforce and the consequences that are set for dishonesty in these places, we adhere to our plagiarism policy regarding any such forms of plagiarism.

#### Definition

Plagiarize is defined by Webster's New World Collegiate Dictionary as "to steal and pass off (the ideas or words of another) as one's own: use (a created production) without crediting the source: to commit literary theft: present as new and original an idea or product derived from an existing source"

Examples include, but are not limited to

- Copying another's work (another student's writing pieces/research and essays, projects, printed sources, or online sources) and turning the assignment in as one's own
- Buying materials such as already published papers from the internet
- Copying directly from materials given to you (Sparknotes, etc. ) without proper citation
- Quoting materials without proper citation, and/or without quotation marks

- Paraphrasing or summarizing materials without giving credit to the original source
- "Quilt Patching" is also prohibited, taking pieces by copying and pasting from various sources to create a product

#### Citation Methods

Any questions about citation methods may be addressed by the teacher; however, students and parents may always refer to The Purdue University Online Writing Lab http://owl.english.purdue.edu/ for any additional help and examples.

#### Consequences:

1st Offense- a "O" on the assignment and the opportunity to rewrite the assignment and receive a grade on the revision.

2nd Offense - a "O" on the assignment and parental contact.

3rd Offense - a "O" on the assignment, a reduction of the final letter grade by one letter grade, and a parent conference.

## 4.8—MAKE-UP WORK

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

- 1. Students are responsible for asking the teachers of the classes they missed what assignments they need to make up.
- 2. Teachers are responsible for providing the missed assignments when asked by a returning student.
- 3. Students are required to ask for their assignments on their first day back at school or their first-class day after their return.
- 4. Make-up tests are to be rescheduled at the discretion of the teacher and 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 will receive a reduction on the overall grade for that assignment.
- 7. Students are responsible for turning in their make-up work without the teacher having to ask for it.
- 8. As required/permitted by the student's Individual Education Program or 504 Plan.

Work may not be made up for credit for absences in excess of the number of allowable absences in a semester unless the absences are part of a signed agreement as permitted by policy 4.7—ABSENCES.

Lack of attendance or chronic absence could result in non-participation in extracurricular activities.

#### STUDENT DRESS AND GROOMING

Student dress should be comfortable, clean and appropriate at all times. The principal shall have the authority and responsibility to regulate hair and dress codes. Listed below are examples of some styles deemed inappropriate by the district, but are not limited to, the following:

- No extreme styles (chains, sagging pants, oversized clothing, pants with torn openings, etc.)
  - Wallet chains, large watches, straps with spikes, dog collars, digital belt buckles, spurs, headphones (Ex. Beats) or any other accessory that could cause a disruption or be used as a weapon are not permitted.
- No see through clothing where underwear is inappropriately visible;

- No headcoverings or ski masks of any kind. Caps, hats, beanies, hoods, skullies, do-rags, bandanas, scarves, sweatbands, sunglasses, combs, picks during the normal school day (7:55am to 3:20 pm). Exceptions to this will only be allowed when worn for recognized religious doctrine.
- No muscle shirts, strapless shirts, spaghetti straps, bare back tops, or shirts that have the sleeves cut out;
- No midriffs that can expose the stomach: Shirts must cover the waistband of jeans, slacks, shorts, skirt, etc. and be able to be tucked in. (No crop tops)
- No shoes with cleats, roller skates, or anything that may harm the floor:
- Shorts, skirts, skorts, etc. must be no shorter than the tip of a student's longest finger when standing. Form-fitting shorts and/or spandex are prohibited.
- No clothing with inappropriate language or pictures (promoting sex, violence, profanity, drugs, alcohol, etc.)
- Tank tops may be worn as undergarments only (high school and junior high)
- Spandex, leggings, and tights will be permitted as long as an appropriate outer garment is worn.
- No pajamas, house shoes, or blankets (except designated occasions);
- No bare feet;
- No visible buttocks or breasts may be exposed;
- No holes in jeans above fingertip length.
- Belts must be buckled, overalls, and pants buttoned, suspenders should be worn on the shoulders.
- Tattoos that display drugs, sex, alcohol, tobacco products, inappropriate language, or designs must not be seen at any time.
- Face painting and masks are not allowed during the school day (7:55 am 3:20 pm)

The dress code applies to all school-sponsored events, extracurricular activities. While basic standards of decency are expected, the dress code may be relaxed for after school events such as athletic contests and other non-academic events, such as spirit weeks, graduation, prom, dances, etc.

Due to changing styles and trends, the principal reserves the right to make the final decision in determining the appropriateness of dress and any wearing apparel not covered in the dress code.

Violations of these policies will be handled by the building administrator. Students found to be in violation of the district's dress code will not be allowed to attend class until they meet policy requirements.

Graduation Dress Code: Each graduate shall adhere to the appropriate dress code.

# WIS STUDENT DRESS AND GROOMING

Spandex leggings, and tights will be permitted as long as the shirt covers the front and rear. Shorts, skirts, skorts, etc. must be no shorter than the tip of a students longest finger when standing. T-shirts should not be longer than shorts or skirts. Form-fitting shorts and/or spandex shorts are prohibited.

# PROM GUIDELINES

Being allowed to attend the Prom is a privilege. Only eligible WHS students and their registered guests may attend. Freshmen, sophomores, juniors and seniors are eligible to attend Prom if they meet the following criteria:

- Freshmen and Sophomores may only attend if invited by an eligible junior or senior.
- They must not have received a total of five or more in school or out of school suspensions during the current academic year;
- They must not have been removed from the previous year's Prom; and
- They must not owe any debts to the school.
- Students who are ineligible to attend the prom will not be allowed to come and take pictures.
- Each person must have a ticket to attend the prom. No ticket refunds. Any ticket changes must be made through and approved by the appropriate sponsor(s).

# **GUESTS**

If an eligible Wynne junior or senior would like to bring a date to the Prom who is a freshman, sophomore, junior, or senior at another high school, he/she should

- Must be in 9th-12th grade
- Any guest that is NOT a WHS student must obtain, complete, and return a permission guest form with a
  copy of the guest's ID (school ID or driver's license) to the Administration Office. All guests who are NOT
  Wynne High School students are subject to approval by the administration.

#### APPROPRIATE PROM ATTIRE

Only students and guests who meet the dress requirements will be admitted. All attendees must stay appropriately dressed throughout the event. If you have questions concerning your dress, it is your responsibility PRIOR TO THE DAY OF THE EVENT to ask approval from Mrs.

Westbrook. Any questions regarding dress must be resolved before that evening.

Please adhere to the following guidelines when shopping for and purchasing a dress for the WHS prom:

- Girls should wear a formal or "dressy" dress.
- No midriff showing
- No see-through mesh
- No excessively low-cut front
- Open back CANNOT go below waist
- Slit/hem of dress can be no more than 5.5 inches above the knee
- No hats and/or canes

Young men must wear formal or semi-formal attire. Jeans or shorts are not permitted. Pants should fit properly on the hip and not sag below the waistline.

If you are bringing a date from another school, it is YOUR RESPONSIBILITY to notify him/her of the dress code. These criteria will be strictly enforced. If you have questions concerning your attire, it is your responsibility to seek prior approval from the administration.

Students dressed inappropriately will be turned away at the door. The decision will be final, and no refunds will be issued.

### PROM HOURS

The Prom will begin and will conclude at the designated pre-announced times. Sometimes an earlier time is set for students who wish to come early to have pictures made by the professional photographer. Listen for announcements about this or ask the Prom adviser.

# PROM CONDUCT

Everyone attending Prom (students and their guests) should exhibit their very best behavior. This is a formal occasion which means that all who attend should behave appropriately. Normal school conduct policies must be followed. Only eligible WHS students and their registered guests will be allowed to enter the Prom area at any time. DO NOT INVITE GUESTS TO HAVE PICTURES MADE BECAUSE ADMISSION WILL BE DENIED TO OUTSIDE INDIVIDUALS.

# **ADMISSION**

Prom will be sold until the announced deadline. NO TICKETS WILL BE SOLD AFTER THIS DATE. Checks or cash will be accepted. Tickets are NON- TRANSFERABLE. Students coming only to take pictures will have to

purchase a ticket. Parents/guardians will not be admitted into the Prom. If you are bringing a guest from another school, the guest must be approved before you may purchase a ticket for them.

Students enrolled in New Start Academy (onsite or virtual) will be eligible for attendance and participation in prom/student activities only if they are in a successful transition at the high school campus.

Students enrolled in Wynne Virtual Academy MUST be on track with ALL courses to be eligible to attend events.

# **Homecoming Eligibility**

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

- 1. Homecoming court is for senior high students only (grades 10-12). Three maids each will be selected from the sophomore and junior classes, and five total maids will be selected from the senior class.
- 2. 2.5 grade point for the previous spring semester and promotion to the next grade.
- 3. Enrollment in Wynne School District the previous year.
- 4. No student will be allowed to participate in Homecoming Court activities if he/she has been assigned to ISS or OSS as a violation of the student handbook during the previous semester or current school year.
- 5. Any participant in the Homecoming Court must currently be on an active extracurricular, club, or athletic roster.
- 6. Participants in the Homecoming Ceremonies must attend all meetings and practices in order to participate in Homecoming ceremonies.
- 7. Homecoming participants must be on time for the Homecoming activities. Participants who are not in attendance at the designated time for each ceremony will be excluded from that ceremony.
- 8. Participants must follow all dress codes, guidelines, and rules concerning proper Homecoming etiquette.

#### PERSONAL PROPERTY AT SCHOOL

THE SCHOOL WILL NOT BE RESPONSIBLE FOR LOSS, DAMAGE, OR THEFT OF ANY PERSONAL ITEMS BROUGHT TO

SCHOOL. Students are discouraged from bringing personal items to school. If an item is not required for academic work, it should be left at home. Personal items (e.g. trading cards, basketballs, footballs, games, money), when lost or stolen, can be very disruptive to the classroom. School personnel involved in tracking down lost or stolen items lose valuable instructional time, and the student who lost the item often gets emotionally upset and may remain upset for long periods of time. It is our practice not to sacrifice large blocks of classroom time to do investigative work in order to recover lost or stolen personal items. The school will not be responsible for lost or stolen items.

Please remember to mark articles of clothing, such as coats, jackets, sweaters, hats, gloves, etc. with permanent identification. You should also mark other items brought from home such as lunch boxes, notebooks, folders and backpacks. The school is not liable for a student's personal property when it is destroyed or stolen by another student. The district will take proper disciplinary action, but compensation for damaged or stolen property will need to be pursued between parents/guardians or perhaps through the legal system.

# WPS & WIS - Personal Property

Effective the 2024-2025 school year, female students will be allowed to carry one small cosmetic bag no larger than 6"x5" inside their bookbag. Only school bags and cosmetic bags meeting this criteria will be allowed in school buildings and on school grounds.

# 4.12-STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS / EQUAL ACCESS

Non-curriculum-related school student organizations wishing to conduct meetings on school premises during non-instructional time shall not be denied equal access on the basis of the religious, political, philosophical, or other content of the speech at such meetings. Such meetings must meet the following criteria:

- 1. The meeting is to be voluntary and student initiated;
- 2. There is no sponsorship of the meeting by the school, the government, or its agents or employees;

- 3. The meeting must occur during non-instructional time;
- 4. Employees or agents of the school are present at religious meetings only in a non-participatory capacity;
- 5. The meeting does not materially and substantially interfere with the orderly conduct of educational activities within the school; and
- 6. Non-school persons may not direct, conduct, control, or regularly attend activities of student groups.

All meetings held on school premises must be scheduled and approved by the principal. The school, its agents, and employees retain the authority to maintain order and discipline, to protect the well-being of students and faculty, and to assure that attendance of students at meetings is voluntary.

Fraternities, sororities, and secret societies are forbidden in the District's schools. Membership to student organizations shall not be by a vote of the organization's members, nor be restricted by the student's race, religion, sex, national origin, or other arbitrary criteria. Hazing, as defined by law, is forbidden in connection with initiation into, or affiliation with, any student organization, extracurricular activity or sport program.

Students who are convicted of participation in hazing or the failure to report hazing shall be expelled.

# STUDENT FUNDRAISING

All fundraising 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 fundraising. Fundraising 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 and organizations and third parties.

Student participation in any fundraising 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.

# Secondary Schools (6-12)

Fundraising in the secondary schools may only be done by official 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 fundraising proposal to the Superintendent.

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-5)

Fundraising in the elementary schools may only be done by the school or a school sponsored organization. Door to door fundraising activities are not permitted.

School must provide written notification of the following to parents or legal guardians of elementary students who participate in fundraising programs.

- 1. Student participation in fundraising programs is voluntary.
- 2. Students who do not participate will not forfeit any school privileges.
- 3. Students may not participate in fundraising programs without written parental permission returned to school authorities.
- 4. An elementary student who sells fundraising merchandise door to door must be accompanied by a parent or an adult; and

5. Unless the school provided supervision, parents must accept responsibility for appropriate adult supervision.

Legal Reference: A.C.A. 6-18-1104

#### DISCIPLINE FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Students with disabilities who engage in misbehavior are subject to normal school disciplinary rules and procedures so long as such treatment does not abridge the right to free and appropriate public education.

The individualized education program (IEP) team for a student with disabilities should consider whether particular discipline procedures should be adopted for a student and include those procedures in the IEP.

The building principal shall deal with any grievance relating to students with disabilities. All actions and procedures shall be in accordance with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), as revised in 1997 and Act 102 of 1973.

#### 4.17-STUDENT DISCIPLINE

The Wynne 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 and 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; going to and from school or a school activity.

The District's administrators may also take disciplinary action against a student for off-campus conduct occurring at any time that would have a detrimental impact on school discipline, the educational environment, or the welfare of the students and/or staff. A student who has committed a criminal act while off campus and whose presence on campus could cause a substantial disruption to school or endanger the welfare of other students or staff is subject to disciplinary action up to and including expulsion. Such acts could include, but are not limited to, a felony or an act that would be considered a felony if committed by an adult, an assault or battery, drug law violations, or sexual misconduct of a serious nature. Any disciplinary action pursued by the District shall be in accordance with the student's appropriate due process rights.

The District's licensed personnel policy committee shall review the student discipline policies annually and may recommend changes in the policies to the Wynne 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 website link shall be distributed to each student during the first week of school each year and to new students upon their enrollment. A printed copy of the student discipline policies will be made available to students and parents or legal guardian upon request. Each student's parent or legal guardian shall sign and return to the school an acknowledgement form documenting that they have received the policies.

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.

### 4.18-PROHIBITED CONDUCT

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, 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;
- 8. Sharing, diverting, transferring, applying to others (such as needles or lancets), or in any way misusing medication or any medical supplies in their possession;
- 9. Inappropriate public displays of affection at school or school functions;
- 10. Cheating, copying, or claiming another person's work to be his/her own;
- 11. Gambling;
- 12. Inappropriate student dress;
- 13. Use of vulgar, profane, or obscene language or gestures, including abbreviations and substitute language considered obscene;
- 14. Truancy; (See policy below)
- 15. Excessive tardiness;
- 16. Engaging in behavior designed to taunt, degrade, or ridicule another person on the basis of race, ethnicity, national origin, sex, or disability;
- 17. 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;
- 18. Hazing, or aiding in the hazing of another student;
- 19. 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;
- 20. Sexual harassment;
- 21. Bullying;
- 22. Skateboarding;
- 23. Fighting and/or acts of violence;
- 24. Lighters, matches, fireworks.
- 25. No pets or animals on school premises unless approved by the teacher and building principal;
- 26. Laser pointers are prohibited;
- 27. Students are not allowed to leave the gym or ball field during games unless accompanied by parents.
- 28. Operating a vehicle on school grounds while using wireless communication device.
- 29. Blankets, pillows, and similar items are not allowed at school.
- 30. Students will not consume or inhale any chemical substances considered dangerous. Nor will they encourage others to do so.
- 31. Inappropriate public displays of affection;
- 32. Stealing or receiving school or student property

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.

Violation Consequences: Minimum - Student Conference

Maximum – Expulsion

#### GATHERING AROUND A FIGHT / INCITEMENT TO FIGHT

Students who engage in physical altercations and those who aid, abet, or encourage others to fight are subject to disciplinary action. This applies to active participants and bystanders who incite or provoke the confrontation.

Students who incite fights by spreading rumors, encouraging aggression, or acting as intermediaries between parties that subsequently engage in physical violence may face the same disciplinary consequences as those involved in the physical altercation. Incitement or provocation is defined as any action or behavior that directly or indirectly leads to a physical altercation.

# REPEATED VIOLENT INCIDENTS

A student who commits multiple violent acts will face escalating disciplinary measures. Should a student within the Wynne School District engage in two or more violent incidents during their secondary school years, they may be expelled for up to one year. Additionally, such behavior may result in criminal charges.

# BEHAVIOR NOT COVERED ABOVE

The school and school district reserve the right to punish behavior that is not conducive to good order and discipline in the schools, even though such behavior is not specified in the preceding written rules.

#### **TRUANCY**

Truancy is unexcused and is defined as a student's absence from class and/or school, or being out of a designated area, without the consent of parents and/or without permission from the teacher or office of the principal. You are truant if you:

- a. Are absent from school without permission of parent or guardian;
- b. Leave school without properly checking out in the office at any time. (Note proper check-out procedures)
- c. Once a student has come on school property they must check out before leaving if they are leaving before the end of the school day;
- d. Do not report to the office after having been sent out of class;
- e. Leave the class without receiving verbal or written consent of the teacher;
- f. Do not report to an assigned location at a designated time;
- g. Do not report to class after leaving the principal's office.
- h. Forge or use a forged document.
- i. Are on campus without checking in upon arrival when late to school.
- j. Have not received permission from the office to go to the parking lot.
- k. Fail to follow procedure for off campus transportation as designated by instructor or Administrator.
- 1. Are in an area of the campus that you are not authorized to be or an area without permission.

All students MUST remain on the school grounds during school hours, including the lunch/advisory period. Students must receive permission from the office of the principal if it is necessary to leave school during the day.

First Offense: Conference with student, notification of parent, 1 day ISS Second Offense: Conference with student, notification of parent, 3 days ISS Third Offense: Conference with student, notification of parent, 5 days ISS

### 4.26—GANGS AND GANG ACTIVITY

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.

First Offense: 5 Day Out of School Suspension

Second Offense: 10 Day Out of School Suspension and Recommendation for Expulsion

### PLAYGROUND BEHAVIOR - Elementary

Students are expected to observe the following guidelines:

- 1. Follow directions of all personnel.
- 2. Use play equipment properly.
- 3. Keep hands, feet and harmful objects (rocks, sticks, gravel, etc.) to yourself.
- 4. Softball, baseball, and other potentially dangerous sports must have prior permission and supervision.
- 5. Tackle football, touch football, fighting, karate, and wrestling are prohibited.
- 6. Footballs are not allowed at school.

Disregard of guidelines could result in the student losing playground opportunities.

# 4.47-POSSESSION/USE OF OTHER PERSONAL ELECTRONIC DEVICES (Arkansas Bell to Bell No Cell Law)

# **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 during a special event during the school day.

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

# **Use Of Personal Electronic Device**

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

- The personal electronic device is required by the student's individual education plan (IEP), 504 Plan, or Individual Health Plan for health reasons;
- The use of the personal electronic device is during an emergency as defined by this policy;
- The personal electronic device is issued by the District for the student's use during the school day; 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 increased by an additional level.

# STUDENT CONSEQUENCES

# Grades 3-5

1st Offence - Written warning, parent/guardian must pick up device in office

2nd Offense - 1 Day ISS, Parents Contacted, parent/guardian must pick up device in the office.

3rd offense - 3 days ISS, Parents contacted, parent/guardian must pick up device in the office.

Replacement of phone pouches: 1<sup>st</sup> Offense: Administration will take student to the office to have the phone pouched. The pouched phone will remain in the office. A \$30.00 restitution fee may be paid to purchase a new pouch at that time. A parent may choose to come to campus to pick up the phone.

The office will provide a temporary pouch. The pouched phone will stay in the office until dismissal each day until the pouch is replaced.

# **Grades 6 - 12**

Phones/Wireless Earbuds/Smart Watch Not Pouched	1 <sup>st</sup> Offense: 1 day ISS 2 <sup>nd</sup> Offense: 3 days ISS 3 <sup>rd</sup> Offense: 5 days ISS	
Refusal to Pouch Student is using phone, wireless earbuds, or smartwatch and refuses to comply with the pouching procedure.	1st Offense: 3 days ISS and parent will pick up device 2nd Offense: 3 days ISS + 2 days OSS and parent pick up device 3rd Offense: 5 days OSS and parent will pick up device	
Tampering or Bypassing the Yondr Locking Mechanism Using magnets or something similar for your own pouch.	1st Offense: 1 day ISS 2nd Offense: 3 days ISS 3rd Offense: 3 days OSS	
Tampering or Bypassing the Yondr Locking Mechanism Using magnets or something similar for other students' pouches	1st Offense: 3 days ISS 2nd Offense: 5 days ISS 3rd Offense: 5 days OSS	
Use of Cell Phone to <u>Take</u> <u>Pictures or Videos</u> in Restroom or Locker Room Areas	1 <sup>st</sup> Offense: 10 days OSS and referral to building SRO 2 <sup>nd</sup> Offense: 10 days OSS and recommended for expulsion	
Damaged Phone Pouch	1st Offense: \$30.00 restitution fee and 1-3 days of ISS at administration discretion.  The office will provide a temporary pouch. The pouched phone will stay in the office until dismissal each day until the pouch is replaced.	
Lost or Forgotten Pouch	1st Offense: Administration will take student to the office to have the phone pouched. The pouched phone will remain in the office. A \$30.00 restitution fee may be paid to purchase a new pouch at that time. A parent may choose to come to campus to pick up the phone.	
	The office will provide a temporary pouch. The pouched phone will stay in the office until dismissal each day until the pouch is replaced.	

# 4.10-CLOSED CAMPUS

Wynne School District shall operate closed campuses. Students are required to stay on campus from their arrival until dismissal at the end of their regular school day unless given permission to leave the campus by a school official. After you arrive on campus in the mornings, you are not to leave the campus under any circumstances unless you have checked out through the office. If you ride a bus, you are not to leave after arriving. If you drive on campus, you are not to leave after arriving. Neither are you to get into a vehicle with a friend and leave. Students are

also reminded not to leave campus to go to a friend's car. Students shall follow procedures established by the building principal for signing out to leave campus.

WHS is a closed campus and we strongly discourage students from checking out at lunch. This typically causes unnecessary tardies and classroom interruptions. Advisory and Lunch are restricted check-out times and require the following in order to check out:

- 1. A parent or guardian ONLY (not others on the checkout list legal guardians only) present to check the student out.
- 2. If a parent note has been sent to check the student out, the student must be going to an appointment, they MUST return with a note from the appointment. IF THE NOTE ISN'T BROUGHT, THE ABSENCE WILL BE UNEXCUSED.
- If a student has four or more advisory absences, he or she will not be exempt from semester exams.

#### STUDENT IDENTIFICATION BADGES (JUNIOR HIGH/HIGH SCHOOL)

The Board of Education recognizes school building security measures are important for the safety and welfare of all students and staff members attending school buildings. In recognizing this important responsibility, all students in grades 6-12 will be required to wear their District issued Student Identification (Student ID) badge at all times, prominently displaying the badge, while on school grounds. District administration will set procedures for Student ID badges. The procedures will be provided through the Student Handbook.

Student school ID badges are used for the safety of the students and staff in our high schools.

- Students are expected to have their school ID badges visible on a school issued lanyard and around
  the neck on shoulders at all times. Students' photos must be clearly visible on their ID badge with
  no alterations, stickers, etc.
- Temporary ID stickers must be clearly visible to school staff and placed on the chest/shoulder within 10 inches of the face.
- Student school ID badges will be required with hall passes.
- Badges must be presented for checking in and out, checking out library materials, purchasing lunches, purchasing event tickets, some event attendance, etc. Students without a badge may be inconvenienced at the back of the line or in a slower line for students without scanning capabilities.
- Students on work programs or traveling to off campus classes must be wearing badges at the time of leaving or entering the building.
- Visitors are required to obtain a Raptor ID badge from the visitor's desk when they enter the building.
- Lost or stolen badges must be replaced.
- A \$5.00 charge will be assessed for replacement badges and will include a lanyard. A lanyard alone will be \$1.00.
- Each campus will define locations, time availability, and procedures for obtaining ID replacements and temporary IDs during registration in August.
- The Student ID Badge is the property of Wynne Schools. The replacement cost is for the lost badge.

If a student forgets his/her identification badge, a temporary identification badge may be requested in the junior high and high school office between 7:30-8:00 a.m. Temporary identification badges are good for one day. If an identification badge is lost, a replacement badge is available at the cost of \$5.00 to the student. Replacement lanyards are available at a cost of \$1.00.

# DELIVERIES (WHS)

Deliveries for students for celebratory or special occasions will not be accepted. This includes food, flowers, balloons, cookie bouquets, singing telegrams, etc.

In order to maintain a safe, secure, and distraction-free learning environment, Wynne High School prohibits the use of third-party food delivery services during school hours.

Students are not permitted to order or receive food from third-party delivery services such as DoorDash, Uber Eats, Grubhub, or similar platforms while on school grounds during school hours (including lunch periods.)

Food deliveries from these services pose safety, security, and logistical concerns, including disruption to the academic environment due to deliveries during instructional time. Any delivery made to campus will be refused. Students are encouraged to either:

- Bring a packed lunch from home
- Eat meals provided by the school cafeteria
- Have parents or guardians drop off food through the main office during your students' assigned lunch periods. (Parents are not allowed to bring food for any child but their own. Students may only receive food from an adult listed on their student contact list.)

#### 4.19-TRANSPORTATION / CONDUCT TO AND FROM SCHOOL

Students being transported on a school vehicle are subject to the same rules of conduct while traveling to and from school as they are while on school grounds. Appropriate disciplinary actions may be taken against commuting students who violate student code of conduct rules.

The driver of a school bus shall not operate the school bus until every passenger is seated. Disciplinary measures for problems related to bus behavior shall include suspension or expulsion from school, or suspending or terminating the student's transportation privileges. Transporting students to and from school who have lost their transportation privileges shall become the responsibility of the student's parent or legal guardian.

Student behavior may be monitored by surveillance cameras as well as by the bus driver.

District administrators will develop policies and procedures for student conduct specific to school bus transportation.

- 1. Maintenance and Transportation Coordinator or Assistant Superintendent must approve requests for students to ride a bus other than their assigned bus.
- 2. Obey and be respectful of the bus driver at all times. This is our first and most important rule. The driver will report any bus incidents to the building principal. The building principal has the authority to suspend a student from riding the bus.
- 3. Be at the bus stop at the scheduled time. Stand back about ten (10) feet from the bus stop and wait until the door is opened before moving closer to the bus. Do not play on the highway or road. If you miss the bus, do not attempt to hitchhike or walk to or from school.
- 4. While loading or unloading, enter or leave the bus quickly and in an orderly fashion.
- 5. Students are not allowed to eat, drink, or chew gum on the school bus.
- 6. No knives or sharp objects of any kind, firearms, or live animals are allowed on the bus.
- 7. You are not to tamper with any of the safety devices such as door latches, fire extinguishers, etc. Students must keep seated while the bus is in motion and must not move while it is stopped except as the driver directs. Students are not to put their hands or bodies out of the window. Do not yell at anyone outside of the bus.
- 8. Glass containers are not allowed.
- 9. Students are not to deface the bus or any school property. Do not write on the bus or damage seats, etc. Do not throw paper, food or other objects on the floor of the bus. Keep aisle of the bus clear from books, lunches, coats, etc. Do not put feet in aisle.
- 10. Do not ask the driver to let you off at any place except your regular stop.

- 11. If you must cross the road or highway to enter the bus, try to be on the right side of the road waiting on the bus. If you should arrive at the stop just as the bus approaches the stop, wait until the bus has come to a complete stop and the driver has signaled for you to cross in front of the bus (unless the driver directs you differently).
- 12. 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 has signaled you to do so.
- 13. Bus seats are designed for three (3) people. In view of federal regulations that require all students to be seated, the bus driver will see that three (3) students are in each seat, if necessary.
- 14. Students are expected to conduct themselves in a manner such that they will not distract the attention of their driver or disturb other riders on the bus (which includes keeping your hands to yourself, attending to your own matters, leaving other pupils alone and being reasonably quiet).
- 15. This is not intended to cover all the "do's and don'ts," but it is a very specific guide. The driver may find it necessary to interpret these policies in light of his/her own bus needs.
- 16. The behavior of students on school buses will determine who will be provided with transportation. When a student is brought to the principal by the bus driver, the principal will conduct an investigation; and, if it is determined that the problem merits disciplinary measures, the following regulations will apply, with the exception of a severe infraction, which will be treated as the third or fourth offense.

Violation Consequences: Minimum - Student Conference

#### Maximum - Expulsion

All transportation changes (bus and car rider changes) must be done prior to 2:00 pm. Parents must speak with someone in the Front Office regarding the change. Please do not email/message the child's teacher regarding this matter. Unless there is an unusual circumstance, your child must have a consistent transportation plan. Leisure activities need to be arranged after the child is home from school.

Once car riders have been dismissed, students cannot be picked up in the Front Office until after 3:40. We have limited parking, please arrange for your child to ride the bus or be a car rider.

### Wynne Primary Car Rider Information

Car rider hang tags are required and must be seen by the duty teachers. If you do not have a hang tag, your child must be picked up in the Front Office. Three (3) hang tags are provided to you when you fill out the Car Rider Transportation Form. If you need additional tags, they can be purchased for \$5 or \$1 each for Wynne Primary. Your child must always have a car rider and/or bus tag on their backpack. Do not come into the Front Office to sign your child out to avoid the car rider line.

In the mornings, car rider doors close promptly at 8:00 am. If you arrive past that time, you must come into the Front Office to sign your child in. Do not drop them off in the front and drive away.

In the afternoons, the car rider doors close promptly at 3:30. If you arrive past that time, your child will await your arrival in the Front Office. Unless approved, students cannot be picked up in the front office from 2:50 - 3:40. Car riders must be picked up through the line.

# 4.33 STUDENT VEHICLES

A student who has presented a valid driver's license and proof of insurance to the appropriate office personnel may drive his/her vehicle to school. Vehicles driven to school shall be parked in the area designated for student parking. Parking on school property is a privilege that may be denied to a student for any disciplinary violation, at the discretion of the student's building principal.

The school day begins upon student arrival. Students are not permitted to loiter in parking areas and are not to return to their vehicles during the school day for any reason unless given permission to do so by school administrator.

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 vehicles. 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.

Reckless driving may result in temporary or permanent loss of driving privileges.

#### DISRUPTION OF SCHOOL

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

Disorderly activities by any student or group of students that adversely affect the school's orderly educational environment shall not be tolerated at any time on school grounds. Teachers may remove from class and send to the principal or principal's designee a student whose behavior is so unruly, disruptive, or abusive that it seriously interferes with the teacher's ability to teach the students, the class, or with the ability of the student's classmates to learn. Students who refuse to leave the classroom voluntarily will be escorted from the classroom by the school administration or school resource officer.

Violation Consequences: Minimum - Student Conference

Maximum - Expulsion

# 4.27-STUDENT SEXUAL HARASSMENT

The Wynne 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 grievance procedures for complaints 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 redress that is available to the victim of sexual harassment; and the potential discipline for perpetrating sexual harassment.

"Sexual harassment" means conduct that is:

- 1. Of a sexual nature, including, but not limited to:
  - a. Sexual advances;
  - b. Requests for sexual favors;
  - c. Sexual violence
  - d. Other personally offensive verbal, visual, or physical conduct of a sexual nature;
- 2. Unwelcome; and
- 3. 3.Denies or limits a student's ability to participate in or benefit from any of the District's educational programs or activities through any or all of the following methods:
  - a. Submission to the conduct is made, either explicitly or implicitly, a term or condition of an individual's education;
  - b. Submission to, or rejection of, such conduct by an individual is used as the basis for academic decisions affecting that individual; and/or
  - c. Such conduct has the purpose or effect of substantially interfering with an individual's academic performance or creates an intimidating, hostile, or offensive academic environment.

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

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 as to sexual activity or performance;
- Circulating or showing emails or websites 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 student
  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 file a complaint by contacting a counselor, teacher, Title IX coordinator, or administrator who will provide assistance on the complaint process. Under no circumstances shall a student be required to first report allegations of sexual harassment to a school contact person if that person is the individual who is accused of the harassment.

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 to the extent necessary to complete a thorough investigation; the extent necessary to submit a report to the child maltreatment hotline; the Professional Licensure Standards Board for complaints alleging sexual harassment by an employee towards a student; or the extent necessary to provide the individual accused in the complaint due process during the investigation and disciplinary processes. Individuals who file a complaint have the right to request that the individual accused of sexual harassment not be informed of the name of the accuser; however, individuals should be aware that making such a request may substantially limit the District's ability to investigate the complaint and may make it impossible for the District to discipline the accused.

Students, or the parents/legal guardians/other responsible adult of a student, who file a complaint of sexual harassment shall not be subjected to retaliation or reprisal in any form, including threats, intimidation, coercion, or discrimination. 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.

Following the completion of an investigation of a complaint, the District will inform the parents/legal guardian/other responsible adult of the student, or the student if over the age of eighteen (18), who filed the complaint:

- The final determination of the investigation;
- Remedies the District will make available to the student; and
- The sanctions, if any, imposed on the alleged harasser relevant to the student.

Following the completion of an investigation of a complaint, the District will inform the parents/legal guardian/other responsible adult of the student, or the student if over the age of eighteen (18), who was accused of sexual harassment in the complaint:

- The final determination of the investigation; and
- The sanctions, if any, the District intends to impose on the student.

It shall be a violation of this policy for any student to be subjected to, or to subject another person to, sexual harassment. Following an investigation, 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.

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

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

#### 4.43-BULLYING

Respect for the dignity of others is a cornerstone of civil society. Bullying creates an atmosphere of fear and intimidation, robs a person of his/her 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.

A school principal or designee who receives a credible report or complaint of bullying shall promptly investigate the complaint or report and make a record of the investigation and any action taken as a result of the investigation.

### **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, 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:

- 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;

Electronic act means without limitation a communication or image transmitted by means of an electronic device, including without limitation a telephone, wireless phone or other wireless communications device, computer, or pager that results in the substantial disruption of the orderly operation of the school or educational environment.

Electronic acts of bullying are prohibited whether or not the electronic act originated on school property or with school equipment, if the electronic act 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.

Cyber bullying of School Employees is expressly prohibited and 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; making repeated, continuing, or sustained electronic communications, including electronic mail or transmission, to a school employee;
- 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;
- f. Signing up a school employee for a pornographic Internet site; or
- g. Without authorization of the school employee, signing up a school employee for electronic mailing lists or to receive junk electronic messages and instant messages.

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

- 1. Sarcastic comments "compliments" about another student's personal appearance or actual or perceived attributes.
- 2. Pointed questions intended to embarrass or humiliate,
- 3. Mocking, taunting or belittling,
- 4. Non-verbal threats and/or intimidation such as "fronting" or "chesting" a person,
- 5. Demeaning humor relating to a student's actual or perceived attributes,
- 6. Blackmail, extortion, demands for protection money or other involuntary donations or loans,
- 7. Blocking access to school property or facilities,
- 8. Deliberate physical contact or injury to person or property,
- 9. Stealing or hiding books or belongings, and/or
- 10. Threats of harm to student(s), possessions, or others,
- 11. Sexual harassment as governed by board policy is also a form of bullying, and/or

12. 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").

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 or designee. 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 principal or designee. Parents or legal guardians may submit written reports of incidents they feel constitute bullying, or if allowed to continue would constitute bullying, to the principal. The principal or designee shall be responsible for investigating the incident(s) to determine if disciplinary action is warranted.

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

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, students, school volunteers, and employees shall be given copies of the notice.

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.

# ASSAULT, BATTERY, VERBAL ABUSE

A student shall not threaten, physically abuse, or 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 understanding, is calculated to:

- a. Cause a breach of the peace;
- b. Materially and substantially interfere with the operation of the school;
- 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 student disciplinary measures.

# 4.22-WEAPONS AND DANGEROUS INSTRUMENTS

No student shall possess a weapon, display what appears to be a weapon, or threaten to use a weapon 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. Military personnel, such as ROTC cadets, acting in the course of their official duties are exempted.

A weapon is defined as 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. For the purposes of this policy, "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, as defined in this policy, on the student's body or in an area under his/her control. 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 not less than one 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.

# 4.23-TOBACCO AND TOBACCO PRODUCTS

Smoking or use of tobacco or products containing tobacco in any form (including, but not limited to, cigarettes, cigars, chewing tobacco, and snuff) in or on any real property owned or leased by a district school, including school buses owned or leased by the district, is prohibited.

Students who violate this policy may be subject to legal proceedings in addition to student disciplinary measures. With the exception of recognized tobacco cessation products, this policy's prohibition includes any tobacco or nicotine delivery system or product. Specifically, the prohibition includes any tobacco or nicotine delivery system or product.

Violation Consequences: 1st Offense: 1 Day ISS; 2nd Offense: 3 Days ISS; 3rd Offense: 5 Days ISS

# 4.23.2—VAPING & VAPING PRODUCTS

Vaping, possession, or the use of any kind of vaping product in any form (including, but not limited to, e-cigarette, e-cigars, e-pipes) in or on any real property owned or leased by a District School, including school buses owned by or leased by the district, is prohibited. Students who violate this policy may be subject to legal proceedings in addition to student disciplinary measures. The policy prohibition includes any product that is manufactured, distributed, marketed, or sold as e-cigarettes, e-cigars, e-pipes, or under any other name or descriptor.

Violation Consequences: 1st Offense: 4 Days ISS; 2nd Offense: 4 Days OSS; 3rd Offense: 10 Days OSS with recommendation for expulsion

#### 4.24-DRUGS AND ALCOHOL

The purpose of this policy is to maintain a safe and healthful environment for students.

\*Use of medications, controlled substances, toxic substances, or alcohol at school or in any other school location, is prohibited. Paraphernalia associated with controlled substances is prohibited. It shall be a violation of this policy for any student to use alcohol, toxic substances, controlled substances or paraphernalia at school or in any school location. The school district will act to enforce this policy and to discipline or take appropriate action against any student who violates this policy.

\*Other than as allowed under the medication policy.

# **Definitions**

"Alcohol" - includes any alcoholic beverage, malt beverage, fortified wine or other intoxicating liquor.

"Controlled substances" - include narcotic drugs, hallucinogenic drugs, amphetamines, barbiturates, marijuana, anabolic steroids, or any other controlled substance as defined in Schedules I through VI of the Arkansas Controlled Substance Act (5-64-201) including analogues and look- alike drugs.

"Toxic substances" - includes glue, cement, aerosol paint, or other substances used or possessed with the intent of inducing intoxication or excitement of the central nervous system.

"Use" - includes \*using, possessing, being under the influence of, \*\*selling, manufacturing, distributing or dispensing, alcohol and/or controlled substances, whether or not for the purpose of receiving remuneration or consideration and buying or possessing a controlled substance in quantities that qualify as "intent to deliver" amounts under Arkansas State Law. (\*Level I offense; \*\*Level II offense)

"Possess" - means to have on one's person, in one's effects, or in an area subject to one's control (e.g. automobile, purses, book bags, etc.)

"School location" - includes any school building or on any school premises; on any school-owned vehicle or in any other school-approved vehicle used to transport students to and from school or school activities; off school property at any school-sponsored or school-approved activity, event or function, such as a field trip or athletic event, where students are under the jurisdiction of the school district.

"Drug Paraphernalia" - means all equipment, products, and materials of any kind which are used, or designed for use, in planting, propagating, cultivating, growing, harvesting, manufacturing, compounding, converting, producing, processing, preparing, testing, analyzing, packaging, repackaging, storing, containing, concealing, injecting, ingesting, inhaling, or otherwise introducing into the human body a controlled substance in violation of the Controlled Substances Act of Arkansas.

#### Consequences for Violations of this Policy

A violation of the medication policy involving giving or selling medication or a violation of this policy involving the use of alcohol, controlled substances, including narcotic drugs, hallucinogenic drugs, amphetamines, barbiturates, marijuana, anabolic steroids, or any other controlled substance as defined in schedules I - VI of the Arkansas Controlled Substance Act shall result in the following disciplinary action and referral to legal authorities:

Possessing, transmitting, or selling substances which are thought to be illegal drugs but are look-a-like substances or drug paraphernalia:

Minimum Penalty Suspension Maximum Penalty Expulsion

Possessing, transmitting, selling, using, or being under the influence of alcohol or toxic substances:

Minimum Penalty Suspension Maximum Penalty Expulsion

Possessing a medication for which the student has a prescription but they failed to follow Wynne Public Schools medication policy.

Minimum Penalty In School Suspension Maximum Penalty Expulsion

Possessing, transmitting, selling, using, or being under the influence of a controlled substance as defined in Schedules I through VI of the Arkansas Controlled Substance Act (5-64-201) including analogues and look-alike drugs.

Minimum Penalty Suspension Maximum Penalty Expulsion

\*The disciplinary action may be modified by the Superintendent (designee) for students in grades K- 12.

Any student found to have an odor of alcohol, marijuana, or toxic substance on his/her breath or clothing will be detained in the office of the principal until his/her parent arrives and a determination is made as to the disposition of the matter. This provision is for those situations where the student has an odor of alcohol, marijuana, or toxic substance from early mornings or previous evening activities.

When controlled or non-prescription substances are found at school or at school-sponsored activities, the proper legal authorities will be notified. Any student involved in the above will be afforded all rights of due process.

Act 1217 of 2001 requires school principals to notify the parents of a student who is reported to, interviewed by, or taken into custody by law enforcement personnel.

Act 1268 of 2011 requires notification to a school district when a juvenile is arrested or adjudicated delinquent for any offense that may affect the safety of the juvenile while at school or the safety of others at school.

# SECOND CHANCE PROGRAM

Students who are recommended for expulsion for violation of district drug and alcohol policy MAY be eligible to appeal to the superintendent of schools for placement in the "Second Chance Program" to avoid expulsion. This request must be made directly to the superintendent by the parent or guardian and/or the student. This program is designed to allow eligible students a possibility of continuing as a Wynne student under a strict probation and with specific limitations.

# STUDENT DRUG TESTING POLICY

#### MISSION STATEMENT:

Wynne Public Schools recognizes that drug abuse is a significant health problem for students, detrimentally affecting overall health, behavior, learning ability, reflexes, and the total development of each individual. Our stakeholders are determined to help students by providing another incentive for them to say "No". It is critical that educators and parents continually seek ways to implement effective programs that provide the appropriate actions to address and foster a drug free environment in our schools. The purpose of the policy is threefold: (1) To provide for the health and safety of students in grades 7-12 that participate in activity programs or operate a vehicle on campus, (2) To weaken the effects of peer pressure by providing a legitimate reason for students to refuse to use illegal drugs, and (3) to encourage students who use drugs to participate in drug treatment programs. Drug abuse includes but is not limited to, the use of illegal drugs, alcohol, and the misuse of legal drugs and medications.

#### **DEFINITIONS:**

Drug:

Any substance considered illegal by Arkansas Statutes or which is controlled by the Food & Drug Administration unless prescribed by a licensed physician and the misuse of legal drugs and medications.

**Activity Programs:** 

Any activity that meets the guidelines of the Arkansas Activities Association and /or sponsored by the Wynne Public School District. This includes but in not limited to all school sponsored academic, athletic/spirit and student groups which include:

Band	FCCLA	ROTC
Baseball	FFA	Science Club
Basketball	Fire Marshals	Soccer
Broadcast Staff	Flag Line	Softball
Cheerleading	Football	Student Council
Choral Music	Golf	Swim Team
Class Officers	HOSA	Tennis
Color Guard	Homecoming Court	Track
Dance Team	Key Club	Trap Team
Drama Team	Newspaper Staff	Volleyball
FBLA	NHS	Yearbook Staff
FCA	Rotary Interact	Youth Alive
VICA		

#### School Year:

From the first day of classes in the fall, unless the activity begins prior to the first day of classes, in which event, from the first day of practice through the last day of classes in the spring.

### **TESTING AGENCY:**

The district will choose a certified agency for the purpose of randomly selecting students consistent with the criteria set forth by the district, processing sample results, and maintaining privacy with respect to test results and related matters.

#### PRESCRIPTION MEDICATION:

Students who are taking prescription medication may provide a copy of the prescription or a doctor's verification, which will be considered in determining whether a "positive" test has been satisfactorily explained. That documentation will be forwarded to the testing coordinator to consider the student's use of such medication to assure the accuracy of the result. Students who refuse to provide verification and test positive will be subject to the actions specified below for "positive tests."

# SCOPE OF TESTS:

The drug screening samples will be tested for illegal drugs and the misuse of prescription drugs. Student samples will not be screened for the presence of any substances other than an illegal drug or for the existence of any physical condition other than drug intoxication. As a quality control measure, the school reserves the right to send any urine sample that appears unusual in color and /or consistency to a laboratory for testing and confirmation or non-confirmation.

# RANDOM SELECTION CRITERIA

All students who opt to participate in activity programs as previously defined or drive a vehicle on campus will be entered into a pool for random selection.

# PROCEDURES FOR STUDENTS:

Consent: Each student wishing to participate in any activity program or drive on campus and the student's custodial parent or guardian shall consent in writing to drug testing pursuant to the district's drug testing program. Written consent shall be in the form attached to this policy as FORM A. No student shall be allowed to participate in any activity program or drive a vehicle on campus absent such consent.

Student Selection: At the option of the district, all students in activity programs or who drives on campus may be drug tested during the school year. Other students may voluntarily participate in the testing pool with a consent form signed by a parent or guardian. In addition, random testing will be conducted a minimum of four (4) times during each semester. Selection for random testing will be by lottery drawing from a "pool" of all students participating in activity programs in the district at the time of the drawing. A single test can be required by a principal from a student for reasonable suspicion. The superintendent or designee shall take all reasonable steps to assure the integrity, confidentiality, and random nature of the selection process including, but not necessarily limited to, assuring that the names of all participating students are in the pool, assuring that the agency selecting the students has no way of knowingly choosing or failing to choose particular students for the testing, assuring that the identity of students drawn for testing is not known to those involved in the selection process, and assuring direct observation of the process by the least intrusive means possible while assuring brevity and privacy.

# SAMPLE COLLECTION:

Samples will be collected within a two (2)-hour time period on the same day the student is selected for testing. If a student is absent on that day, the student may be tested upon the student's return to school. A student who is notified and fails to report immediately shall result in a positive screening, and will be subject to the actions specified below for a "positive test." If a student is unable to produce a sample, the student may be required to submit a hair sample. Students are responsible for any additional costs associated with hair sample testing. Otherwise, the student will remain at the testing facility until a sample can be produced.

#### LIMITED ACCESS TO RESULTS:

The results will be reported only to the superintendent or his/her designee.

# PROCEDURES IN THE EVENT OF A POSITIVE RESULT:

Whenever a student's test result indicates the presence of illegal drugs or the misuse of legal or prescription drugs ("positive test"), the following will occur:

If the sample tests positive, a custodial parent or legal guardian will be notified and a meeting will be scheduled with the superintendent or his/her designee, the student, the custodial parent or legal guardian. (Forms B, C,)

# FIRST POSITIVE RESULT:

Following a positive test result, the student will be placed on confidential probation for a period of thirty (30) days. The student will be recommended for counseling; any charges incurred will be the responsibility of the parents. The school will provide a list of qualified drug abuse counselors. A student who has served a confidential probation period will be retested at the expense of the district. The test will be administered on the next random testing date following the probationary period. If the retest results are found to be positive, this will count as the official second positive result.

# SECOND POSITIVE RESULT:

A second positive result in the 24-month period following the first positive test will result in the student's suspension from participating in activities or driving on campus for one calendar year (365 days).

# THIRD POSITIVE RESULT:

For the third positive result, the student will be suspended from participating in activities for the remainder of his/her enrollment with the school district. Screening for students beginning in Grade 7 will be cumulative through grade 9. Screening for students beginning in grade 10 will be cumulative through grade 12.

#### NON-PUNITIVE NATURE OF POLICY:

No student shall be penalized academically for testing positive for illegal drugs. The results of drug tests pursuant to this policy will not be documented in any student's academic records. Information regarding the results of drug tests will not be disclosed to criminal or juvenile authorities absent legal compulsion by valid and binding subpoena or other legal process, which the district shall not solicit. In the event of service of any such subpoena or legal process, the student and the student's custodial parent or legal guardian will be notified as soon as possible by the district.

#### OTHER DISCIPLINARY MEASURES:

By accepting this policy, the district is not precluded from utilizing other disciplinary measures set forth in the Student Discipline Policy. Likewise, this policy does not preclude the district from following its disciplinary procedure and resulting action when founded upon reasonable belief and suspicion that a student has participated in drug-related activities.

If a student exhibits physical manifestations in which administration determines to be as a result of drug or alcohol use, the student will be subject to the consequences listed in the Drug and Alcohol Policy defined in the Student Handbook.

# 4.29-Wynne School District Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) & Internet Policy

Wynne School District offers staff and students access to its electronic communication equipment and networking system (hereafter referred to as "network"), including internet access. The following administrative guidelines supplement and define the Acceptable Use & Internet Policy for staff and student use of the network, which was adopted by the Board of Education on July 27, 2015.

The Wynne School District is responsible for securing its network and computer systems against unauthorized access and/or abuse, while making the technology available for authorized users. The use of technology resources is a privilege, not a right and should be treated as such. Access to the internet and technology is provided for professional, managerial, and educational purposes only. This responsibility includes informing users of expected standards of conduct and the punitive measures for not adhering to this policy.

By accessing and using technology, users acknowledge that inappropriate use is prohibited and may result in disciplinary action. The Wynne School District reserves the right to monitor or log all network activity with or without notice, including files, email and all web site communications, and therefore, users should have no reasonable expectation of privacy in the use of these resources.

The Technology Committee of Wynne School District has developed the following policy for the student body and faculty/staff covering the use of a computer and/or computer network. Any person using a computer and/or network is covered by this policy while on the school campus or when accessing the school's system from a computer outside the physical boundaries of the school.

Wynne School District endeavors to protect the safety and security of students when navigating the internet. Wynne School District continuously works to educate all students about appropriate online behavior, including but not limited to contact with individuals on social networking websites and cyberbullying awareness and response.

Technology infractions include but are not limited to:

#### 1. General Infractions:

- Using the network/internet for other than educational purposes
- Gaining intentional access or maintaining access to materials which are "harmful to minors" as defined by the Arkansas Law

- Using the network/internet to engage in sending numerous, unsolicited electronic mail messages
  or participating in chain letters which can degrade the performance of the network; or accessing
  chat lines/rooms
- Using abusive, obscene, sexually explicit, threatening, or profane language or expressions
  regarding racism or hate in private messages on the system; or using the system to harass, insult,
  or verbally attack others
- Wasting limited resources provided by the school or causing congestion of the network through lengthy downloads or files, or failing to delete old emails or other files which take up excessive space.
- Using technology in a way that interferes with work obligations
- Inhibiting other users from using the system or the efficiency of the system
- Identifying oneself with another person's name or password; or using an account or password of another user

#### 2. Hardware-related Infractions:

- Vandalize, steal, deface, destroy or remove computer equipment, parts, cables, accessories, etc.
- Unauthorized dismantling, disconnecting, or removing computer equipment, cables, or peripherals
- Misuse of computer hardware which results in temporary or permanent damage or possible damage to equipment
- Installation of unauthorized hardware
- Unauthorized relocation of hardware

#### 3. Software-related Infractions:

- Unauthorized changing of settings on computers including modifications or removal of software, operating systems, security programs, configuration files, etc.
- Intentional introduction of a virus, proxies or other destructive elements
- Installation of unauthorized and/or unlicensed software
- Vandalizing data of another user; or attempting to access or copy another user's files
- Gaining or attempting to gain unauthorized access to resources or files.
- Inappropriate use of files including:
  - Unauthorized copying of software programs
  - Unauthorized copying of files or disks
  - Unauthorized downloading of files.

# 4. Computer Ethics-related Infractions:

- Attempting to access systems or files for unauthorized purposes
- Using or attempting to use unauthorized passwords- system security passwords, administrative passwords or other individual's passwords
- Failure to keep personal passwords secure and private
- Usage of computer for harassment (sexual, racial, personal, bullying, etc.)
- Usage of computer to convey or access any objectionable material including topics which are obscene, racially slurred, vulgar, sexually explicit, violent, etc.
- Excessive time usage causing the system to slow while others are waiting

# 5. Internet/Email related Infractions:

- Unauthorized posting of information/graphics pertaining to Wynne School District, its employees, or students
- Visiting improper or inappropriate websites
- Design, creation or posting of websites which do not follow the district webpage standards
- Use of chat rooms, cyber cafes, etc.
- Accessing or playing games unless instructed to do so by the teacher or instructor

- Confidentiality No email is confidential, personal, or private. All or part of an email can be sent
  to hundreds of people with just a few mouse clicks. In addition, emails can be subject to open
  records law.
- Persons should not post email messages containing inappropriate language or content.

# 6. Wireless Devices:

- All wireless devices that connect to Wynne School District network must also abide by the AUP, including guests Wynne School District Web Page
- The technology coordinator or his/her designee will be responsible for the creation of web pages
  or the association of web pages to the district's home page. On occasion, a student's name and/or
  picture may appear on a school webpage; however, a student's picture will not be identified with
  his/her name.

# **Technology Protection Measure**

Wynne School District will participate in the Arkansas Department of Information Systems (DIS) topical filtering system as an active restriction measure to prevent access to material that is harmful to minors with a secondary line of topical filtering utilized on the additional bandwidth. District teachers and staff will make reasonable efforts to supervise student use of the network and internet access; however, they must have student cooperation in exercising and promoting the responsible use of the technology.

# Appropriate Online Behavior Education for Minors

Wynne School District educates minors about appropriate online behavior, including interaction
with other individuals on social networking websites and in chat rooms, and in cyberbullying
awareness response

# Your Rights

 Users should expect only limited privacy in the contents of their personal files and email on the district's or school's network; they must realize that any information stored electronically on school-owned equipment is subject to the Arkansas Freedom of Information (FOI) Act. This situation is similar to the rights staff and students have in regard to their lockers, desks, or other storage systems.

### Disciplinary Action:

All violations will be handled as any other infraction of school board policy. Disciplinary actions may include:

- 1. Revocation of computer access
- 2. Financial restitution

# WJHS Chromebook Tampering Policy

Wynne Junior High School is committed to maintaining a safe learning environment and protecting school-issued technology. Tampering with school-issued Chromebooks, including participation in social media challenges that encourage inserting foreign objects into charging or USB ports, is strictly prohibited.

This behavior is dangerous and destructive. It may cause device overheating, fire hazards, and complete hardware failure. Such actions pose a significant risk to student safety and result in costly damage to school property.

# Policy Enforcement:

- Any student found to have tampered with a Chromebook in this manner will be subject to disciplinary action in accordance with the district's behavior policies.
- Parents or guardians will be held financially responsible for all damages, including repair or replacement costs, as outlined in the district's technology agreement.
- Students will not be promoted to the next grade level until all associated charges for damages have been paid in full.

This policy exists to protect the safety of our students and the integrity of our educational tools. All students and families are expected to handle school-issued devices responsibly and report any damage or concerns to school staff immediately.

# Limitations of Liability

The Wynne School District makes no guarantees that the functions of the services provided by or through the network will be error-free or without defect. The district will not be responsible for any damage the user may suffer, including but not limited to, loss of data or interruptions of service. The district is not responsible for the accuracy or quality of the information obtained through or stored on the network. The district will not be responsible for financial obligations arising through the unauthorized use of the network.

This policy will be periodically reviewed/revised as deemed necessary by the Wynne School District Technology Committee.

#### Violation Consequences:

Saturday School will be given for each offense. Repeated or severe infractions will result in disciplinary action determined by the principal.

#### **DETENTION**

#### Grades 9-12

The purpose of detention is to address minor infractions of the student handbook. If a student does not attend an assigned detention, the student will be assigned two (2) days of detention. If the student misses one of the two assigned days in detention, the student will be placed in Saturday School.

#### Grades 6-8

The purpose of lunch detention is to address minor infractions of the student handbook. If a student does not attend lunch detention, an additional day of lunch detention will be added. If the student misses one of the two assigned days in detention, the student will be placed in Saturday School.

#### Lunch Detention

The purpose of lunch detention is to address minor infractions of the student handbook. If a student does not attend an assigned detention, the student will be assigned two (2) additional days of detention. If the student misses one of the two assigned days in detention, the student will be placed in Saturday School.

When sent to detention, the student must bring and work on academic assignments. A student who is tardy to detention, talks, or disrupts in any manner in the detention room will be dismissed for that day and have his/her detention time doubled. Lunch detention will be held Monday- Friday during the students' lunch period. Detentions will be served in a designated classroom, unless teachers ask for students to serve in their room.

Lunch detention will be held Tuesday-Friday during the students' lunch and advisory period.

Students are required to remain silent during the entirety, before eating, while eating, and after eating. Any student who is absent for lunch detention will receive lunch detention the next day.

# Morning Detention (SENIOR HIGH ONLY)

Morning detention is held on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday mornings of each week during the school year. Students who are assigned to the detention hall will be given one day to make arrangements for transportation. Morning detention will be held from 7:15 am to 7:50 am.

Students who fail to attend detention hall will be assigned an additional day of detention hall two (2) times during the semester. Each failure to attend detention hall after two (2) will result in Saturday School being assigned.

If after a student has been assigned a total of five (5) days detention and/or Saturday School and he/she commits an offense serious enough (as judged by the administrator) to merit assignment to detention and/or Saturday School again, the student will be placed in ISS/AEP for each subsequent infraction for the remainder of the semester.

#### SATURDAY SCHOOL

The Wynne School Board authorizes the use of Saturday School to address minor offenes relating to behavior and/or academics. Students must adhere to the following guidelines:

- All school rules apply to Saturday School, including dress code and behavior;
- One time per semester the student may reschedule an assigned Saturday School. Notification must be pre-approved by the building principal before the assigned date;
- If a student does not attend Saturday School, misbehaves, or does not complete assignments he/she will be assigned two (2) additional days. If the student misses one of the additional assigned days he/she will be suspended;
- Students should arrive by 8 a.m. at the high school for Saturday School. Students will not be admitted after 8 a.m. Arrival after 8 a.m. will result in a missed Saturday School.
- Students who are not picked up by 12:10 may receive an additional day of Saturday School, unless prior arrangements are made with administration. •

# In-School Suspension

Assignment to ISS / AEP will usually follow other efforts to correct the behavior of the student.

#### A. PURPOSES:

- 1. To provide a more productive learning environment by removing the habitually disruptive student, either temporarily or long term.
- 2. To significantly decrease the number of suspensions and expulsions from the Senior High School.
- 3. To reduce the number of students who drop out of school.
- 4. Upon entering the ISS/AEP, the director will inform the student of the rules and procedures of the ISS/AEP classroom.
- Students assigned to the ISS/AEP shall complete assignments and tests while there, for full credit from their regular classes. The ISS/AEP director will coordinate this work with students and teachers.
- Students assigned to ISS/AEP will not be permitted to participate or attend assemblies, athletic
  contests or other school-sponsored activities on the day or days assigned to the ISS/AEP unless
  permission is granted by administration.
- 7. Assigned students will be closely supervised. They will not be allowed to associate with other students. Necessary breaks for water and restroom use will be permitted. ISS/AEP will eat lunch. They may bring their lunch or eat a school prepared meal.
- 8. Students who are assigned to ISS/AEP should report directly to the ISS/AEP room at 7:55 am. and will be released at 3:20 p.m.
- 9. If after a student has been assigned a total of five (5) days total of any of these ISS/AEP/OSS or a combination thereof (excluding truancy) and he/she commits an offense serious enough (as judged by the administrator) to merit assignment to ISS/AEP/OSS (excluding truancy) again, the student will be suspended from school and placed on a 365 day activity ban. Any further offense serious enough to merit a suspension or an ISS/AEP (excluding truancy) assignment may result in a ten (10) day suspension and a recommendation to the school board for expulsion for the remainder of the school year.

# 4.30—SUSPENSION FROM SCHOOL

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

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

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

- 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) 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 readmittance to class will be given to the parent(s), legal guardian(s), 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), 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 parents' or legal guardians' responsibility to provide current contact information to the district which the school shall use to immediately notify the parent or legal guardian 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;

o The contact may be by voice, voice mail, or text message.

#### • An email address:

The district shall keep a log of contacts attempted and made to the parent or legal guardian.

During the period of their suspension, students serving OSS are not permitted on campus except to attend a student/parent/administrator conference.

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.

When the student returns from suspension they MUST meet with an administrator before returning to class.

#### 4.31-EXPULSION

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

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

Expulsion shall not be used to discipline a student in kindergarten through fifth (5) 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 or legal guardians (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 representative 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, 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 not less than one (1) year for possession of any firearm prohibited on school campus by law. The Superintendent

shall, however, have the discretion to modify the expulsion recommendation for a student on a case-by-case basis. Parents or legal guardians of a student enrolling from another school after the expiration of an expulsion period for a weapons policy violation shall be given a copy of the current laws regarding the possibility of parental responsibility for allowing a child to possess a weapon on school property. The parents or legal guardians shall sign a statement acknowledging that they have read and understand said laws prior to the student being enrolled in school.

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

# 4.32—SEARCH, SEIZURE, AND INTERROGATIONS

The District respects the rights of its students against arbitrary intrusion of their person and property. At the same time, it is the responsibility of school officials to protect the health, safety, and welfare of all students enrolled in the District in order to promote an environment conducive to student learning. The Superintendent, principals, and their designees have the right to inspect and search school property and equipment. They

may also search students and their personal property in which the student has a reasonable expectation of privacy, when there is reasonable and individualized suspicion to believe such student or property contains illegal items or other items in violation of Board policy or dangerous to the school community. 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 shall conduct personal searches with a certified adult witness present.

State Law requires that Department of Human Services employees, local law enforcement, or agents of the Crimes Against Children Division of the Department 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, or other person having lawful control by court order, or person acting in loco parentis on student enrollment forms. The principal or the principal's designee shall not attempt to make such contact if presented documentation by the investigator that notification is prohibited because a parent, guardian, custodian, 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 Department 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, or other person having lawful control by court order, or person acting 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.

# 4.48-Video Surveillance

The Wynne School District utilizes video surveillance equipment 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.

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

# **SECTION V: HEALTH & MEDICATION**

# HEALTH SERVICES AND POLICY

The Wynne School District employs four (4) Registered Nurses and one health aide to offer medical and other health-related services to its student population. All of our nurses come from varied backgrounds and experiences, but our number one priority is to take care of your children.

The nurse's job is a very important one. The nurse takes temperatures, dispenses medicine, and administers first aid to students who enter the health office. The nurse is a friendly face that your child can trust and feel comfortable discussing any problem. They are here to help you and your child have a safe and healthy year.

The nurse may not contact you every time your child is seen. Using their nursing judgment, they will only contact you when they feel it is necessary. However, they will ask you to pick your child up for certain things: fever greater than 100 degrees Fahrenheit, true vomiting, diarrhea times 3, and injuries that need further evaluation. They ask that you please not send your child to school if they have had a fever greater than 100 degrees Fahrenheit in the last 24 hours without medication or if they have vomiting or diarrhea. If your child gets injured at home and needs medical attention, please do not wait for the nurse to evaluate the injury.

# PHYSICAL EXAMINATIONS OR SCREENINGS

Nurses provide a variety of services for students, some of which can be reimbursable under the state's Medicaid plan, such as EPSDT screenings for hearing and vision. The Registered Nurses in the Wynne School District are trained to provide hearing/vision screenings and scoliosis screenings. You will receive notice should your child not pass any such test. 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 his/her full potential. The Wynne School District is enrolled with Medicaid as a provider of hearing and vision services. Parents are provided with consent forms at the beginning of the school year in order for the school to be reimbursed for the hearing and vision services that are provided for Medicaid-eligible students.

Vision and Hearing Screenings are performed for all new students and students in grades K,1,2,4,6, and 8;
 Special Education referrals, Special Education re-evaluations, and any student referred by teachers or parents

Act 29 of 2003 requires schools to include as a part of a student health report to parents an annual Body Mass Index (BMI) percentile by age for each student and to annually provide with an explanation of possible health effects of body mass index, nutrition, and physical activity. This is available upon request.

• BMI screenings are performed for students in grades K,2,4,6, 8, and 10 per Act 201 of 2007.

Act 41 of 1987, as amended by Act 95 of 1989, requires schools to include as a part of a student health report to institute a scoliosis screening program.

• Scoliosis screenings are performed for 6th and 8th grade girls, and 8th grade boys.

To help us provide for your child's health, be sure we have a working phone number or message number at all times. In case of an emergency and you cannot be reached, we need the phone number of a relative or other adult we may contact.

# 4.34-COMMUNICABLE DISEASES AND CONDITIONS

Students with communicable diseases that are transmittable in a school environment shall demonstrate respect for other students by not attending school while they are capable of transmitting their condition to others. Students whom the school nurse determines are unwell or unfit for school attendance or who are believed to have a communicable disease or condition will be required to be picked up by their parent or guardian. Specific examples include but are not limited to Varicella (chicken pox), measles, scabies, conjunctivitis (Pink Eye), impetigo/MRSA

(Methicillin- resistant Staphylococcus aureus), streptococcal and staphylococcal infections, mononucleosis, Hepatitis A. B, or C, mumps, vomiting, diarrhea, and fever (100 F). A student sent home by the school nurse will be subsequently readmitted, at the school nurse's discretion, when the student is no longer a transmission risk. In some instances, a letter from a healthcare provider may be required before the student is 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 school until the outbreak has been resolved and the student's return to school is approved by the Arkansas Department of Health.

#### **HEAD LICE**

No healthy student should be excluded from school or allowed to miss school time because of head lice or nits. Students diagnosed with live head lice do not need to be sent home early from school. They can go home at the end of the day, be treated, and return to class after appropriate treatment has begun. Nits may persist after treatment, but successful treatment should kill crawling lice. Head lice can be a nuisance, but they

have not been shown to spread disease. Personal hygiene or cleanliness in the home or school has nothing to do with getting head lice. The health office does not perform classroom head lice checks.

#### STUDENT ILLNESS / ACCIDENTS

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 remove the student from 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 the cost of treatment or transport for 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.

### 4.57-IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENTS

# **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:

- Diphtheria; Pertussis; Tetanus; (4 doses DPT, last after 4th birthday)
- Poliomyelitis; (3 doses, last after 4th birthday)

- Red (rubeola) measles; Mumps; Rubella; (MMR, 1 dose after 1st birthday and 2nd dose 28 days later)
- Hepatitis A; (1 dose, Kindergarten and First grade only on or after 1st birthday)
- Hepatitis B; (3 doses)
- Meningococcal disease; (1 dose when entering 7th grade and 2 dose at age 16 by September 1 of the current school year)
- Varicella (chickenpox); (2 doses, 1 dose on or after 1st birthday and 2nd dose 28 days later)
- Tdap (1 dose at age 11 by September 1 of the current school year) 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:

- 1. Licensed physician;
- 2. Health department;
- 3. Military service; or
- 4. Official record from another educational institution in 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. 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.

Immunization exemptions for medical, religious, or philosophical reasons will be granted after receiving documentation from the ADH in accordance with Act 999 of 2003.

Transfer students will be conditionally admitted without an immunization record. Only a maximum of thirty (30) calendar days will be given for the student to produce documentation of immunization or be excluded from school. 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 waiver 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 1is 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 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 twenty-one (21) days or 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 has 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 five (5) school days 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.

#### 4.35-STUDENT MEDICATIONS

Purpose: To assist each student in maintaining optimal health and enhancing their educational experience by allowing full access to the educational program. The administration of medications at school creates many complex problems, and these rules are designed to protect your child.

#### Definitions:

"Prescription Medication" - is a medication that can be obtained only by means of a licensed and duly authorized medical practitioner. "Nonprescription Medication" - is an over-the-counter medication that can be obtained without a licensed medical practitioner. "Medication" - is a drug or preparation of drugs in suitable form for use as a curative or remedial substance.

"School Location" - includes any school building or on any school premises; in any school-owned vehicle or in any other school-approved vehicle used to transport students to and from school or school activities; off school property at any school-sponsored or school-approved activity, event or function, such as a field trip or athletic event, where students are under the jurisdiction of the school district.

# Requirements:

The Wynne School District requests that parents administer medication to their child at home before or after school. A parent may come to school to administer medication to their child if a situation arises where this policy cannot be met.

- 1. A parent/guardian or designated adult must bring all prescription and/or non-prescription medications to the nurse or trained school personnel. Medication <u>cannot</u> be brought to school or carried home by a student. Students are not allowed to have medications in their possession on the bus or on school campuses.
- 2. Upon arrival at school with your child's medication, you will be required to:
  - 1. Sign a permission form for the medication to be stored and taken at school if one isn't already on file for the current school year
  - 2. Count the medication with the nurse or trained school personnel and document the amount to be kept at school
  - 3. The initial (first) dose of medication will not be given at school
- All medications must be in the original container with the student's prescription label in place.
   Non-prescription medications should have the student's name written on it and have the manufacturer's dose and directions included.
- 4. Only medications that are ordered and labeled to be taken with meals, at a specified time during school hours, or four (4) times a day will be administered at school. Morning doses should be taken at home with a snack or meal prior to coming to school.
- 5. In the absence of the school nurse, a parent or guardian may delegate a designee to administer an oral controlled substance.
- 6. Students are only allowed to carry emergency medications when the appropriate authorizations and documentation are completed by the parent, physician, student, and school nurse and are on file in the nurse's office per Arkansas Annotated Code § 6-18-707, Act 1694.
- 7. Students should come at a pre-designated time (determined by the nurse and teacher), which should not interfere with learning.
- 8. Tylenol, Antacid, Orajel, and throat spray are available for students under the direction of the school nurse <u>after</u> receiving written parental consent in the nurse's office.
- 9. If your child has a short-term prescription medication that meets the requirements to be given at school, the morning dose should be administered at home. Then, the parent may <u>EITHER</u> bring the medication to and from school each day <u>OR</u> ask the pharmacy for a 2nd labeled bottle to leave at school.
- 10. Only emergency medications will be sent for students on any school trip or field trip.
- 11. Homeopathic substances will not be given at school.
- 12. Non FDA-approved medications or substances will not be given at school.
- 13. Medication not picked up by a parent/guardian at the end of the school year will be disposed of by the school nurse. Parents/guardians will be notified ten (10) days prior to the disposal of medication.
- 14. Other procedures may be provided by the school nurse.

# Violations of the Student Medication Policy

1. It is a violation of this policy for a student to keep any kind of medication in his/her possession at school or school locations unless an exception has been granted as outlined in this policy. This violation shall result in punishment as follows:

# Elementary K-2

- 1. First offense: minimum conference with parent/guardian;
- 2. Second offense: minimum conference with parent/guardian to a maximum of one (1) day of in-school suspension and a conference with parent/guardian;

# Elementary 3-5:

- 1. First offense: minimum conference with parent/guardian to maximum three (3) days of in-school suspension and a conference with parent/guardian;
- 2. Second offense: minimum three (3) days in-school suspension and conference with parent/guardian to maximum five (5) days out-of- school suspension or placement in the alternative learning environment, a conference with the parent/guardian;
- 3. Third offense: minimum five (5) days out-of-school suspension or placement in the alternative learning environment, a conference with the parent/guardian to maximum of ten (10) days out-of-school suspension and written notification of an expulsion recommendation.

# Secondary 6-12:

- 1. First offense: minimum conference with parent/guardian to maximum three (3) days in-school suspension and conference with parent/guardian;
- 2. Second offense: five (5) days out-of-school suspension and conference with parent/guardian;
- 3. Third offense: ten (10) days out-of-school suspension or placement in the alternative learning environment, a conference with the parent/guardian and written notification of an expulsion recommendation.
- 2. It is a violation of this policy for a student to give any medication to another student. This violation shall result in punishment as follows:

# Elementary K-2

- 1. First offense: minimum conference with parent/guardian;
- 2. Second offense: minimum conference with parent/guardian to maximum one (1) day of out-of-school suspension and a conference with parent/guardian;

#### Intermediate 3-5 / Secondary 6-12

- 1. First offense: minimum conference with parent/guardian to maximum three (3) days in-school suspension and conference with parent/guardian;
- 2. Second offense: ten (10) days out-of-school suspension or placement in the alternative learning environment, a conference with the parent/guardian and written notification of an expulsion recommendation for a next offense;
- 3. Third offense: recommendation for expulsion.
- 3. It is a violation of the <u>DRUGS AND ALCOHOL POLICY</u> for a student to sell a medication (see Drug Free School Policy for possible consequences).

# **Emergency Administration of Epinephrine**

The school nurse or other school employees designated by the school nurse as a care provider who have been trained and certified by a licensed physician may administer an epinephrine auto-injector in emergency situations to students who have an IHP developed under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 which provides for the administration of an epinephrine auto-injector in emergency situations.

The parent of a student who has an authorizing IHP shall annually complete and sign a written consent form provided by the student's school nurse authorizing the nurse or other school employee certified to administer auto-injector epinephrine to the student when the employee believes the student is having a life-threatening anaphylactic reaction.

Students with an order from a licensed health care provider to self-administer auto-injectable epinephrine and who have written permission from their parent or guardian shall provide the school nurse an epinephrine auto-injector. This epinephrine will be used in the event the school nurse or other school employee certified to administer auto-injector epinephrine, in good faith, professionally believes the student is having a life-threatening anaphylactic reaction and the student is either not self-carrying his/her epinephrine auto-injector or the nurse is unable to locate it. The school nurse for each district school shall keep epinephrine auto-injectors on hand that are suitable for the students the school serves. The school nurse or other school employee designated by the school nurse as a care provider who has been trained and certified by a licensed physician may administer auto-injector epinephrine to those students whom the school nurse or other school employee certified to administer auto-injector epinephrine in good faith professionally believes is having a life-threatening anaphylactic reaction.

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 regulations.

# **Emergency Administration of Glucagon**

The school nurse or other school employees designated by the school nurse as a care provider who has been trained and certified may administer Glucagon in an emergency situation to students who have an IHP developed under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

The parent of a student who has an authorizing IHP shall annually complete and sign a written consent form provided by the student's school nurse authorizing the nurse or other school employee certified to administer emergency Glucagon to the student when the employee believes the student is having an emergent hypoglycemic event.

The school shall not keep outdated medication 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 regulations.

# Emergency Administration of Anti-Opioid (Naloxone)

The school nurse for each district school shall keep anti-opioid injectors on hand. The school nurse or other trained school personnel or volunteer may administer anti-opioid in accordance with the district's procedures to a student who the school nurse or other personnel, in good faith, believes is having an opioid overdose.

# STUDENT WELLNESS

If your child has an allergy, asthma, seizures, or other medical diagnosis, all paperwork with an action plan and emergent medication needs to be at school. Forms for you and your doctor to complete can be found under the "parent center" or in the school nurse's office. Please return all paperwork and discuss care with the school nurse as soon as possible so your child's care can be managed appropriately.

Thank you for allowing us to care for your children this year!

# **ALMA MATER**

Come and join in song together
Shout with might and main
Our beloved Alma Mater
Sound her praise again
Gloriana praise her banner
E'er to her be true
She's the pride of Arkansas
Hail to old Wynne High!

Here's to her whose name we'll ever
Cherish in our song
Honor, love, and true devotion
All to her belong
Gloriana praise her banner
E'er to her be true
She's the pride of Arkansas
Hail to old Wynne High!

