2026-2027

Hazard Middle School Handbook



BULLDOG PRIDE

DISTRICT MISSION STATEMENT: The Mission of Hazard Independent Schools is to offer students a world-competitive education that will challenge their minds, inspire their hopes, and provide them the opportunity to achieve their dreams.

https://www.hazard.kyschools.us
Please check out our district website for school and district news, updates to school calendars, contact information, schedules and events.



THE DYNAMIC DAWG

Skilled Communicator

- Listens actively.
- Resolves conflict respectfully.
- Adapts language for a range of purposes and audiences.
- Engages others effectively.
- Uses a variety of forms of communication.

Life-Ready Learner

- Develops practical life skills.
- Practices financial literacy.
- Cultivates basic and specialized knowledge for the future.
- Navigates challenges with confidence.
- Uses technology responsibly and effectively.

Dependable Worker

- Exhibits a strong work ethic.
- Collaborates effectively.
- Accepts and applies constructive criticism.
- Sets goals and monitors progress.
- Leads with a positive and productive attitude.

Innovative Thinker

- Demonstrates adaptability.
- Applies independent decision making.
- Embraces curiosity and creativity.
- Transforms ideas into real world applications.
- Solves problems with critical thinking.

Community Contributor

- Engages and gives back to their community.
- Shows kindness, respect, and empathy for others.
- Displays pride in local heritage.
- Advocates for self and others.
- Reflects good character through actions and choices.

HAZARD INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS

Dear Students and Families,

As we embark on an exciting new school year, it is my absolute pleasure to welcome you to Hazard Middle School! Our school community thrives on a foundation built upon three core values: **Family, Pride, and Tradition**. This year, we remain deeply committed to fostering an environment where these values come to life every single day.

At Hazard Middle School, we view ourselves as a **Family**. We are dedicated to supporting one another and ensuring that every student feels a deep sense of belonging. We strongly encourage open communication and active partnership between our educators, students, and parents, as this collaboration is the true cornerstone of a successful academic and social journey.

We also take immense **Pride** in our students' achievements and growth. Our faculty is dedicated to delivering a high-quality education that challenges students intellectually while inspiring them to reach their full potential. Following a remarkable 2025–2026 school year filled with numerous academic and athletic triumphs, the HMS community is energized and eager to see all the incredible milestones we will achieve together in the 2026–2027 school year.

Thank you for being a part of our rich **Tradition** of excellence. We look forward to a productive, rewarding, and inspiring year ahead. Go Dawgs!

Sincerely,

Josh Hurt
Principal Hazard Middle School

WELCOME TO HAZARD MIDDLE SCHOOL:

Dear Parents and Students:

We want to welcome everyone to Hazard Middle School and we are glad that you are here. We trust that each of you will come to school with a positive attitude and make the most of your time. This handbook is published so that you may have a clear understanding of the expectations of the staff as well as the rules and procedures of our school. Please read it thoroughly and do not hesitate to call or come by the school if you have any questions.

VISION

Every student will leave Hazard Middle School with the skills necessary to be successful and independent.

MISSION

Hazard Middle School will provide all students with the necessary knowledge and skills needed to succeed and be productive citizens.

Non-discrimination of Students
No pupil shall be discriminated against because of age, color, disability, parental status, marital status, race, national origin, religion, sex, or veteran status.

Hazard Middle School

We are always striving to meet the needs of our middle school students. We continue to change our structure because we are committed to....

1. helping students master basic skills and acquire knowledge necessary to develop a positive self-image.
2. helping student's foster academic, social and personal growth.
3. identifying and meeting the diverse needs of all students.
4. helping students understand their needs to help shape their present and future lives.
5. offering programs which provide child centered instruction relevant to the needs of our students and push our students to achieve on higher level
6. helping students adapt to their ever-changing physical needs.
7. helping students understand and respect themselves regardless of racial, ethnic or socioeconomic differences.

TEAMWORK
Hazard Middle School is organized by grade levels. Each grade has a team of teachers working closely together to take an interdisciplinary approach to teaching. Our goal is to give each student a well-rounded solidly based education in all subject areas. This will make learning more interesting and reinforce the importance of all subjects.

FACULTY & STAFF

5th Grade	6th Grade	7th Grade	8th Grade
Ms. Bowling	Mr. Shrum	Ms. Bryant	Ms. Justice
Ms. B. Hall	Ms. Brashear	Ms. Eversole	Ms. Haynes
Ms. Pierre	Ms. Steele	Ms. Allen	Ms. Frasure

Ms. Thompson - Art/Humanities 5th- 8th
Ms. Alexander - Computer Applications
Ms. Booth - Health & P.E.
Ms. Wilder - Careers & ILP
Ms. Hagans - Special Education (5th & 6th)
Mr. Johnson - Special Education (7th & 8th)
Ms. Combs - Media Specialist

Mr. Misczenski - 5th-8th Music/Chorus
Ms. Boggess - Band Director (5th-12th)
Mr. Combs - FMD
Ms.Parke -Special Education (5th & 6th)
Ms.Osborne-SpecialEducation(7th& 8th)
Ms. Walker - Special Ed. Coordinator

Josh Hurt - Principal
Brittany Wilder - Guidance Counselor 5-8th
Brandi Wells - Secretary/Financial
Holly Bailey - Attendance Clerk
Sarah Olinger - Family Resource
Pearlie Hoskins - Instructional Assistant
Julie Campbell - Cafeteria Cook
Shelly Pulliam - PRI

Brittany Inguagiato - School Nurse
Catherine Blair - School Nurse
Sandra Jones - Instructional Assistant
Mitch Fields - Instructional Assistant
Robin Amburgey -Instructional Assistant
Jet Miller - Cafeteria Supervisor
Denise Beatty - Cafeteria Cook
Paul Spare - PRI

Maintenance/Grounds Technician: Chris Young / Dalton Otterson / Kendell Hernandez

SITE-BASED MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

Chairperson – Mr. Josh Hurt
Teacher Representatives – Belinda Hall, McKenzie Alexander, & Taylor Allen
Parent Representatives – Brittany Wolfe & Desi Jarrell

Site-based council meetings are open to the public. The council meets regularly on the 2nd Monday of the month at 4:00 PM at HMS in the library. Meetings of special interest may be held at a different time. Minutes are available to the public in the principal's office. Anyone wanting to have an item or issue on the agenda needs to present their request in writing to the principal at least two days prior to the meeting.

Hazard Independent Schools Central Office

Nathan Johnson	Jamie Hughes	Regina Cornett
Alyssa Combs	Cayden Castle	Dan Howard

Sondra Combs - Superintendent

Hazard Independent Board of Education

Michael Sims	Nikki Muncy Begley	Jade Teague
Jonathon Collins	Dennis Smith	Sam Collins

District Maintenance - Benji Strong & Paul Barnett

2026-2027 HMS Bell Schedule

Homeroom	**8:00 – 8:10**
1st Period	**8:10 – 8:56**
2nd Period	**8:56 – 9:41**
3rd Period	**9:41 – 10:26**
4th Period	**10:26 – 11:10**
Lunch Break	**8th Lunch: 11:00-11:25** **8th Recess: 11:25-11:35**
	7th Lunch: 11:20-11:45 **7th Recess: 11:10-11:20**
	6th Lunch: 11:50-12:15 **6th Recess: 12:15-12:25**
	5th Lunch: 12:10-12:35 **5th Recess: 12:00-12:10**
5th Period	**11:10 – 12:35**
6th Period	**12:35 – 1:25**
7th Period	**1:25 – 2:15**
8th Period	**2:15 – 3:10**

WHAT? WHEN? WHERE?

1. **Where do I report upon arrival?**
All 8th grade students will report to Hazard High School in the mornings before 8 am. They will be able to eat breakfast in the high school cafeteria. They will be dismissed from there for their 1st period class.

All 7th grade students will report to the gym at HMS. They will remain in the gym until the bell rings. Students will be taken to the cafeteria for breakfast. These students are to be dropped off on Preston Way near the gym door. Please do not delay traffic any longer than necessary.

5th & 6th grade students will be dropped off at the cafeteria steps and remain in the cafeteria until the first bell rings. Cars delivering these students should enter by Elizabeth Drive and drop the students at the steps that lead from Elizabeth Drive to the front door of the cafeteria. These cars should then continue up Elizabeth Drive, make a left on to Preston Way, and then exit to the left on School Street. **Do not drive through the parking lot in front of the building to drop students. This route is for school buses only**. *Please do not delay traffic any longer than necessary.*

- Teachers will be on duty in the gym and cafeteria until the bell rings.
- Bus students will be dismissed first through the front door to load the buses.
- 5th and 6th grade students will be dismissed in the afternoon through the back door at the rear of the building on Preston Way near the gym. 7th and 8th grade students will be dismissed out the front doors of the school once all the buses have left the front entrance. School Buses will have the only access to the front of the school from 3:00PM until the last bus leaves at 3:15PM.

No cars should use the drive-in front of the school until the last bus has left. This route is reserved for buses and student safety is our priority.

****<u>Students may not be dropped off at the school prior to 7:30 A.M.</u>****

2. **What if I am late for school?**
Our school day begins with morning bell at 8:00am. Any student not in their home room by 8:10am is considered tardy and must report to the office to receive a tardy slip.

3. **What if someone breaks into my locker and steals my things?**
Do not bring items of value, which you are afraid of losing, to school. The school will not be responsible for lost or stolen items. Unclaimed items in the lost and found will be donated to local organizations at Christmas and at the end of the school year. DO NOT bring toys to school!! Educational time will not be spent tracking them down.

4. **Do I need a lock?**
No. The school provides combination locks. If a student loses a lock, he/she shall pay $8.00 and be issued a new lock. (Remember, locks cannot get lost if they are locked on the locker.)

5. **What if I lose something?**
Lost articles of value should be reported to the office. Any items which are found should be turned in to the office so they may be claimed by their owners. Lost and found is located in area under the steps to 5th grade rooms.

6. **What if I lose my books or get them stolen?**
Students are responsible for your own textbooks. If books are stolen or lost, students M**UST** **pay for a book before a replacement book may be issued.** Textbooks are issued to students by classroom teachers. Handle them with care. DO NOT loan books to other students and students should be sure that the books they take home are the ones that were issued to them. **Textbooks must be covered.**

7. **What if I need to go to my locker after class has begun?**
Students will need to get their books before classes have begun. Since lockers are in the hallways, teachers will plan times for students to go to their lockers.

8. **What if I need to use the phone?**
   a) Students may use the classroom phone only in case of an emergency.
   b) Students must have a phone pass from their teacher.
   c) A student will not be called from class for a phone call except for emergencies.
   d) Students will not be allowed to call home for forgotten items such as homework, books, swimsuit, to make after school plans with friends for personal reasons or school projects, etc. These plans should be made with parents before school begins.

9. **What if it snows? How will I know about school?**
In case of weather conditions which require the closing of school, the official announcement will be made over the local radio/TV stations - WSGS and WYMT. Also, visit www.wymtnews.com and click on the “mobile” link and follow the on-line instructions. The service is available to both AT&T and Appalachian Wireless Customers, and several other service providers. This service is NOT provided for free by the school system. If your cell plan does not include free text messaging, there will be a per use charge for each text message alert that is received. Check with your cell phone provider for further information regarding fees for text messaging. You may also check the district website at www.hazard.kyschools.us Do not call the school or school officials to ask about school closings. Announcements will be made as soon as possible via the radio/TV.

10. **What if I need to bring medication to school?**

Prescription Medications

Parents/guardians and health care providers shall complete the required forms before any person administers prescription medication to a student or before a student self-medicates. The form shall include the following information: student's name, physician's name of physician/health care provider, address, and phone number, type of medicine, dosage, time of day for dosage, reason medication is to be administered, possible reactions or side effects of medicine, release from liability, and parent/guardian's telephone numbers at home and work, as well as an emergency contact and numbers, as appropriate.

Prescription medications shall be administered only as prescribed on the physician/health care provider's written authorization. Prescription medications shall be sent to school in one (1) week increments unless otherwise approved by the Principal or designee. Parents/guardians shall have the ultimate responsibility to provide the school with an adequate supply of medication to enable the orders to be followed.

All prescription medication, original or refill, should be sent to school in a pharmacy labeled container that includes the student's name, date, medication, dosage, strength, and directions for use including frequency, duration, and mode of administration, prescriber's name, and pharmacy name, address, and phone number. Labels that have been altered in any way will not be accepted. Per KRS 218A.210, "A person to whom or for whose use any controlled substance has been presented, sold, or dispensed by a practitioner or other persons authorized under this chapter, may lawfully possess it only in the container in which it was delivered to him by the person selling or dispensing the same." Changes in the dosage and/or times of administration must be received in the form of a written order from the physician/health care provider OR a new prescription bottle from the pharmacy indicating the change and a note from the student's parent/guardian.

Nonprescription Medications

Nonprescription (over the counter) medications may be accepted on an individual basis as provided by the parent or legal guardian when a completed authorization to give medication form is on file. The medication should be in the original container, dated upon receipt, and given no more than three (3) consecutive days without an order from the physician/health care provider.

SELF MEDICATION

In certain situations, a written physician's authorization will be allowing a student to responsibly carry self-administered emergency medication (EpiPen, Insulin, Inhalers). A school authorization form must be completed by the physician and parent/guardian and must be on file in the school office. The authorization must show the student is capable of and has received training on administering the prescribed medication. For the safety of all students, no student is permitted to carry any medication on his/her person except as noted here.

11. **What if I am absent from school?**
When you return to school after being absent, all students should bring a written excuse to the secretary. A parent note or doctor note explaining the absence. All excuses should include the student's name, dates of absence, reason for absence, and parent's signature. The secretary or counselor will enter the excuse in the computer.

12. **What if I am tardy?**
When you are tardy, you must report to the office. You will be given a tardy slip (blue slip) to present to your home room teacher. Since teachers mark students absent when the bell rings and cannot change them, students who do not report to the office for tardy slips are counted absent.

13. **What if I would like to get my assignments when I am absent?**
Assignments may be acquired by accessing the teacher's Google Classroom. If there is no internet access at home, or the WEB is not working, please follow the homeroom teacher's policy regarding the process for acquiring make-up work and homework.

To acquire the textbooks, a parent MUST go to the student's locker after school has been dismissed for the day. Upon their return, **students** must request any work and handouts they were not able to obtain from the Google Classroom. Refer to "Homework Policy" for restrictions. Students who will be taking overnight trips such as band, Speech Team, STLP, Academic Team, cheerleaders and sports teams, should refer to their grade level policy regarding work missed.

14. **What if I need to leave class?**
You must obtain a hall pass from your teacher and sign out of SmartPass. Students without a hall pass will be sent back to the classroom.

15. **What if I need to leave school?**
Any student who must leave school during the day for a doctor's appointment or other approved reason must be signed out by a parent or guardian. The student should remain in class until he or she has been signed out and the office sends for or pages them. Any student who is too ill to remain in school must have a parent or parent-authorized person to sign them out in the office. Only those persons listed on a student's Office card may sign a student out. (Photo ID may be required for verification.) No student will be allowed to leave alone during the school day for any reason.

Students, determined by the nurse or the office, to be **too ill to remain in their classroom, will be checked out** and parents will be required to make arrangements to have them picked up. Please have an alternate person authorized to sign child out in the event we are unable to reach you.

GUIDANCE SERVICES

Mrs. Brittany Wilder, the school counselor, is available to assist every student in having a rewarding and enjoyable school year. The guidance philosophy at Hazard Middle School is designed to support the mission of our school. The entire faculty and staff are the guidance team, and the counselor is the leader of the team. The counselor works with individual students and/or small groups of students in the areas of career, academic, and/or personal development. While working together to meet the individual needs of our students; (1) the guidance team makes every effort to develop the abilities of every student, (2) to promote positive self-esteem in every student, and (3) to guide every student toward becoming a responsible and successful citizen.
Please contact Mrs. Wilder if you have any questions and/or concerns about the guidance program. Mrs. Wilder is also available to talk with parents and/or guardians about any concerns they may have about their child.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

Students who wish to talk with the principal may obtain a hall pass from their classroom teacher. Parents who wish to talk with the principal or a teacher may schedule appointments by contacting the school secretary in person or by phone.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

In accordance with Kentucky state law, all public schools shall observe a daily moment of silence or reflection at the beginning of the first instructional period. This moment shall last one (1) and provide students the opportunity to engage in silent activity that does not interfere with others. This policy is implemented in accordance with state law to ensure a neutral and inclusive environment for all students.

Attendance Policy

All students are required by law to attend school every day and to be on time for school and all classes. Tardiness is not just being late for school as traditionally interpreted; it is defined by law as “any amount of instructional time missed.” This includes being late to school or leaving school before classes are dismissed. Attendance for all students begins at 8:00 a.m. and ends at 3:00 p.m.

If a student will be absent or late, please be sure to send a note to the school office upon the return of your student. If possible, bring the note in yourself, as students sometimes forget to leave them in the office.

- Your student is allowed a maximum of 5 excused parent notes each year.
- Your student is allowed 10 excused doctor notes each year. If a student misses more than 10 days for illness; a signed school medical form must be signed by the physician.
- All other absences are considered unexcused however the school principal has discretion in extreme circumstances.

- All excuses must be given to the attendance clerk within 5 days of your student returning to school.

Chronic Absenteeism
Kentucky monitors chronic absenteeism as part of its school accountability system because regular attendance is closely tied to academic achievement, graduation rates, and postsecondary readiness. Chronic absenteeism is defined as missing 10% or more of the school year for any reason- excused, unexcused or suspended.

What is Truancy?
Kentucky's Compulsory attendance law (KRS 159.150), defines a student as being an "habitual truant" after he/she has accumulated a total of **6 unexcused absences or tardies** or any combination of the two.
If students do become truant, school personnel will contact parents to discuss the reasons for excessive absences and try to find ways to get the student to school consistently. In extreme cases, parents of students can be referred to court for truancy.

Excused Absences (District Policy)
An excused absence or tardiness is one for which work may be made up, such as:

1. Death or severe illness in the pupil's immediate family
2. Illness of the pupil
3. Medical or dental appointments
4. Religious holidays and practices
5. Court appearances
6. Driver's license exam (one-half day only)
7. One (1) day for attendance at the Kentucky State Fair
8. Trip with parent/guardian (The Principal shall determine if accompanying the parent/guardian is "necessary." The parent/guardian shall be responsible for giving the Principal prior notification of the trip.)
9. Documented military leave.
10. One (1) day prior to departure of parent/guardian called to active military duty.
11. One (1) day upon the return of parent/guardian from active military duty
12. Visitation for up to ten (10) days with the student's parent, de facto custodian, or person with legal custody who, while on active military duty stationed outside of the country, is granted rest and recuperation leave.
13. Other valid reasons as determined by the Principal, including trips qualifying as educational enhancement opportunities.

    Students shall be granted an excused absence for up to ten (10) school days to pursue an educational enhancement opportunity determined by the Principal to be of significant educational value. This opportunity may include, but not be limited to, participation in an educational foreign exchange program or an intensive instructional, experiential, or performance program in one (1) of the core curriculum

subjects of English, science, mathematics, social studies, foreign language, and the arts.

Unless the Principal determines that extenuating circumstances exist, requests for date(s) falling within State or District testing periods shall not be granted.

The Principal's determination may be appealed to the Superintendent/designee whose decision may then be appealed to the Board under its grievance policy and procedures.

Students receiving an EXCUSED absence under this section SHALL HAVE the opportunity to make up schoolwork missed and shall not have their class grades adversely affected for lack of class attendance or class participation due to the excused absence.

Unexcused Absences
Unexcused absences of fifteen (15) or more days shall result in referral to the Director of Pupil Personnel, the Board, and the court system.

Notes Required
Upon return to school following an absence, the student shall present a note signed and dated by the parent/guardian or be accompanied by the parent/guardian. The signed note must state the student's name, date of student's absence/tardy, and reason for student's absence/tardy and must list the parent/guardian's phone number.

Tardy for School--All students are to report to the office, upon arrival, for tardy excuses.
The following reasons are among those for unexcused tardies:

- Oversleeping
- Using the excuse of car trouble excessively
- Excuses relating to running late, not having things ready in the morning, forgetting something and having to go back.

The principal will have the final determination on excused and unexcused tardies.

Attendance- All 5-8th grade students may be recognized for their perfect, excellent, and good attendance.
Perfect Attendance- All 5-8th grade students missing no days of school (tardies included)
Excellent Attendance - 5- 8th students missing no days of school (tardies not counted)
Good Attendance-All 5-8th grade students missing 3 days or less of school.

HOMEWORK / ASSIGNMENT POLICY

Each Grade Will Develop Policies That Are Specific to That Grade and Within the Regulations Set Forth by the Site-Based Council and the School Based Committee. These Policies Are:

1. Students and parents are responsible for seeing that assigned homework is completed and turned in on time.
2. Students will be allowed 1 day to make up homework for every day of class missed, up to a maximum of 5 calendar days. Extra consideration can be reviewed by the principal and the grade level teachers.
3. Extra-curricular activities such as sports events, practices and competitions (whether school related or not) are NO excuse for failure to complete and turn in homework on time.
4. It is the student's responsibility to get assignments if it is necessary to miss a class due to extracurricular activities.
5. Students are encouraged to use a homework assignment books. The best way to make sure that students know what their assignments are and when they are due (and the best way to stay organized) is to use the assignment book.
6. Students will read and follow homework rules issued by their teachers.
7. With the push for blended learning and use of Technology, some classrooms will require students to use technology outside of the classroom. If students do not have access to technology at home, teacher will have alternate plans to supplement the technology.
8. **Students may obtain their assignments by accessing the Hazard Independent Schools web page, selecting the school they attend, the teacher's BLOG for whom they need the assignment**. If a student needs textbooks, a parent may come by the school and get them out of the locker after school is dismissed and before 4:30 P.M. when the front door is locked.

Individual Grade Assignment & Discipline Policy
Grade policies, procedures to show how students will be graded will be distributed to the students at the beginning of the school year by their home room teachers.

Incomplete Grades
Excused and unexcused absences that total ten (10) days or more shall result in the student receiving an incomplete grade until s/he makes up the missed work for each class missed. The Principal may grant additional days.

Makeup Work
The student shall be responsible for requesting makeup work upon return to school after an absence. The scheduling, feasibility, and deadline for makeup work shall be at the individual teacher's discretion.

What is an educational enhancement opportunity?

A public school principal shall give a student an excused absence of up to ten (10) school days to pursue an educational enhancement opportunity determined by the principal to be of significant educational value, including but not limited to participation in an educational foreign exchange program or an intensive instructional, experiential, or performance program in one (1) of the core curriculum subjects of English, science, mathematics, social studies, foreign language, and the arts. Educational enhancement days may not be awarded during the state testing windows. Please see the principal or attendance clerk if your child will be participating in an educational activity while absent from school.

What Is Homebound Education?
Home bound education is a service provided by the school system to accommodate students who will be out of school for an extended period of time due to medical issues. To be eligible for homebound services, the student must be out for at least 5 consecutive days and a doctor must complete a form stating the reason that the student must miss school. The form must be completed BEFORE the student misses school, so contact the principal or secretary if you think your child will need to receive homebound services.

There is a definite need for daily attendance and class participation. Planning of activities and grading by the teacher will make this need readily apparent to the student by the inclusion of daily exercises, quizzes, and class participation for credit. Even with an excused absence all work cannot be made up, due to the nature of some classroom activities such as experiments or guest lectures.

Students not in attendance for at least one half of the school day immediately preceding an extracurricular activity will not be eligible to attend or participate in after school activities or extracurricular activities at any Hazard Independent School.

RELIGIOUS EXCUSAL
Parents/guardians may request that their child be excused from specific instructional materials or activities based on sincerely held religious beliefs. Requests must be submitted on the District's approved Religious Excusal Request Form and will be considered in accordance with applicable law and Board policy.

NTI (Non-Traditional Instruction)
The Hazard Independent Board of Education has approved Non-Traditional Instruction Days (NTI) to be used as needed throughout the school year. The use of NTI days in the Hazard Independent School district is intended for short-term disruptions to in-person learning due to inclement weather, health or safety. In-person instruction will remain a priority in our district. In the event of inclement weather, an NTI day may be used and all students will be expected to participate in non-traditional instruction. Should an NTI day be used, families will be notified through local media and our school social media account.

At Hazard Middle School, our teachers conduct virtual classes through our Google Classroom platform using Google Meet. Students are expected to log in and participate during the NTI day. Attendance and behavior will be taken while logged in.

Curriculum and Instruction – Complaint Resolution Process
The following complaint resolution process shall be used to address complaints submitted by parents or guardians alleging that material, a program, or an event that is harmful to minors has been provided or is currently available to a student enrolled in the District who is the child of the parent or guardian. The complaint resolution process shall require that: a) Complaints be submitted in writing to the Principal of the school where the student is enrolled; b) Complaints provide the name of the complainant, a reasonably detailed description of the material, program, or event that is alleged to be harmful to minors, and how the material, program, or event is believed to be harmful to minors. Complaints regarding other issues shall be submitted pursuant to other appropriate policies.

Writing Policy - In order to develop communication skills*,* process information, and deepen their understanding of concepts, the staff of Hazard Middle School will ensure students have access to authentic, meaningful writing at all grade levels. Learning to write for a variety of purposes will include opinion/argumentative, informative and narrative genres. Students are required to demonstrate writing in all subjects including core content and special classes. All teachers are responsible for giving feedback when student writing pieces are completed and then submitting them to the student's writing folder. Writing folders will contain examples of writing that show interests and growth over time and will follow the student from grade to grade.

No Pass/No Drive
The No Pass/No Drive statute, KRS 159.051 involves every public and private school (including home schools) in Kentucky. Any fifteen (15), sixteen (16) or seventeen (17) year old student applying for the first time for a Learners Instruction Permit will be required to have a School Compliance Verification: KRS 159.051 Form, issued and completed by the school. This form verifies that the student is compliant with the components of the statute. If the student is not compliant, the form should not be issued. The form requires the stamp from an embossed seal (with raised characters) to be accepted by local court clerks.
The "No Pass/No Drive" statute results in the denial of the school compliance verification form or the revocation of a student's driver's license for (1) academic deficiency (2) dropping out of school (3) missing 9 or more unexcused absences in one semester. Academic deficiency is defined as a student who does not have passing grades in at least four (4) courses, or the equivalent (see chart 1) the preceding semester. (2) A fifteen (15), sixteen (16) or seventeen (17) year old student is deemed to have dropped out of school when he/she has voluntarily withdrawn or (3) has nine or more unexcused absences in the preceding semester. Any absences due to suspension shall be unexcused absences. The law specifies that a student "shall" pass four (4) courses (or the equivalent) per semester; 4/6 = 66%). Reports of noncompliance based

on academic deficiency will be made via the web portal beginning using grades from the previous semester.

*SEE MR. Hurt 48 HOURS BEFORE THE DAY OF YOUR PERMIT TEST FOR THE FORM.

VISITORS

Parents and adults who wish to visit **must** register in the office before entering the classroom areas. This rule is for the safety of our students and will be enforced.

Students may not bring guests or out of town friends and relatives to school with them.

Parents of students are welcome to wait **outside** the cafeteria, in the afternoon, while waiting for school to dismiss. Please be respectful of others and **DO NOT BLOCK THE DRIVE** around the school. Please observe the same traffic pattern as in the morning.

SCHOOL ACTIVITY FEES

All fees paid for trips, honors night, lost books, etc. which need to be refunded (for any reason), will be refunded upon request by the parent or student by check within one week.

STUDENT ACTIVITY FEES:

1. $20.00 for 5th 6th &7th.
2. $40.00 for 8th grade. This includes $20 fee for Honors Night activities in May.

Students will be responsible for personal supplies such as paper, notebooks, pencils, pens, etc. Fees are used by the school to purchase supplies and instructional materials for the school and the classroom. All fees are required to be paid by September 5. Non-payment may affect student participation.

TECHNOLOGY FEE:

$25.00-covers charge cords, new screens, and the maintenance of the Chromebook students use daily for instruction.

8th GRADE HONORS NIGHT:

The school will determine the date, time and location as well as provide the plaques and certificates of completion and programs. Parents are responsible for arranging for and picking up the food, entertainment and all decorating for the event; however, it must be coordinated through the school secretary/treasurer.

INSTRUCTIONAL TRIP FEES

Students may be asked to bring money during the year for instructional trips. This money will be collected on an as needed basis by sending home a letter or permission form explaining the trip and amount of money needed.

SCHEDULE FOR REPORT CARDS

Our school operates on 9 weeks grading period system with mid-term reports. This will allow those who have students in more than one school to better anticipate the end of a grading period. We also hope that it will enable us to keep you better informed as to your student's status.

Nine weeks grades will be given out the week following the end of the 9-week grading period. We hope to give out report cards at an open house each nine weeks. This will give us the opportunity to meet with you to schedule individual conferences. Parents who are unable to pick up grades should expect them to be given to their students the following day. Some, not all, teachers in the school require that grade reports be signed and returned. Please check with your child about the requirements and deadlines of his/her teachers.

End of 9 Weeks	Report Cards & Open House 3:30-5:30 PM		GRADING SCALE
October 2026	October 2026	A	90-100
December 2026	December 2026	B	80 - 89
March 2027	March 2027	C	70 - 79
May 2027	May 2027 (Parent Fair)	D	60 - 69
		F	0-59

The actual dates will be listed on the district web calendar of events.

PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES

Please call the school office at 436-4421 to request a teacher conference. The secretary will take your name and phone number and have a teacher return your call to make the appointment. Conferences will be scheduled during teacher planning periods or after school. Stop by the office and state the purpose of your visit when you arrive for your conference. Conferences must be scheduled before visiting the teacher and must be conducted in a dignified, civilized manner.

Contact the school secretary to leave a Voice Message for the teacher with whom you wish to have a conference or email the teacher. That teacher will return your call or email to setup the conference.

We refer you to state law on this matter:

KRS 161.190 Abuse of Teacher Prohibition - Whenever a teacher or school administrator is functioning in his capacity as an employee of a board of education of a public school system, it shall be unlawful for any person to direct speech or conduct toward the teacher or school administrator when such person knows or should know

that the speech or conduct will disrupt or interfere with normal school activities or will nullify or undermine the good order and discipline of the school.

Promotion/Retention of Students

A. Promotion - Students shall progress from one grade level to another when they have successfully acquired the skills associated with the lower level. However, achievement of these skills alone shall not be the sole criteria for promoting or retaining a student. The professional judgment of the student's teacher as to the ability of the student to successfully meet the requirements of the next higher level shall be the final deciding factor in promoting a student.

B. Retention – (Board Policy of May, 2003) In order for a student to be retained in their current grade level, the following criteria must be met:

Retention (Grade 4 through Middle School)

1. Retention may occur if the student fails to:
    a. Make satisfactory progress in the class/subjects, based on such criteria as recorded grades/scores on tests, homework, projects, and class participation points.
2. Progress satisfactorily on the academic expectations.
3. Parent(s) have been notified of the possibility of the student's retention by mid-year or as soon after third mid-year report as the teacher perceives the possibility of retention.
4. The notification has been sent by letter, signed by the teacher and the Principal. The letter shall describe the problem and request the parent(s) to meet with the Principal and the teacher.
5. Any student in grade eight that is repeating for the second time is not eligible for any academic awards, i.e. valedictorian, math award, science award, etc.

EXTENDED SCHOOL SERVICES

Referral Process - All Programs:

Students may be referred to Extended School Services by themselves, their parents, or their teachers. Referrals are made on the appropriate form to the school coordinator, who determines the placement based on the priorities shown. Students and parents may use the form attached to make referrals to the school tutoring program. Fill out the form and send it to the home room teacher so that it can be sent to the tutoring coordinator.

The appeal process for selection or non-selection of students for ESS consists of a determination of placement by the school coordinator based on the criteria listed below for each session. The line of appeal of decisions of the school coordinator goes to the school principal and then the school council, who will reach a final decision.

After School Program:
The Hazard Independent Schools conducts a school tutoring program during the regular school term to help students who need more time to succeed according to the following priorities:

1. Students who are in danger of being retained.
2. Students who are in danger of failing one or more subjects.
3. Students who have a history of low-performance or who have shown the need for extra time to be successful in school.
4. Students who may need short-term help to master skills or topics.

INSURANCE

The Hazard Independent School District has a student accident insurance policy. This policy covers accidents that occur during the school day and while the student is participating in extra-curricular school activities. The insurance provides secondary coverage (pays remaining deductible after personal insurance has paid). It is the parent's responsibility to obtain a claim form from the school secretary. **The claim form must be submitted to Central Office within 90 days of accident. If this is not completed within the time line, PARENTS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY COST RELATING TO THE ACCIDENT.**

Accelerated Reading

Rules for all HMS students are as follows:
1. Students may only take AR quizzes on books they have read. In some cases, their Reading teacher may give them permission to take a quiz on a book that has been read to them or a book that has been read by the entire class.
2. Students may not take an AR quiz on a book that has been made into a movie or video unless they have read the book.
3. Students must have a teacher's approval to take an AR quiz on an abridged version of a book.
4. Students may not use Cliff Notes or similar materials in lieu of reading a book to pass an AR quiz.
5. Students may not take AR quizzes for other students.
6. Students may not watch other students take AR quizzes.
7. Students may not discuss AR quiz questions or answers with other students.
8. Students may not tell their AR password to anyone other than a faculty member.
9. Students are not to access any other student's account for any reason whatsoever.
10. Students may take quizzes only in classrooms or areas of the building designated by their Reading teacher.

CONSEQUENCES: Students who violate the rules or engage in any other misconduct involving AR program will not be able to participate in rewards for the rest of the year; however he or she must still read books and pass quizzes in order to earn a grade in Reading class each nine weeks.

MAP

NWEA is a research-based, not-for-profit organization that supports students and educators worldwide by creating assessment solutions that precisely measure growth and proficiency—and provide insights to help tailor instruction. MAP is a student achievement tool used in our School (Grade 5) to help improve instruction and get students on a path toward Proficiency.

MAP Growth is a computer adaptive test created by NWEA that kids take two to three times per school year. The results provide teachers with information to help them deliver appropriate content for each student and determine each student's academic growth over time. MAP Growth is used to measure a student's performance level at different times of the school year and compute their academic growth.

ILP

The Individual Learning Plans or ILPs are for Kentucky's 6th grade-12th grade students are changing how students prepare themselves for their future. Throughout the year, each 6th through 8th grade HMS student will work with teachers, guidance counselor, community leaders and the principal on career choices, matchmaking skills, and high school/college courses. Each year students are required to complete different sections of their ILP which are required to be reviewed by teachers, guidance counselor, or principal. These are Individual Learning Plans and students are encouraged to access and use their ILP's during school and at home. ILP's are a great resource to build resumes for colleges, careers, and for scholarship opportunities. Parents are encouraged to get access to their student's ILP and students are encouraged to share their ILP with their parents.

HIGH SCHOOL CREDIT

HMS will offer classes at the middle school level for High School Credit for our 8th grade students. This gives students the ability and flexibility in high school to take electives that they find interesting and the opportunity to take college level courses (Dual-Credit) at some point in High School.

- **Students must earn an A or B in these courses in order to receive high school credit.**

Students who attend the High School may be removed from the class because of attendance, behavior, problems traveling on the bus or for any reason that comes from the instructor or Principal of HHS.

CAFETERIA

Hot lunches and breakfast are served daily.
Courteous behavior is expected in the cafeteria. These rules should be observed during breakfast and lunch.

1. Do not run or horseplay in the cafeteria.
2. Cutting lines will result in automatic placement at the end of the line.
3. Observe good dining room manners at the table.
4. Talk in a low voice only to those sitting across from or next to you.
6. Leave the table and the surrounding area clean and orderly.
7. Put trash in the proper containers.
8. Do not throw food or other items.
9. Do not leave the cafeteria while eating or carrying food.
10. Show respect for cafeteria personnel, office personnel, and custodians.
11. Students will sit at assigned tables.
12. Do not over crowd tables.
13. Remain seated until given permission to be on the floor.
14. Do not take or ask for food from others.
15. Only cafeteria food or food from home is allowed. No restaurant food or soft drinks should be brought to school for breakfast or lunch.
16. Take trays to the garbage can as soon as you have finished your meal or when dismissed by monitors to do so.

17 Wait in the cafeteria for the teachers to take you to the next class.

FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THE RULES WILL RESULT IN LOSS OF PRIVILEGES.

Food/School Nutrition Services

The Board shall provide a District-wide school nutrition program in compliance with applicable state and federal statutes and regulations. It is the intent of the Board that school nutrition services be a self-supporting program.

Meals

Lunchrooms shall serve meals that meet or exceed the requirements specified by state and federal regulations.

Meal Charges

All parents shall be provided the written meal charge policy at the beginning of each school year or upon enrollment in the District for students transferring in mid-year. In addition, parents shall be advised of the available payment systems and meal prices.

The written meal charge policy shall be distributed to all school level staff including school nutrition employees involved in policy enforcement.

When a student accumulates more than three (3) meal charges, the Superintendent/ designee shall initiate the established collection process to include notification of parents and appropriate follow-up. If parents have not contacted the Cafeteria Manager or submitted the amount indicated within ten (10) working days from the date of the final notice, the debt will be considered delinquent and may be directed to the Board Attorney. Food Service funds may be used to collect delinquent meal charges.

Students shall not be permitted to charge a la carte items, nor shall adults be permitted to charge meals or a la carte items.

Food Service/School Nutrition Program Director

The District (or food service area to which the District belongs) shall appoint/select a Food Service/School Nutrition Program Director to oversee and manage the school nutrition service program. All Food Service/School Nutrition Program Directors shall meet minimum educational requirements and annual training requirements in accordance with federal and state law.

Discrimination Complaints

The District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability in its school nutrition program.

Anyone wishing to initiate a complaint concerning discrimination in the delivery of benefits or services in the District's school nutrition program should go to the link below or mail a written complaint to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington D.C. 20250-9410, or email, program.intake@usda.gov.

http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html

District personnel shall assist parents/guardians and students wishing to file a complaint.

Special Dietary Needs

Students whose dietary needs qualify them for an adaptation under law shall be provided accommodations in keeping with local procedures.

All parents shall be provided notice of how to request meal accommodations and how to submit a grievance related to a request for modifications based on a disability, at the beginning of each school year or upon enrollment in the District for students transferring in mid-year.

References:

KRS 156.160
KRS 158.852; KRS 160.290
702 KAR 006:010; 702 KAR 006:050; 702 KAR 006:075; 702 KAR 006:090
7 C.F.R. part 15b; 7 C.F.R. §210.23; 7 C.F.R. §210.31; FNS Instruction 113
P.L. 111-296
Section 504 of Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Americans with Disabilities Act

Adopted/Amended: 6/24/2025
Order #: 9977

HAZARD INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS

Tradition of Excellence

Sondra Combs, Superintendent

Dear Parents,

Your child's school has been awarded a Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program (FFVP) USDA grant. The grant is administered by USDA and the Division of School and Community Nutrition, KDE and coordinated by Hazard Independent Schools Child Nutrition Services. A fresh fruit or vegetable snack will be provided for all students.

The Goal of the FFVP is to:

- Create healthier school environments by providing healthier food choices
- Expand the variety of fruits and vegetables children experience
- Increase children's fruit and vegetable consumption
- Make a difference in children's diets to impact their present and future health

Snacks will be eaten in the classroom on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. Children will be encouraged to try the fruit or vegetable snack each day, but they may opt to not participate if they do not like or cannot eat the fruit or vegetable that day.
Please encourage your child to participate in the snack program to further emphasize the importance of good nutrition. If you have any questions about this program, please contact your school principal. Josh Hurt, Principal at Hazard Middle School, Telephone: 606-436-4421. Derek Allen, Principal Roy G Eversole Elementary School Telephone: 606-436-4721 or Child Nutrition Cafeteria manager. Rachel Miller, Food Service Director, Telephone: 606-436-0498

Thank you,

Rachel Miller, Food Service Director

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

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.) should contact the State or local Agency that administers the program or contact USDA through the Telecommunications Relay Service at 711 (voice and TTY). Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

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

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

HAZARD INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS

Tradition of Excellence

Sondra Combs, Superintendent

Hazard Board of Education Receives USDA Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program (FFVP) Grant

Hazard Board of Education is pleased to announce Hazard Middle School and Roy G Eversole Elementary School are recipients of the federal Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program (FFVP) funded and regulated by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). The FFVP provides all children in participating schools with a variety of free fresh fruits and vegetables throughout the school day. It is an effective and creative way of introducing fresh fruits and vegetables as healthy snack options. The FFVP also encourages community partnerships to support the schools when they offer free fruits and vegetables to children during the school day. The goal of the FFVP is to:

- create healthier school environments by providing healthier food choices
- expand the variety of fruits and vegetables children experience
- increase children's fruit and vegetable consumption
- make a difference in children's diets to impact their present and future health

School selection was based upon submitted applications from elementary schools that operate the National School Lunch Program and that have 50 percent or more of their students eligible for free/reduced-price meals. Priority was given to schools with the highest percentage of free and reduced-price eligible students. Kentucky received more than 3.9 million dollars in FFVP funding for the 2023 Federal Fiscal Year. Each participating school will receive funds to operate the program based on approximately $50 per student. The participating schools is listed below:

Site Name	Award Amount
Hazard Middle School	$12,550.00
Roy G Eversole Elementary School	$23,650.00
FFVP Grant Total	**$36,200.00**

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

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.) should contact the State or local Agency that administers the program or contact USDA through the Telecommunications Relay Service at 711 (voice and TTY). Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

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

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COMMUNITY ELIGIBILITY OPTION

We are pleased to inform you that Hazard Middle School is participating in a program called the Community Eligibility Option for lunch and breakfast for the 2026-27 school year. All enrolled students are eligible to receive a healthy breakfast and lunch at school at **no charge** each day of the school year.
Ala carte items and extras will still be available for purchase. Ala carte items may NOT be charged.

Because of federal guidelines concerning lunchroom funding, we need to ask everyone to help by complying with the following federal regulations.
No restaurant meals or soft drinks shall be brought into the cafeteria while school lunch is in progress. Violations of these rules can cause suspension of federal funding.

In accordance with our food safety plan **NO** homemade food items may be served or sold at school. This includes cupcakes, cookies, etc. for class parties, bake-sales, concessions, etc.

MEALS FOR STUDENTS WITH FOOD ALLERGIES AND/OR SPECIAL DIETARY NEEDS

The Food & Nutrition Services department has a policy of providing modified menus for students who have physical or mental disabilities or special dietary needs and are unable to consume the regular lunch or breakfast menu items. The is policy is in accordance with a federal mandate to include all students in the school nutrition programs and is in accordance with policy guidelines outline in FNS Instruction 783-2, Revision 2, *Meal Substitutions for Medical or Other Special Dietary Reasons.* The Food & Nutrition Services Department should be informed of any student who is unable to consume the meals normally served at the school in which they are enrolled.

Program regulations provide for the substitution of food items based on child-specific medical guidance. The regulations do not provide for the banning of selected foods for all students. The district believes that banning foods would be counter-productive and not in the best interest of all students at a specific school site. A concerted effort will be made to meet the nutritional needs and/or disability limitations of each student. Accordingly the district has outlined the responsibilities for parents, school sites and Food & Nutrition Services as follows:

Parent responsibilities:

1. Notify the school of any food allergy, disability or special dietary need.
2. Provide medical certification approved by a recognized medical authority (RMA) authorized to practice within the State of Kentucky. Utilize the **EATING AND FEEDING EVALUATION: CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS AND INFORMATION CARD. To request a copy of the Information Card contact: Rachel Miller, Food Service Director at (606) 436-3911.**
3. Update the medical certification on as needed.
4. Participate in any meetings or discussions regarding the student's meal plan.
5. Notify the school of any changes relating to the food allergy or special dietary need.

School Site Responsibilities:

1. Identify children requiring diet modifications. This will be accomplished primarily through registration materials and parental contact.
2. The school Nurse or Health Services Assistant will be notified and begin the process for the implementation of an Individual Health Services Plan (IHSP).
3. Request medical certification from parent or guardian. Utilize the **EATING AND FEEDING EVALUATION: CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS AND INFORMATION CARD.**
4. Send the medical certification to Food & Nutrition Services.
5. Additional responsibilities may include educational awareness for staff and students related to field trips, classroom parties, allergy alert identification and intervention.
6. Communicate plan requirements to all potential participants.
7. Monitor and update the plan as needed.

Food & Nutrition Services Responsibilities:

1. Provide food item substitutions for students based on medical need supported by a medical certification signed by a recognized medical authority. Menus will not be modified based on preference.
2. Provide training to cafeteria personnel on how to react to allergies and how to modify menus.
3. Communicate with parents, staff and medical authorities regarding diet modifications.
4. Maintain Special Diet information on each student and update annually.

EMERGENCY EVENT PROCEDURE

In the event of an emergency at school which requires the presence of fire, emergency medical technicians, or the police, we ask that you read and follow the procedures listed below. If you hear of an event at the school, such as snow dismissal, fire or other emergencies:

1. Tune immediately to the local radio and TV stations for instructions. They will be notified as soon as possible.
2. DO NOT CALL the school. We need to keep phone lines open for emergency personnel, the administration and parents who are needed at the school. Your child will be in good hands.
3. DO NOT COME to the school unless you are called or hear an announcement on the radio or TV to do so.
4. When you do hear the announcement, please LISTEN CAREFULLY as it may be necessary to close some streets approaching the school for emergency vehicles.
5. Petrey Memorial Baptist Church, 141 Alto Street will be the location for students to be held until they are picked up in the event that we must evacuate the school.
6.. STUDENTS WHO RIDE BUSES should make arrangements with parents NOW as to what they are to do if an emergency arises. They need to be sure where to go if you work and no one is at home to receive them. Students who live within WALKING DISTANCE should make similar arrangements. This will reduce the number of phone calls to be made and the traffic at the school.

Please remember that our school has and practices efficient evacuation and emergency procedures regularly. Teachers are with the students and account for all students each time these procedures are practiced. We appreciate your cooperation and understanding for the importance and necessity of these procedures.

MEDICAL REQUIREMENTS

All students entering the Hazard City Schools for the first time from out of state must have a physical examination and eye examination. A state certificate of immunizations must be on record at the school and must be kept up to date. A birth certificate is required for all students who are entering school for the first time in Kentucky, regardless of the grade they are entering.

New physical examinations are required for all students entering the sixth grade. Students entering the sixth grade are also required to have an updated immunization certificate. A Tdap vaccine is required if the student is age 11 or older. Please have all examinations completed before the beginning of the school year so that students will not have to miss school for this purpose.

Any student participating in school athletics must have a yearly physical exam on an athletic form prior to participation in any conditioning, practice or game. It is recommended that these physicals be done as soon as possible to avoid delaying your student's participation.

During the school year, students may receive vision, hearing, scoliosis, and behavior disorder screening. These will be conducted by certified personnel and parents will be notified if necessary.

Immunizations:

The ***Kentucky Administrative Regulation, 902 KAR 2:060***, about immunizations schedule for attending school, requires that all students through grade 12 receive a minimum number of immunizations prior to school entrance. These requirements are documented by a current immunization certificate and can be waived only for medical or religious exemptions. Failure to comply with The Kentucky Administrative Regulation, may result in your child's exclusion from school until necessary documents have been received.
Kentucky School Health Law requires additional medical documents (physical, dental and vision exams) to be in your child's school health file. Failure to comply may result in your child's exclusion from school until necessary documents have been received.

BUS REGULATIONS

In order to ensure the safety and welfare of all students transported by school buses, orderly conduct must be observed at all times. We need your cooperation to

maintain such conduct. Pupils should respect and obey those in authority. We hope it will never be necessary to deprive a student of bus riding privileges.
Glass containers should never be carried on the buses. Food and drinks are not to be taken on the buses. Students must ride buses to which they are assigned. A note from the parent is necessary before a student may ride a different bus or get off the bus at a different stop.

1. The driver is in full charge of the bus and pupils. Pupils shall obey the driver cheerfully and promptly.
2. Pupils shall occupy the space designated for them by the driver.
3. Pupils shall be on time; the bus cannot wait for those who are not.
4. Pupils are never to stand on the road while waiting on the bus.
5. Pupils are to clean their feet before boarding the bus.
6. Pupils are not to throw waste paper or rubbish on the floor of the bus.
7. Pupils are not to mar or otherwise deface the bus.
8. Pupils are not allowed to carry a knife or any sharp instrument on the bus.
9. Pupils are not to start to school when sick or when any member of the family has a contagious disease.
10. The following activities are prohibited at all times:
    a. Improper behavior including: insolence, disobedience, vulgarity, foul language, fighting, pushing, shoving, or similar offensive acts.
    b. Smoking or drinking on the bus.
    c. Eating or drinking on the bus
    d. Throwing articles onto or from the bus.
    e. Placing musical instruments or other articles at the door.
    f. Obstructing the isles in any manner.
    g. Occupying more space in a seat than required.
11. Pupils are to avoid unnecessary conversation with the driver.
12. Pupils are to keep arms and head inside the bus at all times.
13. Pupils are not to get off the bus except at home or school, unless prior approval has been authorized by a note from home.
14. Pupils are to remain in their seats at all times unless they are getting on or off the bus.
15. Pupils are to respect persons whom they pass on their routes.
16. Pupils are to walk on the left side of the road, facing traffic.
17. Pupils who must cross the road after getting off the bus shall pass in front of the bus and not behind it.
18. Should any of the above violations or other circumstances persist, the principal has the authority to deny the student the privilege of riding the bus.

Serious misconduct on the bus which hinders the safety of students or operation of the bus may cause a student to be prohibited from riding the bus. Examples of misconduct are: damage to bus property, fighting, use of tobacco, profanity.

The principal is authorized to withhold bus-riding privileges up to a maximum of ten (10) school days per occurrence in the case of habitual or serious conduct violations. The

Principal shall notify the parents in cases where bus riding privileges have been withheld. The Superintendent or designee may withhold bus riding privileges up to the remainder of the school year.

HMS Workplace Ethics In-Progress Certification Levels & Requirements

Hazard Independent School District is committed to preparing students to enter the workforce. Starting this school year, students may participate in the Work Ethics Certification Program. Middle school students who successfully earn this recognition will receive an In-Progress Certificate at 8th grade honors night.

The following criteria shall be used to attain an In-Progress Certificate in Workplace Ethics

GOLD	SILVER	BRONZE

• GPA = 3.5
• ADA = 95% *(Avg Daily Attendance)*
• Discipline Referrals to be reviewed by committee
• Transition Readiness (TBD)
• Completes ONE Community Service Project per Year
• Completes College/Career Awareness Training *(ex. Career Day, College Road Show, Reality Store, etc.)*
• Completed Resume w/ Personal Statement
• Complete a Job or Mock Interview
• Completed ILP
• Completed Digital Driver's License
• Completed Peer Teaching / Mentorship Activity or Program
• ZERO Drug-Related Infractions
• Participation in ONE of the following:
  o Organized Team Sport
  o Extracurricular Activity
	• GPA = 3.0
	• ADA = 94% *(Avg Daily Attendance)*
	• Discipline Referrals to be reviewed by committee
	• Transition Readiness (TBD)
	• Completes ONE Community Service Project per Year
	• Completes College/Career Awareness Training *(ex. Career Day, College Road Show, Reality Store, etc.)*
	• Completed Resume w/ Personal Statement
	• Complete a Job or Mock Interview
	• Completed ILP
	• Completed Digital Driver's License
	• Completed Peer Teaching / Mentorship Activity or Program
	• ZERO Drug-Related Infractions
	• Participation in ONE of the following:
	  o Organized Team Sport
	  o Extracurricular Activity
		• GPA = 2.5
		• ADA = 93% *(Avg Daily Attendance)*
		• Discipline Referrals to be reviewed by committee
		• Transition Readiness (TBD)
		• Completes ONE Community Service Project per Year
		• Completes College/Career Awareness Training *(ex. Career Day, College Road Show, Reality Store, etc.)*
		• Completed Resume w/ Personal Statement
		• Complete a Job or Mock Interview
		• Completed ILP
		• Completed Digital Driver's License
		• Completed Peer Teaching / Mentorship Activity or Program
		• ZERO Drug-Related Infractions
		• Participation in ONE of the following:
		  o Organized Team Sport
		  o Extracurricular Activity

FAMILY RESOURCE & YOUTH SERVICES CENTER

WHAT IS A FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER?
Family Resource Centers have been created as a part of the Kentucky Reform Act. Family Resource or Youth Services Centers are developed by single schools that have at least 20% of their students eligible to receive free school meals. The intent of the Centers is to meet needs that impact on the education process. This will be done by providing services to the Center, in the schools, and by linking families to agencies in the community.

WHO CAN USE THIS FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER?
All services through the Family Resource Center are available to all families with children who attend Hazard Middle School and Roy G. Eversole School. Services are provided regardless of family income. Services will be especially beneficial for those youngsters who are at risk for not performing well in school.

WHAT SERVICES DOES THIS FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER PROVIDE?

- Referrals to before and after-school child care for children ages four through twelve is available for children that attend HMS or Roy G. Eversole Elementary school. Referrals can also be made for students for days when school is not in session.
- GED referrals
- Health and education services for new and expectant parents
- Parent and child education classes, such as craft and cooking classes
- Adult budget and money management classes
- Education to enhance parenting skills
- Drug and alcohol counseling and referrals
- Red-Ribbon Week
- Read Across America
- Anti-drug programs such as plays, assemblies, and speakers
- Employment training and placement
- Coordination of Parent Volunteer Programs school wide
- School Store
- Career Day
- Assist with Reality Store
- Job Shadowing Program
- Assistance with health services
- Assistance with summer day camp, basketball camp, cooking camp, etc.
- Home Visits
- Counseling Referrals
- Crisis counseling and referrals to community agencies
- Liaison between parents and schools
- Assistance with meeting tangible needs, such as food, clothing and school supplies
- Student Government
- Book Fair
- Assist with classroom field trips

Staff: **Sarah Olinger, Director**
Please feel free to contact the Family Resource & Youth Services Center at 439-0094.

EXPULSION OF EXCEPTIONAL STUDENTS

The Admission and Release Committee (ARC) shall convene prior to the expulsion of any special education student. This committee shall consist of the principal or designee, parent, special educator, and possible support persons. Parents shall be informed of their rights. Parents do have the right to request a hearing. If parents request a hearing and the hearing is granted, the student shall remain in his present program until a decision is reached. The ARC shall consider the following four items:

1. Insure that the IEP and placement are appropriate and are being fully implemented.
2. Consider the student's handicapping condition and determine whether it is the basis of the discipline problem.
3. If the ARC concludes that the placement is appropriate and in the process of implementation, and that the handicapping condition is not the basis of the student's inappropriate behavior, then the ARC shall give this determination to the Superintendent and the Board of Education. The Committee is limited to making the above written determination. It is not the role of the ARC to recommend expulsion.
4. If the student's handicapping condition is found to be the basis of the discipline problem, then the ARC shall so state in its written determination. In this instance, expulsion would be inappropriate, and the ARC would need to consider changes in the student's program that might result in more appropriate behavior.

NOTE: The above only applies to expulsion. Short term exclusions, such as suspension, shall apply the same to handicapped as to other students.

Notification of FERPA Rights

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) affords parents and "eligible students" (students over 18 years of age or students who are attending a postsecondary institution) certain rights with respect to the student's education records. They are:

1) ***The right to inspect and review the student's education records within forty-five (45) days of the day the District receives a request for access.***

   Parents or eligible students should submit to the school Principal/designee a written request that identifies the record(s) they wish to inspect. The Principal will make arrangements for access and notify the parent or eligible student of the time and place where the record(s) may be inspected.

2) ***The right to request the amendment of the student's education records that the parent or eligible student believes are inaccurate, misleading, or in violation of the student's privacy or other rights.***

   Parents or eligible students may ask the District to amend a record that they believe is inaccurate, misleading, or in violation of privacy or other rights. They should write the school Principal, clearly identify the part of the record they want changed, and specify why it is inaccurate, misleading, or in violation of their privacy or other rights.

If the District decides not to amend the record as requested by the parent or eligible student, the District will notify the parent or eligible student of the decision and advise him\her of the right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment. Additional information regarding the hearing procedures will be provided to the parent or eligible student when notified of the right to a hearing.

3) ***The right to consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in the student's education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent.***

Exceptions that permit disclosure without consent include:

a. Disclosure to school officials with legitimate educational interests. A "school official" is a person employed by the District 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 District 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/her tasks.

A school official has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his/her professional responsibility to the District.

b. Upon request, disclosure of education records without parent/eligible student notice or consent to officials of another school district or post-secondary institution in which a student seeks or intends to enroll or is already enrolled or to other entities authorized by law so long as the disclosure is for purposes related to the student's enrollment or transfer.

c. Disclosure of information to those whose knowledge of such information is necessary to respond to an actual, impending, or imminent articulable and significant health/safety threat.

4) ***The right to notify the District in writing to withhold information the Board has designated as directory information as listed in the annual directory information notice the District provides to parents/eligible students.***

To exercise this right, parents/eligible students shall notify the District by the deadline designated by the District.

5) ***The right to prohibit the disclosure of personally identifiable information concerning the student to recruiting representatives of the U. S. Armed Forces and its service academies, the Kentucky Air National Guard, and the Kentucky Army National Guard.***

Unless the parent or secondary school student requests in writing that the District not release information, the student's name, address, and telephone number (if listed) shall be released to Armed Forces recruiters upon their request.

6) ***The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the District to comply with the requirements of FERPA.*** The name and address of the Office that administers FERPA is:

Family Policy Compliance Office
U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20202-8520

Written policies and procedures have been developed which describe districts' requirements regarding the confidentiality of personally identifiable information. There are copies in the principal's office of each school, and at the board of education office. Copies describing these policies and procedures are available for review, and may be obtained by contacting:

Superintendent, Hazard City Schools
705 Main Street
Hazard, Kentucky 41701 606-436-3911

Notification of PPRA Rights

The Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA) affords parents and eligible students (those who are 18 or older or who are emancipated minors) certain rights regarding conduct of surveys, collection and use of information for marketing purposes, and certain physical examinations. These include the right to:

- **Consent before minor students are required to submit to a survey, analysis, or evaluation** that concerns one (1) or more of the following protected areas ("protected information survey") if the survey is funded in whole or in part by a program of the U.S. Department of Education:

    1. Political affiliations or beliefs of the student or student's parent;
    2. Mental or psychological problems of the student or student's family;
    3. Sex behavior or attitudes;
    4. Illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating, or demeaning behavior;
    5. Critical appraisals of others with whom respondents have close family relationships;
    6. Legally recognized privileged relationships such as with lawyers, physicians, or ministers;
    7. Religious practices, affiliations, or beliefs of the student or the student's parents; or
    8. Income (other than that required by law to determine eligibility for participation in a program or for receiving financial assistance under such program).

- **Receive notice and an opportunity to opt a student out of**:

    1. Any other protected information survey, regardless of funding;
    2. Any non-emergency, invasive physical exam or screening required as a condition of attendance, administered by the school or its agent, and not necessary to protect the immediate health and safety of a student (except for any physical exam or screening permitted or required under state law); and
    3. Activities involving collection, disclosure, or use of personal information obtained from students for marketing or to sell or otherwise distribute the information to others. **NOTE**: If the parent/eligible student has indicated no

directory information is to be provided to third parties or if the marketing activity involves provision of social security numbers, consent form 09.14 AP.122 should be used.

- **Inspect, upon request and before administration or use:**

1. Protected information surveys to be used with students;
2. Instruments used to collect personal information from students for any of the above marketing, sales, or other distribution purposes; and
3. Instructional material used as part of the educational curriculum.

The District shall annually provide parents and eligible students notice of these rights under law in the Student Handbook, the District *Code of Acceptable Behavior and Discipline*, or other avenue designated by the Superintendent/designee.

The District shall also notify parents and eligible students at least annually at the start of each school year of the specific or approximate dates of the activities listed above. A new or supplemental notice shall be given as necessary to provide the opportunity to consent or opt out under the standards set forth above. Parents/eligible students who believe their rights have been violated may file a complaint with: ***Family Policy Compliance Office/U.S. Department of Education***

400 Maryland Ave., SW/Washington, D. C. 20202-8520

RELEASE OF STUDENTS

At any time students are dismissed from school, they shall be released according to the written instructions provided by the custodial parent/guardian. The instructions, which shall be requested at the time the student registers/enrolls for the school year, shall include the student's regular mode of transportation at the end of the day and a list of persons, in addition to the custodial parent/guardian, who are twenty-one (21) or older and are authorized to pick up the child from school. Any deviation from the authorized release process must be approved by the Principal/designee prior to the student departing school in another manner.

It shall be the responsibility of the custodial parent/guardian to notify the school in writing if release instructions are to be revised. If written instructions are not provided to the school, the student shall only be released to ride home on the assigned bus or with the custodial parent/guardian.

Any student who leaves the school grounds at any time without proper authorization shall be subject to appropriate disciplinary action.

All releases shall be counted as absences and recorded on permanent records.

RELEASE PROCESS

If the student is to be picked up early, s/he shall first notify and secure permission from the Principal or Assistant Principal. The custodial parent/guardian or designee [twenty-one (21) or older] shall report to the Principal's office and sign for the student's release.

Each school shall maintain a daily entry and exit log of students signing in late or signing out early and shall require proof of identification from individuals (visual identification by an employee, driver's license, picture identification, etc.) to assure that they are authorized to pick up the student.

Those students who are not on record as being under the care or control of a parent/guardian may sign for their own dismissal.

EXCEPTIONS

A student may be released to a person with lawful authority to take custody of the student, e.g., a police officer with a warrant or the person authorized by the Cabinet for Health and Family Services when the student is committed to the Cabinet by a court order. In such case, the student's parent shall be notified at the earliest opportunity.

In addition, the Board authorizes emergency release of students for illness or other bona fide reasons, as determined by the Principal.

Release of Students and Student Information to Divorced, Separated, or Single Parents

The Board shall release the student to either parent, guardian, or legal custodian unless the school has been informed and provided with evidence that there is a state law or court order governing such matters as divorce, separation or custody, or a legally binding document which provides instruction to the contrary.

Telecommunication Devices - Local Board Policy

POSSESSION AND USE

While on school property or while attending school-sponsored or school-related activities, whether on or off school property, students shall be permitted to possess and use personal telecommunications devices as defined by law and other related electronic devices, provided they observe the following conditions:

1. Devices shall not be used in a manner that disrupts the educational process, including, but not limited to, use that:

a. Poses a threat to academic integrity, such as cheating;
b. Violates confidentiality or privacy rights of another individual. This includes but is not limited to, taking photographs, video, or audio recordings of others without permission of the principal/designee and the affected individual(s). An exemption may be made for events considered in the public arena (e.g. sporting events, academic competitions, or performances for which the general public is admitted) where the activity does not materially disrupt the event, prevent others from observing the event or otherwise violate legal rights. School social events for students, activities sponsored by

student clubs, and activity during the school day that are not open to the public are not considered to be in the public arena.
c. Is profane, indecent, or obscene;
d. Constitutes or promotes illegal activity or activity in violation of school rules; or
e. Constitutes or promotes sending, sharing, or possessing sexually explicit messages, photographs, or images using any electronic device.

These restrictions shall not be interpreted to prohibit material protected under the state or federal constitutions where such material does not otherwise materially or substantially disrupt the education process or intrude upon the rights of others.

2. Unless an emergency situation exists that involves imminent physical danger or a certified employee authorizes the student to do otherwise, devices shall be turned on and operated only before and after the regular school day and during the student's lunch break.

3. When students violate prohibitions of this policy, they shall be subject to disciplinary action, including losing the privilege of bringing the device onto school property and being reported to their parent/guardian. A violation also may result in a report being made to law enforcement. In addition, an administrator may confiscate the device, which shall only be returned to the student's parent/guardian.

4. Students are responsible for keeping up with devices they bring to school. The District shall not be responsible for loss, theft, or destruction of devices brought onto school property.

5. Students shall comply with any additional rules developed by the school concerning appropriate use of telecommunication or other electronic devices.

Students shall not utilize a telecommunication or similar electronic device in a manner that would violate the District's Acceptable Use Policy or procedures or its Code of Acceptable Behavior and Discipline.

ACCESS TO ELECTRONIC MEDIA

Please see local board policy 08.2323 for District Acceptable / Responsible Use Policy

TRACEABLE COMMUNICATION

A District employee or volunteer, unless authorized, shall not communicate electronically with a student:

1. Outside of the traceable communication system designated by the Board; or

2. Through an unauthorized electronic communication program or application.

This shall not restrict any electronic communications between a student and his or her family member who is a District employee or volunteer. Family member means parent, brother, sister, son, daughter, aunt, uncle, or grandparent.

The following methods are approved for traceable communication between staff/volunteers and students:

1. Microsoft Outlook email with a hazard.kyschools.us domain for staff AND a stu.hazard.kyschools.us for students.

2. Apptegy Rooms App

3. Google Classroom

4. Edmentum

5. Blackboard (HCTC)

6. Starfish (EAB) (HCTC)

7. Outlook with a domain kctcs.edu (HCTC)

A parent may authorize a designated District employee or volunteer, who is not a family member, to communicate electronically with his or her child outside of the traceable communication system. A completed form for each designated District employee or volunteer shall be filed in the administrative office of the student's school prior to any outside electronic communication being sent and may be revoked by a parent at any time.

TITLE 1

Definition: Title 1 is a federally funded program designed to help disadvantaged children reach high academic standards. A school with at least 40% low-income is eligible to plan and implement a schoolwide program (SWP). A schoolwide program must upgrade the entire educational program in the school in order to raise academic achievement for all students. A schoolwide program:

Title I, Part A is a federally funded initiative designed to provide supplemental instruction for those students who demonstrate need in targeted content areas. Schools identify children most at risk of failing to meet academic expectations. Federal funding is based upon the percent of the school population that qualifies for free or reduced meals.
Title I, Part C ("Migrant Education"): The Migrant Education Program provides advocacy and educational reinforcement for children who move from state to state or county to county with parents or guardians seeking seasonal and/or temporary

employment in agricultural activities. Programs operate in school districts which identify an eligible population and, thereby, generate funds. Parent advisory committees form a significant component of each program. The program can provide support services in areas such as health, guidance and counseling, clothing and food as well as instructional support and tutoring. Both after school and summer programs are used to reinforce educational deficiencies which have been caused by frequent moves.

Title I, Part D, Prevention & Intervention of Children & Youth Who Are Neglected, Delinquents or At-risk: This program provides financial assistance to educational programs for youth in state-operated institutions or community day programs. The program also provides financial assistance to support district programs involving collaboration with locally operated correctional facilities.

Title II, Part A, **Improving Teacher Quality:** The purpose of this program is to help schools and school districts improve teacher and principal quality and to ensure that all teachers are highly qualified. The program's goal is to increase the academic achievement of all students by having a highly qualified teacher in every classroom and highly qualified principal at every school.

Title III – Limited English Proficient: Title III provides supplemental financial assistance to states and schools to ensure that children who are limited English proficient, including immigrant children and youth, attain English proficiency, develop high levels of academic attainment in English, and meet the same challenging State academic content and student academic achievement standards as all children are expected to meet.

Title V, Part A, Innovative Education Program Strategies: This program assists local education reform efforts that are consistent with and support statewide reform efforts. They also support state and local efforts to implement promising education reform programs, provide a continuing source of educational improvement, help meet the special needs of at-risk and high-need students, and support programs to improve school, students, and teacher performance.

Notice to Parents of Teacher's Qualifications/Certification

If the school receives Title I funds, the District shall notify parents of students attending the school annually that they may request the District to provide information regarding the professional qualifications of their child's classroom teachers. In complying with such requests, the District shall provide the information designated by federal law.

I am confident in the ability of our faculty to provide the highest level of instruction for all students as we work toward implementing and attaining new federal and state requirements. As always, I appreciate and encourage your continued involvement at school and support of your child's education.

Notice to Parents of Teacher's Curriculum: See Board Policy

Parent Involvement Policy
(Title 1 School-Parent Compact)

Definition of a Parent:
The legal definition of a "parent" is a parent, stepparent, or a foster parent of a student or a person who has legal custody of a student pursuant to a court order and with who the student resides.

Hazard Middle School commits to:

1. Seeking and supporting adult volunteers to work with and inspire our students.
2. Sharing clear information about each student's progress with parents/guardians
3. Offering practical suggestions to parents on different ways, they can support student learning at school and at home.
4. Providing support to our parents with limited English Proficiency, parents with disabilities and parents of migratory children
5. Making parents and community members full partners in our decision-making

We will honor these commitments through a school-parent compact. Parents will be provided with the Compact on the opening day of school/orientation each year. An annual beginning of the year orientation will be help with parents. At this orientation meeting, parents will be informed of the school's participation in a Title 1 school-wide program. Parents will have the opportunity to be involved and provide an opportunity to give their input. When necessary, the school compact will be revised to meet the input of parents.

School-Parent Compact:

***Staff Section**

We understand the importance of the school experience to every student and our role as educators and models. Therefore, Hazard Middle School agrees to carry out the following responsibilities to the best of our ability:

- teach grade level skills and concepts
- strive to address the individual needs of your student
- communicate with parents/guardians regarding your student's progress
- provide a safe, positive and healthy learning environment for your student
- correct and return appropriate work in a timely manner
- communicate homework and class work expectations.

Josh Hurt *Date: 08/1/26*

Principal's Signature (on behalf of staff)

Student Section

As a student of Hazard Middle School: I realize that my education is important. I know I am the one responsible for my own success. Therefore, I agree to carry out the following responsibilities to the best of my ability:

- get to school/class on time every day
- Return completed homework on time
- be responsible for my own behavior
- be a cooperative learner
- ask for help when needed.

Student's Signature	*Date*

Parent Section

As a parent or legal guardian: I understand that my participation in my student's education will help his/her achievement and attitude. Therefore, I will continue to carry out the following responsibilities to the best of my ability:

- encourage my student to complete his/her homework
- encourage my student get to school/class on time every day
- review all school communications
- attend Parent-Teacher-Student Conferences, Open House, and other school events
- encourage my student to engage in reading activities for at least 15 minutes every day
- provide a quiet place/time for my student to do homework
- make sure my student gets adequate sleep and has a healthy diet
- support the school's/district's homework, discipline and attendance policies.

Parent's Signature	*Date*

The Family Resource Center/Youth Service Center:

The Family Resource Center/Youth Service Center will share responsibility for student achievement by:

1. Surveying families at least once a year to learn what services and activities would most help support their children as learners.
2. Offering a well-planned menu of activities and programs to meet the needs of students.

Sarah Olinger	*Date: 08/1/26*
Family Resource Director Signature:	

Annual Asbestos Notice

August 1st , 2026

To: Parents and Legal Guardians
Teachers
Staff
Parent/Teacher Organizations
Short Term Workers

From: The Hazard Independent Board of Education and Superintendent

All School buildings used by this local education agency have been inspected and a management plan developed for any asbestos containing material found during the inspection.

The management plan is available for inspection at each respective school and the Central Office during normal business hours by representatives of the EPA and the state, the public; including teachers, other school personnel and their representatives, as well as parents and guardians. A reasonable charge will be assessed for copies. Periodic surveillance is conducted each June and December on all school buildings in the district.

Response actions are as follows:

No response actions necessary as of above date.

Nathan Johnson
Nathan Johnson/AHERA Designated Person

Hazard Independent
Middle School Athletics

Beginning with the 2024 school year, students that are repeating a grade for any reason can be eligible to participate in middle school athletics (competition for grades 6-8). Students must follow the limits set in place listed below.

- A student that turns Fifteen (15) years of age prior to August 1 of the current school year shall not be eligible for interscholastic athletics in Kentucky in competition against students exclusively enrolled in grades eight (8) and below;
- A student that turns Fourteen (14) years of age prior to August 1 of the current school year shall not be eligible for interscholastic athletics in Kentucky in Competition against students exclusively enrolled in grades seven (7) and below ; and
- A student that turns Thirteen (13) years of age prior to August 1 on the current school year shall not be eligible for the interscholastic athletics in Kentucky in competition against students exclusively enrolled in grades six (6) and below;

The limit of the seasons may not exceed the high school limit of seasons (KHSAA Bylaw 23) but it is not required to use the same dates. For example, a locally adopted baseball season may not have more than four weeks of preseason practices, eight weeks of games, 36 total contests, 2 total scrimmages and three weeks post-season play. The decisions related to the time of the year, etc. are local decisions and not currently contained in statewide regulations. The HMS season limits are as follows:

Sport	First practice date	Number of games	Number of scrimmages
Baseball	Feb.15	36	2
Girls Basketball	First day of school	30	2
Boys Basketball	Oct. 15	30	2
Cross Country	First day of school	13	2
Football	First day of school	10	2
Soccer	Day after boys basketball	21	2
	tournament		
Softball	Feb. 15	36	2
Volleyball	First day of school	35	2
Competitive Cheer	First Day of School	3 competitions not including in game competitions	
Bass Fishing	Oct. 1	No contest limits. Contests end after post season play	
Archery	Oct. 1	No contest limits. Contests end after post season play	

Who can teams play?

Schools (single schools or combined teams) may only compete in contests against schools, including combined elementary or middle school teams (including non-public schools/teams) that adhere to the provisions of 702 KAR 7:065(3). No games against AAU teams, club teams or Alumni games.

- If you play middle school and also play on a high school team, you must have two different physical forms. There is a physical form for middle school and a different one for High School.

Eligibility for Extracurricular Activities

The following criteria for participation shall only apply to SBDM schools in the absence of council policy that establishes school criteria or when the council chooses to adopt criteria established by the Board:

Acceptable Academic Progress
To participate in extracurricular activities, students must be making acceptable

academic progress. Any student who fails more than one (1) class is not making acceptable academic progress and shall be declared ineligible to participate in all extracurricular activities. **Any student that participates in Extra Curricular activities will have to be present 75% of school day to be eligible to practice or participate in any form.**

ELIGIBILITY

Eligibility shall be determined with the first semester grade report ending in December and will be effective with the beginning of the spring semester in January. Grades shall be checked each grade reporting period thereafter to determine eligibility. Interim grades are reported every three (3) weeks at the elementary and middle schools and every four and one-half (4 ½) weeks at the high school.

POSITIVE BEHAVIORAL INTERVENTION SUPPORT (PBIS)

This new approach to changing students' behavior has been adopted by Hazard Middle School. Our teachers and staff have undergone extensive training and have developed new ways to emphasize rewarding students for positive behavior rather than focusing on punishing inappropriate behavior. This proactive approach to changing behavior is having great affects in schools throughout Kentucky. We hope that through this new approach, we can show students that good behavior leads to a rewarding education achieved through a pleasant learning atmosphere and in easy to learn surroundings.

We do; however, recognize that there may be times that discipline is necessary. For those times the following code of conduct will be followed.

CODE OF STUDENT CONDUCT

RATIONALE AND PHILOSOPHY

Both teachers and parents are responsible to provide a safe, stimulating, and cooperative learning climate so that each student may develop his/her full potential; and the students are responsible to maintain that climate. Hazard Middle School's Code of Student Conduct shall have as its guiding principle its responsibility to create and maintain a school environment where learning can take place because disruptions are minimal. It recognizes its task for encouraging students in a democratic society. Student individual rights are preserved by the protection and preservation of the rights of all people. Students have the right to an education and responsibilities to behave in such manner as to not interfere or hinder the education of others. To accomplish these goals within the school, school personnel, parents, students, and the community must cooperatively plan, work, and assess ways to promote and maintain self-discipline.

The following code sets forth school rules prohibiting or requiring certain student conduct while the student is on school premises, going to and from school, or under the supervision of the school as school sponsored events or activities.

Students may be disciplined for violating any of these rules or any school rules in the Code. Punishment may range from simple reprimand or warning to a suspension of up to 10 days imposed by the Principal, or longer suspension or expulsion imposed by the School Board. The severity of the penalty will correspond to the gravity of the offense.

Every student shall be accorded a minimal amount of due process before judgments and penalties are consummated.

Hazard Middle School believes that discipline is a school-student-parent/guardian community responsibility; the discipline code is structured so that each participant is expected to contribute in maintaining order and safety through a disciplined student population.

TEACHER SAFETY

Kentucky law requires:
1. The local board of education to expel a student for at least twelve (12) months if the student intentionally causes physical injury to school personnel at school or during a school-sponsored activity, as required by law.
2. School employees to report attempted assaults or assaults against school personnel to law enforcement. Reference: KRS 158.150 and KRS 158.155

Bullying/Hazing

Actions Not Tolerated

Hazing, bullying, menacing, or abuse of students or staff members will not be tolerated.[1] Any student or employee who engages in an act that injures, degrades, or disgraces

another student or staff member, disrupts the educational process, or interferes with a student's opportunity to obtain an education shall be subject to appropriate disciplinary action.
These provisions shall not be interpreted to prohibit civil exchange of opinions or debate protected under the state or federal constitutions where the opinion expressed does not otherwise materially or substantially disrupt the education process or intrude upon the rights of others.
Students who violate this policy shall be subject to appropriate disciplinary action.
This policy extends to any/all student language or behavior including, but not limited to, the use of electronic or online methods.
Bullying Defined
Bullying means any unwanted verbal, physical, or social behavior among students that involves a real or perceived power imbalance and is repeated or has the potential to be repeated:
1. That occurs on school premises, on school-sponsored transportation, or at a school-sponsored event: or
2. That disrupts the education process.
This definition shall not be interpreted to prohibit civil exchange of opinions or debate or cultural practices protected under the state or federal Constitution where the opinion expressed does not otherwise materially or substantially disrupt the education process.

Rude = Inadvertently saying or doing something that hurts someone else.
Mean = Purposefully saying or doing something to hurt someone once (or maybe twice).
***Bullying = Intentionally aggressive behavior, repeated over time, that involves an imbalance of power.**
Forms of Bullying
* **Physical aggression** was once the gold standard of bullying— the "sticks and stones" that made adults in charge stand up and take notice. This kind of bullying includes hitting, punching, kicking, spitting, tripping, hair pulling, slamming a child into a locker and a range of other behaviors that involve physical aggression.
* **Verbal aggression** is what our parents used to advise us to "just ignore." We now know that despite the old adage, words and threats can, indeed, hurt and can even cause profound, lasting harm.
***Relational aggression** is a form of bullying in which kids use their friendship—or the threat of taking their friendship away—to hurt someone. Social exclusion, shunning, hazing, and rumor spreading are all forms of this pervasive type of bullying that can be especially beguiling and crushing to kids.
* **Cyberbullying** is a specific form of bullying that involves technology. According to Hinduja and Patchin of the Cyberbullying Research Center, it is the "willful and repeated harm inflicted through the use of computers, cell phones, and other electronic devices." Notably, the likelihood

of repeated harm is especially high with cyberbullying because electronic messages can be accessed by multiple parties, resulting in repeated exposure and repeated harm.

Reports

As provided in the District Code of Acceptable Behavior and Discipline, students that believe they are victims of bullying/hazing shall be provided with a process to enable them to report such incidents to District personnel for appropriate action.

Employees are expected to take reasonable and prudent action in situations involving student welfare and safety, including following District policy requirements for intervening and reporting to the Principal or to their immediate supervisor those situations that threaten, harass, or endanger the safety of students, other staff members, or visitors to the school or District. Such instances shall include, but are not limited to, bullying or hazing of students and harassment/discrimination of staff, students or visitors by any party.

Students who believe they have been a victim of bullying or who have observed other students being bullied shall, as soon as reasonably practicable, report it.

The District Code shall specify to whom reports of alleged instances of bullying or hazing shall be made. In serious instances of peer-to-peer bullying/hazing/harassment, employees must report to the alleged victim's Principal, as directed by Board policy 09.42811. The Principal/designee shall investigate and address alleged incidents of such misbehavior.

In certain cases, employees must do the following:

1. Report bullying and hazing to appropriate law enforcement authorities as required by policy 09.2211; and
2. Investigate and complete documentation as required by policy 09.42811 covering federally protected areas.

Other Claims

When a complaint is received that does not appear to be covered by this policy, administrators shall review other policies that may govern the allegations, including but not limited to, 09.426 and/or 09.42811. Harassment/discrimination allegations shall be governed by Policy 09.42811.

STUDENT DISCIPLINE AND PUNISHMENT

A. GENERALLY. Behavior that detracts from a student's ability to profit from instruction or that infringes upon the rights of others warrants disciplinary action. The intent of disciplinary actions should be to bring about a positive change in the student's behavior.

Professional judgment, devoid of anger or negative emotions on the part of the staff members, shall be used when determining the appropriate disciplinary action to be taken. In general, the concept of fitting the punishment to the seriousness of the violation of the rules shall apply at all levels. The student's rights to due process

procedures must be respected, especially in instances when possible suspension, expulsion, or removal of the student is involved.

Hazard Independent Schools Restraint and Seclusion

In accordance with Hazard Independent Board Policy 09.2212, 704 KAR 7:160 use of physical restraint and seclusion in public schools, and best practices endorsed by JKM Training, Inc., appropriate protocols will be followed.

CLASSROOM DISCIPLINE

Teachers shall be responsible for maintaining a classroom environment conducive to learning. They shall enforce these policies. They may establish rules for student conduct within their classroom provided the rules are not in violation of these policies.

NON-INSTRUCTIONAL RECESS - Hazard Middle School recognizes the value of daily recess in promoting physical health, social development, and emotional well-being. Our school is committed to providing regular opportunities for unstructured play and movement as part of a well-rounded school experience. While non-instructional recess is a daily part of the school schedule, there may be occasions when a portion of recess is withheld as part of our school-wide Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS) framework. This approach is used to help students reflect on their choices, practice self-regulation, and work toward improved behavior. If recess is limited; The time withheld will be minimal and used for guided reflection or reteaching of expectations. Physical activity will still be encouraged through alternate means when appropriate. The intent will always be to support the student's growth. Our goal is to ensure all students feel supported, safe, and successful. Recess will always remain an important part of the school day, and our behavioral practices are designed to promote accountability while preserving students' overall well-being.

DETENTION - Students may be detained after school as a disciplinary measure. The parents of students assigned detention shall be advised in advance of the detention by means of a detention notice which has been completed by a teacher or other school personnel. Arrangements for the student's transportation are the responsibility of the student and the parent or guardian. They must be made before the student reports to school on the day of the detention. Failure to report for detention will result in further disciplinary action.

ISS- (In school suspension) Students will be placed in an alternate environment away from their normal schedule. Teachers will send daily assignments to their placement.

RESTRICTION OF ACTIVITIES - A student may be restricted or excluded from a school extracurricular activity as a means of discipline.

DISCIPLINE VIOLATIONS

Listed below is a summary of discipline violations and recommended disciplinary actions. The policies will be followed as described. The principal reserves the right to review any actions taken. The final decision will be made by the principal.

I. ATTENDANCE*

A. Tardiness -- Failure to be in a place of instruction at the assigned time without a valid excuse.
B. Class Cutting -- Failure to report to class without prior permission, knowledge, or excuse by the school or teacher.
C. Truancy -- Being absent from school without a valid excuse for 3 or more days or being tardy without a valid excuse for 3 or more days.
D. Skipping School -- Failure to report to school without prior permission, knowledge, or excuse by the school or parent.
E. Leaving school grounds without permission -- Failure to have permission to leave the school grounds from the administrative office.

II. BUS POLICY

Engaging in any of the conduct set forth below shall result in bus riding privileges being suspended for a period of not less than three (3) days or more than the remainder of the school year. In the event a student is suspended from one school bus, he/she is suspended from all other buses as well. A school bus suspension is not an excused absence from school. Students will be expected to be at school each day of their school bus suspension.

A. Throwing items on or from the bus.
B. Refusal to sit in assigned seat.
C. Smoking and use of tobacco.
D. Fighting on bus.
E. Abusiveness to driver.
F. Obscene language and/or gestures.
G. Changing seats while bus in motion.
H. Destruction of school bus.
I. Excessive noise.

Certain acts described in this section also describe conduct which will subject a student to discipline under other sections of this Student Code of Conduct. Any student engaging in such conduct shall also be subject to the disciplinary action as set forth for such conduct and described in the other sections of this Student Code of Conduct.

III. CONFLICT INDICATORS

A. Walking-Away -- Leaving while a staff member is talking with you.
B. Talking-Back -- Responding orally in a rude and disrespectful manner to a staff member.
C. Others -- Responding in any other way that demonstrates a disrespectful manner.

IV. DISRUPTION

A. Chronic Talking -- Repeated talking in the classroom without permission.
B. Throwing Objects -- Involved in the throwing of any object in any part of the school or school grounds in such a way as to be disruptive and endanger anyone.
C. Horse playing -- Engaging in conduct that disrupts the educational process or interferes with teaching, learning, and/or the operation of the school.
D. Harassment/Teasing -- Engaging in any activity that afflicts distress, anguish or agitation to another person.
E. Refusing to Remain in Seat -- Repeatedly getting out of seat without permission of staff member.
F. Rude Noises -- Making any unnecessary noise that disrupts the teaching and learning and/or orderly operation of the school.
G. Leaving the Classroom Without Permission -- Leaving the classroom or assigned area without obtaining prior approval of a staff member.
H. Display of Affection Kissing, hugging, petting.
I. Others -- Any action that causes disruption of the school environment.

V. ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Electronic Devices -- Includes, but are not limited to radio, MP3 players, IPods, AIRPODS, SMARTWATCHES, tape player/recorder, electronic games/toys, cameras, paging devices, and portable/cellular phones/ IPhones. Electronic Devices may be used at the discretion of the teacher during instruction time with ***Principal approval***. Failure to leave phones off and in the locker and failure to have permission to use electronic devices at school will result in confiscation. Cell phones must be kept turned off and left in student lockers or in the classroom teachers sleeve/storage bucket once entering the classroom. Cell phones are not permitted on the playgrounds or in the cafeteria during lunch. Cell phones are not to be used to call or text parents during the school day, and parents are not to call or text the student's cell phone in an attempt to reach the student. Failure to leave phones off and in the locker at school will result in confiscation. Teachers may use Electronic Devices for classroom instruction and ask students to Bring Your Own Device once cleared with the Principal. If a student is sick, proper protocol is to ask teachers to go the office. Once in office students will be checked and if they need to call home it will be done immediately. Students using cell phone to call or text without going through the office may have their cell phones confiscated.

1st time confiscated- Student Conference
2nd time confiscated Parent signs it out in the office after school hours.
3rd Time confiscated-$10.00 paid to office by parent or guardian after school hours.
4th time confiscated- $10.00 paid to office by parent or guardian. Student and phone will be put on intervention plan to fix the problem.
**** If a Cell Phone has been confiscated it can only be recovered after school hours.***

VI. FIDGET SPINNERS & FIDGET CUBES

Due to the negative effect on instruction and behavior, **Fidget spinners/Fidget Cubes** will not be allowed at school. We will remind students and families of this expectation, after the reminders, we will hold onto the spinners/cubes until an adult can come and get the toy in the office after school.

VII. FIGHTING

Mutual combat involving the exchange of physical contact between students by pushing shoving, or hitting either with or without injury.

VIII. INAPPROPRIATE PERSONAL PROPERTY

A. Food/Beverage -- Consumption or possession of food and beverages in unauthorized areas such as classrooms, etc.

B. Clothing -- Students are expected to dress appropriately for school. Any inappropriate clothing or accessory will not be permitted. Moreover, any clothing or accessory with any suggestive or obscene inscription will not be permitted. Examples of inappropriate dress include but shall not be limited to:

1. **Shorts** too short will be the determination of the Principal. We recommend that they be no shorter than the tips of the fingers when in standing position. Spandex biking type shorts are not allowed unless covered by loose fitting clothing. Leggings/Tights must be worn with a dress, shorts or long shirt.
2. **Undergarments** showing,
3. **Baggy pants** hanging below the waistline,
4. **Skirts** too short (same as with shorts),
5. **Jeans** with holes in them above the knees unless the wearer has appropriate clothing underneath to prevent exposure.
6. T**ops & Blouses** - fishnet tops, low cut tops, shirts or jackets with inappropriate language, tops which expose shoulders, chest, and/or the bare midriff in a standing position.
7. Steel-toed shoes.
8. Hats or any head dress banned unless hat day or approved through Principal.

The SBDM Council may address changes to dress code as necessary. Notice will be sent home if any changes are made.

C. Toys -- Possession of any toys, games, etc., without permission of the administration.

D. Other -- Possession of any object that has no purpose to be in school and may distract from teaching and learning.

IX. INSUBORDINATION

A. Refuses a Reasonable Request -- Failure to comply with a proper and authorized direction or instruction of a staff member.
B. Refuses to Work in Class -- Failing to do your assigned work in class.
C. Refuses Detention -- Failing to report to detention as directed by a staff member.
D. Refuses In-School Alternatives -- Failing to report to in-school alternative as directed by a staff member.
E. Refuses to Report to Office -- Failing to report to the office as directed by a staff member.
F. Other -- Failing to respond to any other reasonable direction given by a staff member.

X. MISREPRESENTATION

A. Altering Notes -- Tampering with Official passes, notes in any manner, including forging names to any legitimate excuses or related documents. (See Forgery)
B. False Information -- Making false statements, written or oral, to anyone in authority.
C. Cheating -- Violating rules of honesty relating to school assignments and tests.
D. Other -- Passing of any false statements, or information including names to anyone in authority.

XI. PROFANITY

A. Swearing -- Saying anything that conveys a grossly offensive, obscene, or sexually suggestive message.
B. Obscene Gesture -- Making any sign that conveys a grossly offensive, obscene, or sexually suggestive message.
C. Derogatory Written Materials -- Having any written material or pictures that convey a grossly offensive, obscene, or sexually suggestive message.
D. Other -- Any action, use, written, verbal, physical, with intend to harass and/or harm them.

XII. TOBACCO PRODUCTS

A. Use of Tobacco Products -- Smoking (any tobacco product), use or possession of products such as snuff or chewing tobacco, cigarettes, cigars or pipes in any school building, on its grounds during the school day, on the school bus or at any official school function.
B. Possession -- Having on one's person or personal possession of smoking materials or other tobacco products.
C. Electronic (E)- cigarettes**/Vaping/JUUL**

Electronic cigarettes are noncombustible products that employ a heating element to deliver aerosolized nicotine or other substances to users inhaling from the device. The long-term safety of e-cigarettes is currently unknown. Independent research has found particulate matter, cancer-causing chemicals such as formaldehyde and levels of nicotine inconsistent with labeling. E-cigarette use has risen rapidly among teens.

A recent *Monitoring the Future* survey indicated that 17% of 12th graders have reported using an e-cigarette in the past month (*Monitoring the Future*, 2014). Youth may refer to e-cigarettes as “e-hookah,” “hookah pens” or “vape pens.” Some e-cigarettes can be modified to allow users to “vape” marijuana extracts or marijuana wax**. Pursuant to KRS 438.310 and KRS 438.350, minors under 21 years of age are prohibited from buying or possessing e-cigarettes.**

****LEGAL VIOLATIONS****

XIII. ALCOHOL

A. Use (Positive Intoxilyzer) -- Consumption of any alcoholic beverages at school or a school function, or coming to school or a school function after consumption.
B. Possession -- Possessing any alcoholic beverages in school, on school grounds to and from school on bus or any other property.
C. Sale or Distribution -- Distributing or attempting to distribute any alcoholic beverage while under the jurisdiction of school authority.
D. Paraphernalia -- Possession, distribution, or use of any alcoholic beverages or related devices.

XIV. ARSON

Actual or Attempted -- Purposefully setting a fire or attempting to set a fire.

XV. ASSAULT

A. Against Students -- Battery, unlawful beating. Any physical force or violence unlawfully applied to another student. This can include jostling, tearing clothes, seizing or striking another student.
B. Against Staff -- Battery, unlawful beating. Any physical force or violence unlawfully applied to a staff member. This can include jostling, tearing clothes, seizing or striking a staff member.

XVI. BOMBS

Threat or Actual -- The possession, use, or threat that any device containing combustible material and a fuse exists in the school.

XVII. DRUG OFFENSE*

A. Use of Drugs -- Use of a narcotic, illegal or controlled drug, anabolic steroids or any illegal substance.
B. Possession --Possessing any illegal substance.
C. Sale or Distribution -- Distributing or attempting to distribute any drugs or medications while under the jurisdiction of school authority.

D. Paraphernalia -- Possession, distribution, or use of any drugs or medications or related devices.
E. Imitating the use of an illegal substance.
F. Dispensing or selling (or imitating the sale of) an illegal substance.

XVIII. EXTORTION

A. Actual Intimidation -- Use of threats or intimidation that resulted in obtaining money or something of value from another.

B. Attempt -- Use of threats or intimidation in an attempt to obtain money or something of value from another.

XIX. INITIATING A RIOT

Actual or Attempted -- Attempting to create or creating public violence, tumult, or disorder in the school.

XX. ROBBERY

Actual or Attempted -- Taking or attempting to take from a person something of value by force, violence or fear.

XXI. SEXUAL OFFENSES

A. Offensive Touching -- Putting hands on another person's body that is offensive to anyone.
B. Indecent - Exposure -- Intentional exposure of parts of one's body that is offensive to others. (This includes "Mooning").
C. Other -- Includes any other sexual actions that may be offensive to anyone.

XXII. THEFT

A. School Property -- Unlawful taking and carrying away property belonging to the Hazard City Schools with the intent to deprive the lawful owner of its value.
B. Staff Property -- Unlawful taking and carrying away property belonging to a staff member.
C. Student Property -- Unlawful taking away property belonging to another student.

XXIII. THREATENING

Staff Member, Student or Other -- Threatening to strike, attack or harm any staff member, student, or other person.

XXIV. TRESPASSING

Trespassing -- Entering the school or grounds by persons neither attending nor working at the school (includes suspended students).

XXV. VANDALISM

A. School Property -- Willful or malicious destruction of private property.
B. Private Property -- Willful or malicious destruction of private property.
C. Graffiti -- Willful or malicious defacing of public or private property.
D. Littering -- Willful and unlawful disposal of trash or other items on school property.

XXVI. WEAPONS AND DANGEROUS INSTRUMENTS

A. Gun -- Possession of any firearm (loaded or unloaded) including pistols.
B. Gun (toy or look-a-like) - Possession of a cap pistol, water pistol or any look-a-like gun.
C. Knife -- Possession of any size or shape of knife, razor blade or box cutter (or look-a-like items).
D. Live Ammunition -- Possession of any live bullets. In-school suspension to recommendation for expulsion. Also notification of proper authorities.
E. Fireworks -- Possession of fire crackers or any small explosive devices including caps and snapper pops.
F. Other -- Possession of any object that could cause injury including (but not limited to) icepick, multi-finger ring, metal knuckles, num-chuks, clubs and the use of any object to inflict bodily injury upon students and any other person.

XXVII. MISCELLANEOUS

A. Forgery of Official Documents -- Altering any document such as report cards, transfers, transcripts, for the purpose to deceive.
B. Gambling -- Wagering money or valuable property on the outcome of a competition or game of chance or luck.
C. Knowingly Possessing Stolen Property -- Knowingly having on one's person or within one's control, property belonging to another and taken without that other's consent (this includes school property).
D. Obscene Phone Calls --Making telephone calls to or from school property or to school personnel that are offensive to a reasonable person.
E. False Alarm -- Calling, signaling or initiating an automatic signal falsely indicating the presence of fire or other emergency.
F. Other -- Any criminal offense not covered above.

(XXIII Cont.) *** Terroristic Threatening***

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Our most important function in Hazard Independent School District is to provide the safest learning environment possible for all of our students and school staff members. Unfortunately, in recent years, Kentucky's P-12 schools have experienced an escalation of terroristic threats being made by students with intent to do harm to either other students or school staff members. Plainly stated, these are threats being made to shoot people or detonate bombs with lethal intent. In many of those cases, school officials and law enforcement officials were forced to close schools to investigate the threats that had been made. In other cases, school attendance plummeted for days after the threat was made. Many school leaders have said that the emotional, instructional, and financial impacts of these acts are incalculable.

Terroristic Threating in the second degree is defined in state law (KRS 508.078)

(1) **A person is guilty of terroristic threatening in the second degree when, other than as provided in KRS 508.075, he or she intentionally:**

b) Makes false statements by any means, including by electronic communication, for the purpose of:

1. Causing evacuation of a school building, school property, or school-sanctioned activity;

2. Causing cancellation of school classes or school-sanctioned activity; or

3. Creating fear of serious bodily harm among students, parents, or school personnel

(For the complete text for KRS 508.078 please see the attached page.)

Such threats to our students and school staff are totally unacceptable and will not be tolerated. As a result, the purpose of this letter is to notify all parents and guardians that school district officials (in coordination with responding law enforcement agencies) will **pursue immediate legal charges for felony terroristic threatening in the second degree, to the absolute fullest extent of the law, against anyone who makes such threats, including students.** Moreover, we will advocate to our highest ability that the prosecution of these individuals be swift, and their punishment be severe.

Our approach to eliminating terroristic threatening in our school and district is strong and unwavering, and as a result, it is imperative that you discuss this critically important matter with your student as soon as possible. School and law enforcement officials are determined to put a halt to these willful acts of terrorism being made toward our students. Please do your part to ensure that your student never becomes a party to such an offense by educating him/her on the seriousness of its consequences.

Together we can prevent this unnecessary, dangerous, and disruptive crime from victimizing our schools. I appreciate your partnership in keeping our school the safest place for your student to learn and grow.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at your convenience.

Sincerely,

Josh Hurt, Principal of Hazard Middle School

PLEASE CAREFULLY REVIEW DETAILS OF KRS 508.078 ON FOLLOWING PAGE

Definitions of Terroristic Threatening:

508.078 Terroristic threatening in the second degree.

(1) A person is guilty of terroristic threatening in the second degree when, other than as provided in KRS 508.075, he or she intentionally:

(a) With respect to any scheduled, publicly advertised event open to the public, any place of worship, or any school function, threatens to commit any act likely to result in death or serious physical injury to any person at a scheduled, publicly advertised event open to the public, any person at a place of worship, or any student group, teacher, volunteer worker, or employee of a public or private elementary or secondary school, vocational school, or institution of postsecondary education, or to any other person reasonably expected to lawfully be on school property or at a school-sanctioned activity, if the threat is related to their employment by a school, or work or attendance at school, or a school function. A threat directed at a person or persons at a scheduled, publicly advertised event open to the public, place of worship, or school does not need to identify a specific person or persons or school in order for a violation of this section to occur;

(b) Makes false statements by any means, including by electronic communication, for the purpose of:
1. Causing evacuation of a school building, school property, or school-sanctioned activity;
2. Causing cancellation of school classes or school-sanctioned activity; or
3. Creating fear of serious bodily harm among students, parents, or school personnel;

(c) Makes false statements that he or she has placed a weapon of mass destruction at any location other than one specified in KRS 508.075; or
(d) Without lawful authority places a counterfeit weapon of mass destruction at any location other than one specified in KRS 508.075.
(2) A counterfeit weapon of mass destruction is placed with lawful authority if it is placed as part of an official training exercise by a public servant, as defined in KRS 522.010.
(3) A person is not guilty of commission of an offense under this section if he or she, innocently and believing the information to be true, communicates a threat made by another person to school personnel, a peace officer, a law enforcement agency, a public agency involved in emergency response, or a public safety answering point and identifies the person from whom the threat was communicated, if known.

(4) Except as provided in subsection (5) of this section, terroristic threatening in the second degree is a Class D felony.
(5) Terroristic threatening in the second degree is a Class C felony when, in addition to violating subsection (1) of this section, the person intentionally engages in substantial conduct required to prepare for or carry out the threatened act, including but not limited to gathering weapons, ammunition, body armor, vehicles, or materials required to manufacture a weapon of mass destruction.

<u>Penalties</u>
Violating a Class D felony (adult) 1-5 years imprisonment (KRS 532.020) and/or $1,000-$10,000 fine (KRS 532.020).
Violating a Class C felony (adult), 5-10 years imprisonment (KRS 532.020) and/or $1,000-$10,000 fine (KRS 532.020).
Violating a felony (juvenile) fine not to exceed $500 (KRS 635.085), with fine assessed at the court's discretion in lieu of commitment to the Department of Juvenile Justice.

Discipline Action Key

1. Classroom management
2. Conference with student & or parent
3. Intervention
4. Detention at grade level
5. Saturday Detention
6. In-school Suspension
7. Out-of-school Suspension
8. Expulsion
9. Referral to Authorities*

***Proper Authorities – Court Designated Worker, Law Enforcement, Cabinet for Human Resources, Comprehensive Care, etc.**

	RULE VIOLATIONS	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
I. Attendance										
	A. Tardiness	X	X	X	X	X	X			
	B. Cutting Class	X	X	X	X	X	X			
	C. Truancy	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
	D. Skipping school	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
	E. Leaving school w/o permission	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
II. Bus Policy										
	A. Throwing Objects		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
	B. Refusal to sit in assigned seat		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
	C. Tobacco products		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
	D. Fighting		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
	E. Abusive to driver		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
	F. Obscene language/gestures		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
	G. Changing seats while moving		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
	H. Destruction of school bus		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
	I. Excessive noise		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
III. Conflict										
	A. Walking away from staff	X	X	X	X					
	B. Talking back	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
	C. Other – Disrespect	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
IV. Disruption										
	A. Chronic Talking	X	X	X	X	X				
	B. Throwing objects	X	X	X	X	X				
	C. Horse play	X	X	X	X	X				
	D. Harassment/teasing	X	X	X	X	X				
	E. Refuse to remain in seat	X	X	X	X	X				
	F. Rude noise	X	X	X	X	X				
	G. Leaving class w/o permission	X	X	X	X	X	X			
	H. Display of affection	X	X	X	X	X	X			
	I. Other – anything disruptive to school environment	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
V. Electronic Devices	(Confiscation)*	X	X	X						
VI. Fighting										
	1st Offense	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
	2nd Offense						X	X		

	3rd Offense								X	X

		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
VII. Inappropriate Personal Property										
	A. Food or beverage (Confiscation)	X	X	X	X	X	X			
	B. Clothing	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
	C. Toys (Confiscation)	X	X	X	X	X	X			
	D. Other - distracting objects (Confiscation)	X	X	X	X	X	X			
VIII. Insubordination										
	A. Refuse reasonable request	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
	B. Refuse to work in class	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
	C. Refuse to report to detention	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
	D. Refuses In-school alternative	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
	E. Refuse to report to office	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
	F. Other - fail to respond to staff	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
IX. Misrepresentation										
	A. Altering notes	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
	B. False information	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
	C. Cheating	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
	D. Other - pass false information	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
X. Profanity										
	A. Swearing	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
	B. Obscene gesture	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
	C. Derogatory written material	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
	D. Other - anything intended to harass or hurt others	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
XI. Tobacco Products										
	A. Use of (Confiscation)		X	X		X	X	X	X	X
	B. Possession (Confiscation)		X	X		X	X	X	X	X

LEGAL VIOLATIONS**		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
XII. Alcohol										
	A. Use							X	X	X
	B. Possession							X	X	X
	C. Sale or Distribution							X	X	X
	D. Paraphernalia							X	X	X
XIII. Arson								X	X	X
XIV. Assault										
	A. Against a student							X	X	X
	B. Against staff								X	X
XV. Bombs – actual or	threat							X	X	X
XVI. Drugs										
	A. Use							X	X	X

B. Possession							X	X	X
C. Sale or distribution							X	X	X
D. Paraphernalia							X	X	X
E. Imitating the use of an illegal substance							X	X	X
F. Dispensing or selling (or imitating the sale of) an illegal substance.							X	X	X
XVII. Extortion									
A. Actual - Intimidation		X			X		X	X	X
B. Attempted		X			X		X	X	X
XVIII. Initiating Riot							X	X	X
XIX. Robbery							X	X	X
XX. Sexual Offenses									
A. Offensive touching							X	X	X
B. Indecent exposure							X	X	X
C. Other - Actions							X	X	X
XXI. Theft									
A. School property						X	X	X	X
B. Staff property						X	X	X	X
C. Student property						X	X	X	X
XXII. Threatening	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
(Cont.) **TerroristicThreatening**									X
XXIII. Trespassing									X
XXIV. Vandalism									
A. School property		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
B. Private property		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
C. Graffiti	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
D. Littering	X	X	X	X	X	X			

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
XXV. Weapons									
A. Gun								X	X
B. Look-a-like Gun		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
C. Knife		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
D. Live Ammunition						X	X	X	X
E. Fireworks		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
F. Other							X	X	X
XXVI. Miscellaneous									
A.. Gambling	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
B. Knowingly possessing stolen Property		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
C. Obscene phone calls		X	X	X		X	X	X	X
D. False alarm		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
E. Other criminal offenses		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

Hazard Independent Schools
705 Main Street
Hazard, Kentucky 41701
(606)436-3911/(606)436-6484
FAX: (606)436-2742

2026-2027 Bus Routes

Bus #	***Route***
	(Morning Route)
2	LO Davis Dr, Memorial Gym, Craig St, Memorial Drive, Main Street, Gorman Hollow, Hazard Middle School, Roy G. Eversole, Hazard High School
7	East Main, Lothair, Locust St, Algoma St, Mulberry St, Woodland Park, Liberty St, Learn N' Play, High St, Memorial Dr, Children's House Montessori, Broadway, Roy G. Eversole, Newland St, Hazard Middle School, Hazard High School
12	North Main, KFC, Allais Rd, Walker Branch Rd, Wabaco, Hazard Middle School, Main St, Central Office, Roy G Eversole, Hazard High School
9	Special Needs and East Main /Lothair
10	Pre School
	(Evening Route)
2	Hazard Middle School, Main Street, Montessori (Grades 5-8), R.G. Eversole, Memorial Drive, Hazard High, CVS, Gorman Hollow, Baker Avenue/Oakhurst Area
7	Roy G. Eversole, Hazard Middle School, Main Street, Hazard High, Liberty Street, East Main, Woodland Park, Lothair , Hazard Community College
12	Roy G. Eversole, Main Street, North Main, Hazard Middle School, North Main Montessori, Hazard High, Memorial Drive, North Main, Walker Branch Road, Wabaco
1	Roy G. Eversole, Hazard Middle School, Hazard High, Town Mountain, New Beginnings, Morton Blvd. (Hospital Area)
9	Special Needs and East Main/Lothair
10	Preschool

HMS School Calendar 2026-2027

Legend

Non-instructional day

Non school day

Key Dates

Fr, Aug 7 ..... Non-instructional Day, Opening
Mo, Aug 10..... Non-instructional Day, Professional Day
Tu, Aug 11 ..... Non-instructional Day, Professional Day
We, Aug 12..... Non-instructional Day, Professional Day
Mo, Sep 7 ..... Non-instructional Day, Holiday
Fr, Sep 18 ..... Non-instructional Day, Professional Day
Mo, Oct 5 ..... Non school Day, Break
Tu, Oct 6 ..... Non school Day, Break
We, Oct 7 ..... Non school Day, Break
Th, Oct 8 ..... Non school Day, Break
Fr, Oct 9 ..... Non school Day, Break
Tu, Nov 3 ..... Non school Day, Break
We, Nov 25..... Non-instructional Day, Planning
Th, Nov 26 ..... Non school Day, Break
Fr, Nov 27 ..... Non school Day, Break
Mo, Dec 21..... Non school Day, Break
Tu, Dec 22 ..... Non school Day, Break
We, Dec 23..... Non school Day, Break
Th, Dec 24 ..... Non school Day, Break
Fr, Dec 25 ..... Non-instructional Day, Holiday
Mo, Dec 28..... Non school Day, Break
Tu, Dec 29 ..... Non school Day, Break
We, Dec 30..... Non school Day, Break
Th, Dec 31 ..... Non school Day, Break
Fr, Jan 1 ..... Non-instructional Day, Holiday
Mo, Jan 18 ..... Non-instructional Day, Holiday
Fr, Mar 19 ..... Non school Day, Break
Mo, Mar 29..... Non-instructional Day, Planning
Tu, Mar 30 ..... Non school Day, Break
We, Mar 31..... Non school Day, Break
Th, Apr 1 ..... Non school Day, Break
Fr, Apr 2 ..... Non school Day, Break
Tu, May 18..... Non school Day, Break
We, May 26..... Non-instructional Day, Closing
Th, May 27..... Non school Day, Makeup
Fr, May 28 ..... Non school Day, Makeup
Tu, Jun 1 ..... Non school Day, Makeup
We, Jun 2 ..... Non school Day, Makeup
Th, Jun 3 ..... Non school Day, Makeup
Fr, Jun 4 ..... Non school Day, Makeup
Mo, Jun 7 ..... Non school Day, Makeup

July

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

August

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

September

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

October

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

November

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

December

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

January

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

February

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28						

March

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

April

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

May

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

June

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

HAZARD INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS
2026-27

Important Dates to Remember

August 13	First Day for Students
September 7	No School-- Labor Day (Holiday)
September 18	No School-- Professional Development Day
October 5-9	No School—Fall Break
November 3	No School - Election Day
November 25 - 27	No School--Thanksgiving Break
December 21 - Jan.1	No School--Winter Break
January 4	Classes resume at regular time
January 18	No School --Martin Luther King Jr. Day (Holiday)
March 19	No School -- Professional Development Day
March 29 - April 2	No School – Spring Break
May 25	Last Day for Students (Subject to Change)

* The school board reserves the right to shorten winter and/or spring break if the number of school cancellation days due to inclement weather is excessive.

Please post this calendar in a convenient place for use throughout the school year.

CLOSING OF SCHOOL DUE TO INCLEMENT WEATHER
In case of weather conditions which require the closing of school, the official announcement will be made over the local radio/TV stations (WSGS and WYMT) as well as the district mass messaging service. Another option available is WYMT Mobile Alerts. Visit www.wymtnews.com for more information. This service is NOT provided for free or by the school system. You may also check the district website at www.hazard.kyschools.us . Please do not call the school or school officials to ask about school closings. Announcements will be made as soon as possible via the radio/TV/social media.

INCLEMENT WEATHER DELAY SCHEDULE:

	One Hour Delay	Two Hour Delay
Roy G. Eversole Elementary	9:00 – 3:00	10:00 – 3:00
Hazard Middle School	9:10 – 3:10	10:10 – 3:10
Hazard High School	9:15 – 3:28	10:15 – 3:28