# Yuma High School 2026-2027 Student-Parent Handbook

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## INTRODUCTION

The Yuma High School Student-Parent Handbook provides information about the positive expectations, policies, academic requirements, and student privileges and responsibilities that will assist you in being successful at Yuma High School. We encourage each student and his or her parent, to become familiar with information in the handbook. Information in the handbook aligns with district policy – www.yumaschools.org. Have a great and successful year!

### YHS MOTTO-VALUES

- **Respect for Self**: How we feel about ourselves, our education and our interaction with our community
- **Respect of Others:** The way we treat each other; the right to a safe educational environment
- **Respect for Learning:** Understanding our purpose at YHS, to learn and increase academic achievement
- **Respect of Property:** The way we responsibly interact with our environment

**SCHOOL SONG**

Oh, Yuma High School,
Our hearts are loyal beating.
To thee, we'll e'er be true.
And though the years be swiftly fleeting,
This fond pledge we give to you:
That we will ever be staunch and faithful,
Bringing tribute without fail,
To Yuma High School,
Oh, Yuma High School,
Thee we hail, All Hail!

**SCHOOL COLORS**

Red and White

**SCHOOL MASCOT**

Outlaws

"Discrimination and Harassment will not be tolerated at YHS. Consistent with School Board Policy (JB), harassment, acts of bullyism, hate, or discrimination based on disability, race, creed, color, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, national origin, religion, ancestry, or need for special education services, will not be tolerated at YHS and will result in strong disciplinary action including suspension from school." Colorado School Safety Hotline - 1-877-542-SAFE (7233)

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# YSD1
# STRATEGIC PRIORITIES
# 2026-2030

## Y — CHAMPION STUDENT CENTERED LEARNING

- Prioritize achievement and growth
- Support diverse learners
- Equip students with life skills, character & career readiness
- Balance academics, athletics & arts

## U — EMPOWER & SUPPORT EXCEPTIONAL EDUCATORS

- Recruit & retain high-quality staff
- Collaborate across all schools
- Provide meaningful professional development & recognition
- Build morale through visibility and support

## M — STRENGTHEN COMMUNICATION, TRUST & TRANSPARENCY

- Use honest, consistent & open communication
- Involve families, staff and the community in decisions
- Model accountability & data-driven decisions
- Share the "Y" behind all district initiatives

## A — FOSTER UNIFIED, INCLUSIVE & PROUD CULTURE

- Deepen family & community partners
- Celebrate diversity to ensure all families feel welcome
- Promote Outlaw Pride
- Highlight achievements to build unity and community spirit

## 1 — ENSURE SAFE, SUPPORTIVE & WELL-RESOURCES ENVIRONMENT

- Maintain clean, modern, & secure facilities
- Ensure equitable access to transportation, programs, resources
- Strengthen student mental health & wellness supports
- Manage finances responsibly and transparently

## GENERAL INFORMATION

**IMPORTANT: PLEASE NOTIFY THE YHS OFFICE OF ANY RESIDENCE OR PHONE NUMBER CHANGES. CONTACT AND EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBERS MUST BE KEPT CURRENT IN THE YHS OFFICE FOR INFORMATION, EMERGENCY, ILLNESS, OR INJURY OCCURENCES.**

## BELL SCHEDULE
## 2026-2027

***Tuesday – Friday***
***No School on Monday's Except***
***November 9th, 16th, 23rd***
***December 14th***
***February 15th***
***March 8th***
***May 10th, 17th***

| T-F | Start | End |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | 7:45 am | 8:40 am |
| 2 | 8:45 am | 9:40 am |
| 3 | 9:45 am | 10:40 am |
| 4 | 10:45 am | 11:40 am |
| Lunch | 11:45 am | 12:15 pm |
| 5 | 12:20 pm | 1:15 pm |
| 6 | 1:20 pm | 2:15 pm |
| 7 | 2:20 pm | 3:15 pm |
| AD | 3:20 pm | 3:45 pm |

**COMMUNICATION:** Communication with parents and students is a major priority at YHS. Please access the following communication tools to become involved in the activities, make good decisions with sound information and most importantly, know what is happening at YHS. Communication is a two-way process; if you have concerns or suggestions, please contact us at 848-5488. We listen!

- **YHS**: All staff will utilize a District provided communication tool called Staff Connect.
- **DISTRICT WEBSITE**: www.yumaschools.org and link on Yuma High School for newsletters, calendar items, sporting schedules, Calendar, and other valuable information.
- **DAILY ANNOUNCEMENTS**: YHS Bulletin – read daily at the beginning of 2nd period and is posted daily on the YHS website tab on www.yumaschools.org.
- **ALMA/PARENT PORTAL**: Information specific to your child's attendance, grades and classes may be found on Alma. All users, students and parents, have separate login accounts. You will receive an email from Alma with set up instructions.
- **EMAIL ADDRESSES FOR STAFF**: The staff's full last name and first initial are used with no spaces. Some exceptions occur. All names are followed with @yumaschools.net EXAMPLE: Mr. Brady Nighswonger – nighswongerb@yumaschools.net. Staff email address can be found on www.yumaschools.org
- **FRESHMAN ORIENTATION** – August 7th 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM
- **PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES**: Conducted in the fall (Oct. 12th) and spring (March 1st) from 11:00 pm to 7:00 pm.
- **SCHOOL CLOSINGS**: In the event of severely inclement weather or mechanical breakdown, school may be closed or starting time delayed. The same conditions may also necessitate early dismissal. School closure, delayed starting time or early dismissal will be announced over radio stations KNEC 100.9; KATR 98.3 FM; and KOA 850 AM. Reports in the morning will be between 6:00 a.m. and 7:00 a.m. If no report is heard, it can be assumed that school will be in session. ***Please do not call the school.*** Telephone lines must be kept open for emergencies.
- **NOTE: If school closes due to inclement weather, ALL athletic/activity practices and competitions will be canceled.**
- **YHS FACEBOOK PAGE, YUMA OUTLAW ATHLETICS AND ACTIVITIES FACEBOOK PAGES**: Are an excellent source with up-to-date information concerning YHS. Please like the YHS Facebook pages!

**DELIVERIES:** YHS understands the excitement of celebrations. However, due to interruptions to the school day, safety, and student equality, YHS does not accept any deliveries for students on busy holidays such as Valentine's Day.

**FEES/FINES:** YHS requires payment of class dues, organization/club dues, course fees and athletic fees. Yuma High School will not provide transcripts to students who have unpaid library or lost or damaged textbook fines at the end of the school year or upon withdrawal from Yuma School District. Any equipment that has not been returned will exempt students from participation in activities the following year. Elective choices may be limited if fees/fines are left unpaid. Seniors will not be allowed to participate in the graduation ceremony if they have unpaid fines/fees including concurrent enrollment fees and fines.

**TEXTBOOKS:** All basic texts and library books are LOANED to students for their use during the year. Books should be kept clean and free of abuse. We do have free book covers in the library for student use. Fines for excess abuse or loss will be calculated on the original cost of the book.

**SCHOOL SUPPLIES**: Do to the amount of courses offered at Yuma High School; it is impossible to put out a school supply list. Students will receive a list of supplies they will need for their classes after the 1st day of school.

**LOCKERS**: Student lockers are assigned at the beginning of the school year. It is important that students never bring any more than a minimum amount of money to school and never leave it or valuables in lockers, as they would cause a great temptation for theft. School lockers are the property of the school district and for the use of the student. Lockers may be subject to search by school officials anytime without prior notice and as a due process in search for stolen school property, alcohol, tobacco, drugs, or other materials which are not the rightful possession of students. Lockers are to NOT be shared with any other student.

**BACKPACKS:** Backpacks, string bags, and purses are NOT allowed in the classrooms due to congestion and safety purposes.

**PERMITTED STUDENT AREAS:** Morning (7:30 am –7:45 am) students are allowed in the hallways unless food/drink is brought in then students must remain in the commons area. If in the building, students are only allowed in the commons area during lunch and not in hallways.

**FOOD/DRINK:** Food and drinks are only allowed in the commons area. Food is not allowed in the classrooms. Drinks are allowed in the classroom if in a closed container. Cups with plastic lids and straws are not considered closed containers. Students may have sealed snacks in lockers during passing periods.

**PARKING:** Students must park in the main North parking lot and enter through the main entrance of YHS.

**STUDENT ACTIVITY CARDS:** Students are encouraged to purchase an activity card for $50, for it represents a considerable savings to school events. Activity cards admit students to all home YHS athletic events except for league, district, regional and state play-off games and tournaments. Activity cards are NON-TRANSFERABLE and may only be used by the name holder. Misused cards will be confiscated.

**WITHDRAWAL:** Students planning to withdraw from school should first obtain a withdrawal form from the guidance office. A phone call or parent/guardian visit is required before these forms may be obtained. Students should notify their teachers if they are planning to withdraw so the teacher can average grades and get necessary withdrawal forms completed. Failure to do this may cause a delay in getting students withdrawn. Students must be 17 years old to withdrawal with no intent to enroll elsewhere (dropout).

**POSTERS/ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Posters and/or bulletin board announcements to be placed within the school are to be first approved by building administration.

**MEDICAL NEEDS**: We ask that parents notify school administration if a student has a special medical condition or need.

- **MEDICATION**: Students who must take prescribed medications during the day must have parents provide the school with a doctor's note that includes dosage, storage instructions, and the original container/prescription bottle. Students may then come to the office for medication. The secretaries/administration log all student medication given.
    - School personnel cannot administer medicine or Tylenol without specific written permission from a doctor.
- **ILLNESS**: If you are ill in school, ask your teacher if you may go to the office. Please follow these expectations:
    - Student must report immediately to the secretary in the office. Student will be allowed to go home if school secretary, administration, parent and/or emergency contact people can agree on approval.
    - If no contact can be made and the student is too ill to return to class, provisions will be made for you to rest at school.

**IMMUNIZATIONS (C.R.S. 25-4-902):** All students must provide proof of immunizations to register or continue in school. Students not up to date on immunizations will have 14 days to obtain the required immunizations, submit a statement of exemption, or present a written plan for completion; if not completed, students may face suspension.

**ACCIDENTS:** All accidents and injuries must be reported to the main office as soon as they occur and an incident report must be filled out by the witness by the end of the accident/injury day.

**VISITORS TO THE BUILDING:** To ensure student safety and campus security, the following procedures are given for visitors. Parents/Guardians and patrons are welcome to visit our school after obtaining permission from the administration.

- Please call ahead if you are requesting to meet with a teacher. Parents/Patrons will not be permitted into classrooms during instructional time. The office can help coordinate a time to meet.
- All visitors must report to the main office upon entering the building, sign in and pick up a visitors badge.
- Students at YHS are not permitted to bring students from other schools, family, etc. to spend any portion of the day with them at school.

**VIDEO SURVEILLANCE:** YSD-1 uses video surveillance on district grounds to maintain the health, welfare, and safety of students, staff and visitors while on school district property as well as the protection of school district property. School buildings and grounds may be equipped with video cameras. Videotapes may be reviewed and monitored by school district personnel on a random basis and/or when problems arise as allowable by board policy.

# ACADEMIC INFORMATION

**GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS:** Graduation from high school is a culminating event that results from the foundations built at the elementary and middle levels. Graduation is a collaborative effort among levels in a student's public school career. Each level of school and each staff member or parent/guardian who instructs or counsels a student shares responsibility for the ultimate ability of that student to demonstrate proficiency in the district's academic standards and to meet the expectations for graduation. Students in good standing who have completed 26 or more units of credit shall be graduated on recommendation of the high school principal.

The following criteria shall entitle a student to a high school diploma:

- Achievement in the district's academic standards as demonstrated by mastery of the curriculum which may include, but is not limited to, daily classroom assignments, state and district assessments, classroom assessments, and student participation in, and completion of, assigned projects.
- Completion of 26 credits in grades nine through twelve in the prescribed categories listed below.

| | |
|---|---|
| 4 Credits | English – One Credit **MUST** be English II (*one credit may be earned by meeting Board-approved proficiency assessments and adoption of CDE's graduation guidelines)-**proficiency credit must be approved by administration, parent and reflects student's ICAP plan.** |
| 4 Credits | Mathematics – One Credit **MUST** be Geometry (*one unit may be earned by meeting Board-approved proficiency assessments and adoption of CDE's graduation guidelines)- **proficiency credit must be approved by administration, parent and reflects student's ICAP plan.** |
| 3 Credits | Science - One Credit **MUST** be Earth Science, One Credit **MUST** be Biology, and One Credit **MUST** be Physical Science (Physical, Chemistry, Physics) |
| 3 Credits | Social Studies – One Credit **MUST** be, World History/Geography, One Credit **MUST** be US History, and One Credit **MUST** be American Government. |
| 1 Credit | PE/Health (embedded) |
| 1 Credit | Senior Seminar (Beginning with 2024-2025 School Year) (Includes Financial Literacy) |
| 2 Credits | Advisement – 0.25 Credits per semester (Employability Skills, ICAP, SEL, Workforce Readiness) |
| 8 Credits | Electives |
| 26 Credit | Beginning with 24/25 School Year |
| | |
| | |
| | |

**GRADUATION COMMENCEMENT:** In order to participate in commencement exercises and other senior activities a student must be enrolled full-time during the second semester or be on an approved reduced student schedule. Students who attend a ninth semester must have permission of the principal to participate in graduation activities at the end of that school year. Students who have not

met the requirements and who have less than twenty-six (26) credits may not participate in graduation activities. Such students will receive a diploma whenever they complete the requirements for graduation. The student that is the number #1 ranked student, according to ALMA, will give the Cum Laude address.

**ADVISOR/ADVISEE:** All YHS students have an advisor. Time spent with their advisors will be time focused on the student's Individualized Career and Academic Plan (ICAP) and on their corresponding 4-year plan for course selections and preparation for college/work plans after high school.

**ICAP (Individualized Career and Academic Plan):** The intent of the ICAP STATE REQUIREMENT is to assist students in developing and maintaining a personalized plan that ensures readiness for postsecondary and workforce success. An ICAP should be designed to assist a student and his or her parent or legal guardian in exploring the postsecondary college and career opportunities available to the student. Students graduating from Yuma High School will have completed a unique ICAP program that culminates the eight quality indicators (Self- awareness, Career Awareness, Postsecondary Aspirations, Postsecondary Options, Environmental Expectations, Academic Planning, Employability Skills, & Financial Literacy). For more information please visit the Colorado Department of Education Website- ***http://www.cde.state.co.us/SecondaryInitiatives/ICAP.htm***

**CONCURRENT ENROLLMENT:** Any student who plans on taking college credit for designated YHS courses must apply for admission at the approved institution (NJC), and complete required pre requisite assessments or courses. Students must pay NJC the associated registration fees, along with paying for books. It is the student's responsibility to contact the college for transcript request and forwarding transcripts to prospective colleges. ALL students taking concurrent credit courses must register, online, with the Colorado College Opportunity Fund. This application needs to be completed only once in your lifetime, and can be opted into upon registration. The link to the College Access Network (CAN) application is: https://cof.college-access.net/cofapp/. If a student drops a college course after that NJC drop deadline, they will receive a "W" on their NJC transcript, and an incomplete on their YHS transcript and will be required to report to YHS during that specific class time. Grades in concurrent enrollment courses will count for YHS and NJC credit. High school requirements MUST be met before students can take concurrent enrollment classes (requirements may vary depending on the course). Please contact the YHS counselor regarding any questions.

As a concurrent enrollment student, expect the following:

- collegiate level work
- scheduling time to meet with your college instructor if you need help
- sign up for concurrent enrollment meeting
- attend concurrent enrollment registration
- complete concurrent enrollment paperwork prior to registration date
- Students will be required to pay NJC for books and fees ONLY.
    - All fees from previous semesters MUST be paid prior to concurrent enrollment class registration
- Report current grades weekly to specified YHS staff member
- Any student that fails a concurrent enrollment course will be restricted from enrolling into a course in the same subject area for the following semester.

**SCHEDULE CHANGES: Schedule changes will only be allowed during the first 5 days of each semester**. Changes will be honored for academic reasons only, i.e. failure to meet the course prerequisites; addition of challenging course; and meeting graduation requirements. Changes will not be honored if the change increases class size or for teacher preference.

**REPORT CARDS:** Grades are available on the Alma Portal. Official report cards will be emailed and mailed at the end of each semester.

**INDEPENDENT STUDY/CDLS:** YHS offers a variety of courses to challenge students and expand their knowledge level. With this in mind, YHS does recognize the fact that the schedule will not always allow students to maximize their learning potential.

- Majority of independent studies are through Colorado Department of Education's CDLS courses, or CCConline (through NJC for college credit).
- The counselor will determine if there is an irresolvable conflict between available courses and the YHS master schedule.
- CDLS independent study courses are taken in the YHS library. The librarian is responsible for attendance, monitoring CDLS grade status, and assisting students to stay on track.
- If CDLS courses are taken for credit recovery, the cost of the course resides on the student.
- If CDLS courses are taken based on ICAP or schedule conflicts, the district will pay the fee. If the student fails the CDLS course, it is his/her responsibility to pay for the course (this does NOT include CCC courses).
- Independent studies may also be taken through NJC's online campus.

**GRADING/ASSESSMENT SYSTEMS:** Grades will be figured on 4.0 scale. Concurrent enrollment courses are weighted classes. Grade Point Average (GPA) will be used to determine class ranking, honor roll, academic letters, etc. If needed in case of ties, the cumulative percentages will be used to determine class ranking. Advisement, Student Aides, YMS/MES Teacher Aides, and Work Study Programs will be graded with pass/fail and will not be figured into GPA.

**GRADING CRITERIA:** For recording grades the symbols A, B, C, D, and F will be used. The criterion for each of these symbols is as follows:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| A+ = 100-98 | A = 97-94 | A- = 93-90 |
| B+ = 89-87 | B = 86-83 | B- = 82-80 |
| C+ = 79-77 | C = 76-73 | C- = 72-70 |
| D+ = 69 | D = 68-67 | D- = 66-65 |
| F = Below 65 | | |

**YHS teachers are required to input 2 standard based assessment tasks that link directly to the learning outcomes weekly. Grades must be in ALMA by 9:00 am on Friday of each week.**

**ACADEMIC LETTERING and GRADUATION HONOR RECOGNITION:**

- **Academic Lettering (Yearly Award)**
  - Earned annually by maintaining a 3.5 or above annual cumulative GPA

- 3.5-3.99 “Y” Honor Roll Letter
- 4.0 or above – “Y” Excellence letter
- Additional years of annual cumulative GPA with the above requirements recognized by a bar.

- **Graduation Recognition Medals**
  - Gold Medal – 4.0 and above annual cumulative GPA for 4 years consecutively
  - Honor’s Cords
    - Gold: Magna Cum Laude – 4.0 and above cumulative career GPA
    - Gold and Silver: Summa Cum Laude – 3.8-3.99 cumulative career GPA
    - Silver: Summa Cum Laude – 3.5-3.79 cumulative career GPA
- **Academic Awards**
  - Principal’s List – Students that receive a semester GPA of 4.0 or higher
  - Dean’s List – Students that receive a semester GPA of 3.5 – 3.9
  - Superintendent’s Honor List
    - Students that have maintained a GPA of 4.0 or higher for eight consecutive semesters.

**TESTING AND ASSESSMENTS (Graduation Requirements):**

- **NWEA-MAP** testing is designed to measure the growth in student achievement over time. This test is administered on a regular basis in the fall and spring. It enables us to find out whether an individual student or an entire grade level is making satisfactory progress in basic skills areas of Math, Reading and Science.
- **PSAT 8/9**: The PSAT 8/9 tests the same skills and knowledge as the SAT, PSAT/NMSQT, and PSAT 10—in a way that makes sense for eighth and ninth graders. It measures what they’re already learning, shows them whether they’re on track for college, and lets them know where they need the most improvement. That means students have time to tackle these areas long before they take the SAT.
- **PSAT 10**: Provides students with information they need to prepare for future academic and career success. It also provides an estimated range of their SAT assessment composite scores.
- **SCHOLASTIC APTITUDE TEST (SAT)**: A college admissions test that measures developed verbal and mathematical reasoning abilities related to successful performance in college.
- **CMAS** (**Colorado Measures of Academic Success:** Science assessment for juniors.
- **ARMED SERVICES VOCATIONAL APTITUDE BATTERY (ASVAB**): ASVAB is a multi-aptitude test battery that helps a student identify his/her own different abilities. The score allows him/her to compare his/her test performance to that of other students at a particular grade level. It matches student interests, abilities, and preferences with careers. The assessment is required for all YHS juniors at no cost.
- **ACCUPLACER**: The purpose of ACCUPLACER tests is to provide students with useful information about their academic skills in math, English, and reading. The results of the assessment, in conjunction with your academic background, goals, and interests, are used by academic advisors and counselors to determine your course selection. This assessment is required for students wishing to enroll in concurrent enrollment classes.
- **ACCESS**: English language proficiency assessment administered to Kindergarten through 12th grade students who have been identified as English language learners (ELLs). It is given annually in WIDA

Consortium member states to monitor students' progress in acquiring academic English and helps us evaluate and plan our ESL program services. A goal of all ELL students is to understand and use academic English while meeting grade level content standards. It's the teacher's responsibility to help the students access the class content so students can participate in class at any English proficiency level. This practice improves students' English comprehension and oral language skills which will improve their performance and content mastery in class and their performance on the ACCESS test.

**GRADING/ASSESSMENT SYSTEMS** (Exemption Procedure and Information to Parents/Guardians)
In accordance with the accompanying policy, the parent/guardian of a student enrolled in the district may request that his or her child be exempt from participating in one or more state assessments.

1. The request for exemption must be submitted in writing to the school principal.
2. The parent/guardian will not be required to state the reason for asking for the exemption.
3. The request for exemption may apply to all or specific state assessments administered to the student during the school year.
4. A request for exemption will be valid for one school year. Requests for exemption from state assessments in subsequent school years require a new written request.
5. Parents/guardians are encouraged to submit their request for exemption at the earliest possible date each school year so that the district may plan accordingly.

**Information to parents/guardians**
Each school year at the earliest possible time, the district shall distribute information to students' parents/guardians regarding the state and district assessments that the district will administer that year. This information shall also be posted on the district's website.

The district shall also distribute a district assessment calendar to students' parents/guardians at the earliest possible time each school year, and shall post the calendar on the district's website. At a minimum, the district assessment calendar shall include:

- an estimate of the testing hours required on each testing day; and
- whether the assessment is required by federal and/or state law or was selected by the district.

**Policy: IKA**
**GRADING/ASSESSMENT SYSTEMS**
The Board believes that students will respond more positively to the opportunity for success than to the threat of failure. The district shall seek, therefore, in its instructional program to make achievement both recognizable and possible for students. It shall emphasize achievement in its processes of evaluating student performance.
**State assessment system**
State and federal law require district students to take standardized assessments in the instructional areas of English language arts, math and science. State law also requires students to take standardized assessments in the instructional area of social studies. Accordingly, the district shall administer standardized assessments pursuant to these state and federal legal requirements.

State law also requires the district to adopt policies and/or procedures concerning the use of pencil and paper on the computerized portion of state assessments; parent requests to excuse their children from taking state assessments; and the district's assessment calendar. This policy and its accompanying regulation represent the district's processes to address these requirements.
**1. Pencil and paper testing option**
The district may determine that a specific classroom or school within the district will use pencil and paper to complete the computerized portions of a state assessment. Factors that will be considered in making this determination include:

- the technological capacity and resources of the particular school/classroom;
- students' previous experience with computerized and written assessments;
- whether the instructional methodology of the particular school/classroom is consistent with the use of computerized assessments or written assessments; and
- the logistics of administering the state assessment in different formats at a particular school or schools.

Prior to making this determination, the superintendent or designee shall consult with the school principal(s) affected by this determination as well as parents/guardians of students enrolled in the district.
For students with disabilities, the use of pencil and paper instead of a computer to complete a state assessment shall be determined by the student's Individualized Education Program (IEP) team or Section 504 team, in accordance with applicable law.

**2. Parent/guardian request for exemption**

A parent/guardian who wishes to exempt his or her child from a particular state assessment or assessments shall make this request in accordance with this policy's accompanying regulation.
In accordance with state law, the district shall not impose a negative consequence upon a student whose parent/guardian has requested an exemption from a state assessment or assessments.
This policy's exemption process shall apply only to state assessments administered pursuant to C.R.S. 22-7-1006.3 and shall not apply to district or classroom assessments.

**3. Sharing of student state assessment results with parents/guardians**

The Colorado Department of Education is required to provide diagnostic academic growth information for each student enrolled in the district and for each public school in the district based on the state assessment results for the preceding school years.
Appropriate school personnel, including those who work directly with the student, shall have access to the student's state assessment results and longitudinal academic growth information and shall share with and explain that information to the student's parent/guardian.

**District assessment system**

In addition to the state assessment system, the district has developed a comprehensive assessment system that:

- challenges students to think critically, apply what they have learned and gives them the opportunity to demonstrate their skills and knowledge;
- includes "early warning" features that allow problems to be diagnosed promptly to let students, teachers and parents/guardians know that extra effort is necessary;
- provides reliable and valid information on student and school performance to educators, parents/guardians and employers; and
- provides timely and useful data for instructional improvement and improved student learning, including feedback useful in determining whether the curriculum is aligned with the district's academic standards.

In accordance with applicable law, the district's assessment system shall accommodate students with disabilities and English language learners.

The district's assessment results, in combination with state assessment results, will be used as the measurement of student achievement. It is believed these results will provide reliable and valid information about student progress on the district's academic standards.

**Additional assessment information for parents/guardians**

In accordance with state law and this policy's accompanying regulation, the district shall distribute an assessment calendar and related information to parents/guardians on an annual basis to inform them about the state and district assessments that the district plans to administer during the school year.

**Classroom assessment system**

Classroom assessment practices shall be aligned with the district's academic standards and assessment program. Assessment is an integral part of the teaching and learning process that should occur continuously in the classroom. The primary purpose of classroom assessment shall be to enable teachers to make instructional decisions for students on a continual basis.
Students are encouraged to engage in informal self-assessments as they study and attempt to solve problems,

monitor their own progress and improve their learning.

**Grading system**

The administration and professional staff shall devise grading system for evaluating and recording student progress and to measure student performance in conjunction with the district's academic standards. The records and reports of individual students shall be kept in a form which will be meaningful to parents/guardians as well as teachers. The grading system shall be uniform district wide at comparable grade levels. Peer grading of student assignments and classroom assessments is permissible. The intent of this practice is to teach material again in a new context and to show students how to assist and respect fellow students.

The Board shall approve the grading, reporting and assessment systems as developed by the professional staff, upon recommendation of the superintendent.

The Board recognizes that any grading and/or assessment system, however effective, is subjective in nature but urges all professional staff members to conduct student evaluations as objectively as possible.

# ATTENDANCE INFORMATION (JH)

One criteria of a student's success in school is regular and punctual attendance. Frequent absences may lead to poor academic work, lack of social development and possible academic failure. Regular attendance is of utmost importance for school interest, social adjustment and scholastic achievement. No single factor may interfere with a student's progress more quickly than frequent tardiness or absence.

According to state law, it is the obligation of every parent/guardian to ensure that every child under his/her care and supervision receives adequate education and training and, if of compulsory attendance age, attends school.

Continuity in the learning process and social adaptation is seriously disrupted by excessive absences. In most situations, the work missed cannot be made up adequately. Students who have good attendance generally achieve higher grades, enjoy school more and are more employable after leaving school. For at least these reasons, the Board believes that a student must satisfy two basic requirements in order to earn full class credit: (1) satisfy all academic requirements and (2) exhibit good attendance habits as stated in this policy.

**IMPORTANT:** Check **OUT**, in the office whenever you leave the building and **IN** when you return-if you do not, absences will be unexcused.

**REPORTING ABSENCES:** Parents/guardians should call the High School Office (848-5488) by 9:00 AM to excuse an absence for their son or daughter. All absences not reported within 24 hours will remain permanently unexcused.

Procedures must be followed for excusing students for appointments and school programs. For appointments, please call the office prior to date/time of appointment and an early dismissal pass will be provided. For Morris Elementary and YMS programs, only students with immediate family members may attend, must have a passing grade in class missed, immediately return to class after performance, and have prior signed permission form.

Reminder - only a parent/guardian may excuse your absences from class. Please be aware that lying or giving false information to an YHS employee may result in disciplinary action.

**EXCUSED ABSENCES:** The following shall be considered excused absences:

- A student who is temporarily ill or injured or whose absence is approved by the administrator of the school of attendance on a prearranged basis. Prearranged absences shall be approved for appointments or circumstances of a serious nature only which cannot be taken care of outside of school hours.
- A student who is absent for an extended period due to physical, mental or emotional disability.
- A student who is pursuing a work-study program under the supervision of the school.

- A student who is attending any school-sponsored activity or activities of an educational nature with advance approval by the administration.
- A student who is suspended or expelled.

- Other prearranged absences when approved by building administration.

- After the 7th excused absence, a physician's note or other documentation of a serious nature only will be needed or the absence is unexcused.

This district/building may require suitable proof regarding the above exceptions, including written statements from medical sources. A physician's note does not automatically excuse an absence and final determination of absence classification rests with building administration.

If a student is in out-of-home placement (as that term is defined by C.R.S. 22-32-138 (1)(e)), absences due to court appearances and participation in court-ordered activities shall be excused. The student's assigned social worker shall verify the student's absence was for a court appearance or court-ordered activity.

**ATTENDANCE (CON'T)**

**UNEXCUSED ABSENCES:** An unexcused absence is defined as an absence that is not covered by one of the foregoing exceptions. Each unexcused absence shall be entered on the student's record. The parents/guardians of the student receiving an unexcused absence shall be notified orally or in writing by the district of the unexcused absence.

In accordance with law, the district may impose appropriate penalties that relate directly to classes missed while unexcused. Penalties may include a warning, school detention or in-school suspension. Academic penalties, out-of-school suspensions or expulsion shall not be imposed for any unexcused absence.

The administration shall develop procedures to implement appropriate penalties. The school administration shall consider the correlation between course failure, truancy and a student dropping out of school in developing these procedures and shall implement research-based strategies to re-engage students with a high number of unexcused absences.

Students and parents/guardians may petition the Board of Education for exceptions to this policy provided that no exception shall be sustained if the student fails to abide by all requirements imposed by the Board as conditions for granting any such exception.

The maximum number of unexcused absences a student may incur before judicial proceedings are initiated to enforce compulsory attendance is four days during any month or 10 days during any calendar year or school year.

Absences not excused by a parent/guardian within 24 hours will remain unexcused.

Students may lose credit after four (4) unexcused absences in a class. Any third tardy in a class will equate to an unexcused absence. The only tardies exempt will be when a doctor's note is provided. After 10 minutes the tardy becomes an unexcused absence.

Criteria to reinstate loss of credit due to excessive unexcused absences follow:

- From the date that the school notifies parents of two unexcused absences, the student must attend all classes, unless excused by a doctor's note or pre-excused by admin; and
- Student must not miss any further assignments; and
- The student must pass the applicable class with a grade C or better to show proficiency

**Chronic absenteeism**

When a student has an excessive number of absences, these absences negatively impact the student's academic success. For this reason, a student who has 16 total absences in a school year (eight per semester), whether the absences are excused or unexcused, may be identified as "chronically absent" by the principal or designee. Absences due to suspension or expulsion shall not be counted in the total number of absences considered for purposes of identifying a student as "chronically absent."

If a student is identified as "chronically absent," the principal or designee shall develop a plan to improve the student's attendance. The plan shall include best practices and research-based strategies to address the reasons for the student's chronic absenteeism. When practicable, the student's parent/guardian shall participate in the development of the plan.

Nothing herein shall require the principal or designee to identify a student as "chronically absent" prior to declaring the student as a "habitual truant" and pursuing court proceedings against the student and his or her parents/guardians to compel the student's attendance in accordance with state law.

**ACTIVITY ABSENCE:** Activity absences are defined as school related events, such as athletics, band, choir, organizations, and general course field trips. A student must:

- Attend ALL CLASSES prior to the departure of an activity to be eligible for participation
- Attend ALL CLASSES after lunch to be eligible for practice.
- Get approval from the athletic director to participate in an activity (practice or event) the day of an appointment or other reason throughout the day
- Meet this attendance expectation on Friday to be eligible for Saturday activities, extenuating circumstances will be dealt with at the discretion of administration
- Meet this attendance expectation on Thursday to be eligible for Friday activities when school in not in session. If a student misses a class on Thursday prior to a Friday event, they are not eligible to compete in that event. Students must attend Friday competitions, without participating, to gain eligibility for a Saturday contest.

**TARDY:** A student is tardy at YHS when he/she is not in the classroom and ready to begin work when the tardy bell rings. A student who comes to class and then leaves to get items he/she forgot and returns after the bell is tardy. Third (3rd) tardies will be listed as an unexcused absence in Alma. In an unavoidable situation, a student detained by another teacher or administrator shall not be considered tardy provided that the teacher or administrator gives the student a pass to enter the next class. After 10 minutes, the tardy is an unexcused absence.

**Tardiness**

Tardiness is defined as the appearance of a student without proper excuse after the scheduled time that a class begins. Because of the disruptive nature of tardiness and the detrimental effect upon the rights of the non-tardy student to uninterrupted learning, appropriate penalties may be imposed for excessive tardiness. Parents/guardians shall be notified of all penalties regarding tardiness.

**MAKE-UP WORK**: Make-up work shall be provided for any class in which a student has an excused absence unless otherwise determined by the building administrator. It is the responsibility of the student to pick up any make-up assignments permitted on the day returning to class. There shall be two days allowed to turn in make-up work, i.e. if a student is absent on Tuesday, make-up work will be picked up on Wednesday and due on Thursday. If students miss multiple days due to illness or extenuating circumstances, a team meeting with the student, teachers, and administrator will determine an appropriate plan for make-up work.

- Students with an excused absence will receive 100% academic credit of the value of their work.
- Students with out-of-school suspension will be required to make-up missed work for 70% academic credit of the value of their work.
- Homework request: Parents may request homework after absences from classes.

Make-up work shall be allowed following an unexcused absence or following a student's suspension from school with the goal of providing the student an opportunity to keep up with the class and an incentive to attend school. This work may receive full or partial credit to the extent possible as determined by the building administrator.

Unless otherwise permitted by the building administrator, make-up work shall not be provided during a student's expulsion. Rather, the district shall offer alternative education services to the expelled student in accordance with state law. The district shall determine the amount of credit the expelled student will receive for work completed during any alternative education program.

**INCOMPLETE WORK:**

If excused absences occur at the end of the 1st semester, the student will be given an incomplete and must make arrangements with the building administration to make up work. If finals are missed at the end of the 2nd semester due to a documented EMERGENCY ONLY, arrangements must be made with building administration to make up the work no later than 3 days after the end of the school year. Grades will be listed as an incomplete until the teacher can grade the work.

## EXTRA CURRICULAR & ATHLETIC OPPORTUNITIES

YHS athletics and activities provide a valuable opportunity for students to become involved and participate in a unique environment. Discipline, teamwork, success, and failure are all part of participation which can help develop self-confidence, a sense of belonging to a positive school group and self-discipline that can last a lifetime. All students participating in activities, events, contests that require travel or time missed from their regular classes must meet eligibility requirements in order to participate. Activities in one class will not take priority over expectations in another class.

**ORGANIZATIONS & CLUBS - ACTIVITY GROUPS & SPONSORS:**

- **Student Council:** Julia Mekelburg, Sponsor **-** This group coordinates building level activities.
- **Career & Technical Organizations** – the following member organizations are based on co-curricular activities that focus on community outreach and curricular competitive events competing locally, state & nationally.
    - Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) – Mariah Korf
    - Future Farmers of America (FFA) – Kristina Lebsock
    - Family, Career, Community Leaders of America (FCCLA) – Tara Lubbers
- **Communications**:
    - Yearbook Class – Mariah Korf - This group creates and produces our yearbooks
- **Clubs**:
    - Science Club – Amy Melby
    - Art Club – Kandy Galles
    - Mock Trial – DJ Hass

**ATHLETICS**: Please refer to the Yuma High School Activities Handbook, 2026-2027
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- **FALL SPORTS OFFERED**: Football, Volleyball, Softball, Boys and Girls Cross Country, Boys Golf, Spirit Squad
- **WINTER SPORTS**: Boys and Girls Basketball, Boys and Girls Wrestling, Spirit Squad,
- **SPRING SPORTS**: Boys and Girls Track, Baseball, Girls Golf

**ELIGIBILITY FOR ALL ATHLETICS/ACTIVITIES (Extra-curricular / Co-Curricular and Clubs)**

The eligibility list is compiled and distributed to teachers and coaches on Friday morning of each week, and will go into effect the following Monday. **Eligibility runs from Monday to Sunday**. There are no exceptions to the eligibility guidelines. **YHS Eligibility requirements:** Point System: 1 point for a D, 2 points for an F
Ineligible: 4 pts. or more; Academic probation: 6 pts. or more

A student is ineligible for all contests if they have accrued 4 pts. or more. However, they may continue to practice with the team. If a student has accrued 6 pts or more, they are ineligible and placed on

academic probation. If a student is on Academic probation for three consecutive weeks, the student will be dropped from the active roster and may not participate in practices or competition until further review by the Athletic Director and Head Coach of the sport

## Extracurricular Activity Eligibility (JJJ)

### Definitions

For purposes of this policy, the following definitions apply:

- "Activity" means any extracurricular or interscholastic activity including but not limited to any academic, artistic, athletic, recreational or other related activity offered by a public school.
- "School of attendance" means the school in which a student is enrolled and attends classes.
- "District of residence" means the school district in which a student resides.
- "District of attendance" means the school district in which a student is enrolled and attends classes if the student does not attend school in his or her district of residence. For a homeschooled student, the district of attendance shall be determined in accordance with C.R.S. 22-33-104.5 (6).
- "School of participation" means a school in which the student participates in an activity but is not the student's school of attendance.

### Participation in activities

Students meeting eligibility requirements may participate in activities at their school of attendance. Subject to the same eligibility requirements and in accordance with this policy and applicable law, the district shall allow students enrolled in any school (including charter schools, online education programs, nonpublic schools and nonpublic home-based educational programs) to participate on an equal basis in any activity offered by the district that is not offered at a student's school of attendance.

If an activity is not available at a student's school of attendance, the student may participate at another public school in the district of attendance or district of residence.

If an activity is not offered at any public school in the district of attendance or the district of residence, the student may seek to participate in a contiguous school district or at the nearest public school that offers the activity even if the school is not in a contiguous school district.

Regardless of whether the student seeks to participate in an activity at a public school in the district of attendance, district of residence, contiguous district or other district, the district in which the student seeks to participate shall choose the school of participation.

In choosing a school of participation, the district shall seek to maximize all students' opportunities to participate in activities and shall consider certain factors, including but not limited to:

- which public school of the district offers the most activities in which the student wishes to participate;
- which public school or schools are nearest to the student's residence;
- the preferences of the student's parents/guardians; and
- such issues as may be presented for the district's consideration by a statewide high school activities association.

A student may participate in activities at more than one school of participation during the same school year only if the original school of participation does not offer an activity in which the student wishes to participate. This limitation applies regardless of whether the student participates in activities at a public or nonpublic school. Any additional school(s) of participation shall be chosen by the district in accordance with this policy.

With regard to athletic teams, the school of participation may reserve slots for up to twice the number of starting positions on the team at each level of competition for students enrolled in the district. With regard to individual athletic activities, the school of participation may reserve slots for up to half the total number of team members at each level of competition for students enrolled in the district.

**Eligibility requirements**

Eligibility requirements in the bylaws of the Colorado High School Activities Association (CHSAA) shall be observed by students at the high school level. Additional eligibility requirements may be imposed by the district for both high school and middle school students. Such eligibility requirements may include, but not be limited to, good citizenship, acceptable academic standing, parental permission and good health (sports only).

To participate in activities at a school of attendance, a student shall meet all of the requirements imposed by the school of attendance.

To participate in activities at a school of participation students must comply with:

- All eligibility requirements imposed by the school of participation.
- The same responsibilities and standards of behavior, including related classroom and practice requirements that apply to enrolled students.

Student participation in an activity through any amateur association or league that is not a member of CHSAA shall not prevent the student from participating or affect eligibility to participate in the same activity at any school as long as the student has the express written permission of the principal at the school of participation, the student's class attendance is not compromised and the student is in good academic standing.

If a student has not met all of the eligibility requirements or if the student would have become ineligible to participate at a school, the student cannot gain or regain eligibility by applying to participate in activities at another school. Any penalties assessed to the student must first be paid at the school of attendance or participation before regaining eligibility to participate at another school.

**Transfer students**

If a student transfers enrollment to another school without an accompanying change of domicile by the student's parent/guardian, the student's eligibility to participate is determined by the district's eligibility requirements, CHSAA bylaws and applicable law.

**Participation fee**

The district may charge non enrolled students up to 150% of the fee charged enrolled students. The district cannot charge a participation fee to any student in out-of-home placement, as that term is defined by C.R.S. 22-32-138 (1)(e).

**Appeal**

Any student who is sanctioned or is found by the school, school district or CHSAA to be ineligible to participate in any extracurricular activity may appeal the sanction or finding. Students may not appeal sanctions for unsportsmanlike conduct or ejection from the activity.

# STUDENT CONDUCT/SAFETY EXPECTATIONS

**RESPECT YOURSELF, RESPECT OTHERS, RESPECT LEARNING, RESPECT PROPERTY**
**Showing respect means:**

- To speak, listen, and act respectfully to all staff members and fellow classmates.
- To arrive at class on time, sit in your assigned seat, with books and materials, and be ready to learn.
- Complete all assigned class work and homework on time and to the best of your ability.
- Keep food and drinks in the commons, unless permission has been given.
- Any public display of affection beyond hand holding is not permitted.
- Follow Student Network and Internet Use Authorization Form.
- **PROHIBITED ARTICLES:** Problems may arise when students bring articles to school which are hazardous to the safety of others or interfere with the instructional process. Prohibited items include, but are not limited to weapons, tobacco, drugs, alcohol, cigarette lighters, other lighters, explosives, animals, skateboards used on school grounds, electronic games, laser lights, noise makers, whistles, or any other article that may disrupt the learning environment. Such items may be confiscated and parents called to pick up items from the office.

**Code of Conduct: JICDA**

In accordance with applicable law and Board policy concerning student suspensions, expulsions and other disciplinary interventions, the principal or designee may suspend or recommend expulsion of a student who engages in one or more of the following activities while in school buildings, on district property, when being transported in vehicles dispatched by the district or one of its schools, during a school -sponsored or district-sponsored activity or event and off district property when the conduct has a nexus to school or any district curricular or non-curricular event.

- Causing or attempting to cause damage to district property or stealing or attempting to steal district property.
- Causing or attempting to cause damage to private property or stealing or attempting to steal private property.
- Willful destruction or defacing of district property.
- Commission of any act which if committed by an adult would be robbery or assault as defined by state law.
- Committing extortion, coercion or blackmail, i.e., obtaining money or other objects of value from an unwilling person or forcing an individual to act through the use of force or threat of force.
- Engaging in verbal abuse, i.e., name calling, ethnic or racial slurs, either orally or in writing or derogatory statements addressed publicly to an individual or a group that precipitate disruption of the district or school program or incite violence.
- Engaging in "hazing" activities, i.e., forcing prolonged physical activity, forcing excessive consumption of any substance, forcing prolonged deprivation of sleep, food, or drink, or any

other behavior which recklessly endangers the health or safety of an individual for purposes of initiation into any student group.

- Violation of the Board´s policy on bullying prevention and education.
- Violation of criminal law which has an effect on the district or on the general safety or welfare of students or staff.
- Violation of any Board policy or regulations, or established school rules.
- Violation of the Board´s policy on weapons in the schools. Expulsion shall be mandatory for bringing or possessing a firearm, in accordance with federal law.
- Violation of the Board´s policy on student conduct involving drugs and alcohol.
- Violation of the Board´s violent and aggressive behavior policy.
- Violation of the Board´s tobacco-free schools policy.
- Violation of the Board´s policies prohibiting sexual or other harassment.
- Violation of the Board´s policy on nondiscrimination.
- Violation of the Board´s dress code policy.
- Violation of the Board´s policy on gangs and gang-like activity.
- Throwing objects, unless part of a supervised school activity, that can or do cause bodily injury or damage to property.
- Directing profanity, vulgar language or obscene gestures toward other students, school personnel or others.
- Lying or giving false information, either verbally or in writing, to a district employee.
- Engaging in scholastic dishonesty, which includes but is not limited to cheating on a test, plagiarism or unauthorized collaboration with another person in preparing written work.
- Making a false accusation of criminal activity against a district employee to law enforcement or to the district.
- Behavior on or off school property that is detrimental to the welfare or safety of other students or school personnel, including behavior that creates a threat of physical harm to the student exhibiting the behavior or to one or more other students.
- Repeated interference with the district´s ability to provide educational opportunities to other students.
- Continued willful disobedience or open and persistent defiance of proper authority including deliberate refusal to obey a member of the district staff.

**Student Use of Cell Phones and Other Personal Technology Devices (JICJ):**

The Board of Education believes personal technology devices may be useful tools for students in the educational environment and can play a vital communication role during emergency situations. However, use of personal technology devices in school situations must be regulated to assure that the use of such devices does not disrupt or interfere with the educational process or school operations. Therefore, students may only use PTDs on district property, on a district vehicle or at a district or school-sponsored activity or event in accordance with this policy.

For purposes of this policy, "personal technology device" (PTD) includes any privately-owned portable technology device, including but not limited to cell phones, pagers, tablets, laptops, cameras, audio and/or video recorders and players, and all other hand-held electronic communication and data storage devices.

Students may use PTDs as a designated tool for learning if authorized by the student´s teacher. It is the student´s responsibility to ensure that the PTD is turned off or placed in silent mode during unauthorized times.

Student use of PTDs with cameras and/or video recording capabilities is prohibited in locker rooms, bathrooms or any other location where such use could violate another person´s reasonable expectation of privacy. This also includes, but is not limited to, video/audio recording conversations with administrators, counselors, teachers, support services staff, and coaches at any school building or school sponsored event.

Students shall not use PTDs to engage in, promote or facilitate any other conduct that violates the student code of conduct, other Board policies or regulations, or state or federal law.

Violation of this policy or any other district, school or classroom rule or regulation on student use of PTDs may result in disciplinary measures and/or temporary confiscation of the PTD. Confiscated devices shall be returned to the student only after a conference with the parent/guardian, student and school personnel. If the building principal or designee believes a student´s possession or use of a PTD may involve a violation of the law, the building principal or designee may also refer the matter to law enforcement.

The district shall not be responsible for loss, theft or destruction of PTDs brought onto school or district property or while the student is attending district or school-sponsored activities or events.

**Electronic devices including CELL PHONES High School Policy:**.

All YHS students will be issued a chromebook to be used at school and at home for educational purposes. This is an accompanying regulation to the district policy **(JICJ):** Any requests to utilize PTD must be presented to building administration prior to personal device use. All cell phones must be turned into designated pouch in each classroom. Also, cell phones may not be used outside of the classroom during instructional time. For example, leaving for the restroom, locker, library, or any other location outside of the classroom cell phone must not be used. Students are permitted to use cell phones during lunch and passing periods. This is a safety issue – i.e. safety for learning (examples: distraction from studies/classroom; dishonesty because makes cheating easier); safety for privacy (examples: cyber-bullying, sexting, and infringement of privacy).

**Consequences**: First offense: Device will be confiscated and parent/guardian must arrange for phone to be returned. Student will have 3 days in house lunch detention, failure to show will be an in-school suspension. Second offense, 1 day in-school suspension and parent/guardian must arrange for phone to be returned. Third and all further occurrences will be 1 day out of school suspension and parent/guardian must arrange for phone to be returned. Any pictures or videos taken will be an automatic suspension and may be a referral to law enforcement.

**TECHNOLOGY ETIQUETTE:**

- If you wouldn't say something to someone's face, you shouldn't text it, IM it or post it.
- Use social networks' privacy setting so only your friends can see your stuff.
- Do not open an email from a stranger – it may contain viruses that can harm a computer.
- Do not send pictures to strangers or view pictures that strangers send to you.
- Passwords should be kept private.
- People aren't necessarily who they say they are in cyberspace.
- Do not agree to meet a stranger anywhere.
- There is no such thing as "private" online. Anything posted can be seen by or forwarded to strangers, college admissions officers, and potential employers.
- Do not send embarrassing or cruel posts, no hate speech or groups, no compromising pictures that you would not want the whole world to see.
- Online cheating is still cheating. Flagging inappropriate content is not tattling – it's keeping the Web a place where people want to hang out and where they can feel safe.
- When looking at information online, ask yourself "Who posted this, and why?"
- You should also think critically about your own posts. "Why am I posting this? Who will see it? Could it be misunderstood?"
- Just as you learn not to walk down dark alleys alone at night you need to know how to avoid creepy places online. And if you do venture there, unpleasant content or talk should get trashed immediately.

**STUDENT DRESS CODE (JICA):** A safe and disciplined learning environment is essential to a quality educational program. District-wide standards on student attire are intended to help students concentrate on schoolwork, reduce discipline problems, and improve school order and safety. The Board recognizes that students have a right to express themselves through dress and personal appearance; however, students shall not wear apparel that is deemed disruptive or potentially disruptive to the classroom environment or to the maintenance of a safe and orderly school. Clothes worn to school should be clean, in good taste and appropriate for classroom attire. The determining factor on appropriate dress and appearance will be at the discretion of teachers and administrators.

Any student deemed in violation of the dress code shall be required to change into appropriate clothing or make arrangements to have appropriate clothing brought to school immediately. In this case, there shall be no further penalty.

If the student cannot promptly obtain appropriate clothing, on the first offense, the student shall be given a written warning and an administrator shall notify the student's parents/guardians. On the second offense, the student shall be placed on in-school suspension. On the third offense, the student may be subject to suspension or other disciplinary action in accordance with Board policy concerning student suspensions, expulsions, and other disciplinary interventions.

**Unacceptable Items:**

The following items are deemed disruptive to the classroom environment or to the maintenance of a safe and orderly school and are not acceptable in school buildings, on school grounds, or at school activities:

1. Shorts, dresses, skirts or other similar clothing at the **discretion of YHS Staff.**
2. Sunglasses and/or hats/head coverings worn inside the building during school day.

3. Inappropriately sheer, tight or low-cut clothing (e.g., midriffs, halter tops, backless clothing, tube tops, garments made of fishnet, mesh, or similar material, muscle tops, etc.) that bare or expose traditionally private parts of the body including, but not limited to, the stomach, buttocks, back and breasts.
4. Tank tops or other similar clothing with straps narrower than 1.5 inches in width.
5. Any clothing, paraphernalia, grooming, jewelry, hair coloring, accessories, or body adornments that are or contain any advertisement, symbols, words, slogans, patches, or pictures that:
    - Refer to drugs, tobacco, alcohol
    - Are of a sexual nature
    - By virtue of color, arrangement, trademark, or other attribute denote membership in gangs which advocate drug use, violence, or disruptive behavior
    - Are obscene, profane, vulgar, lewd, or legally libelous
    - Threaten the safety or welfare of any person
    - Promote any activity prohibited by the student code of conduct
    - Otherwise disrupt the teaching-learning process

**Exceptions:**
Appropriate athletic clothing may be worn in physical education classes. Clothing normally worn when participating in school-sponsored extracurricular or sports activities (such as cheerleading uniforms and the like) may be worn to school when approved by the sponsor or coach.

Building principals, in conjunction with the school accountability committee, may develop and adopt school-specific dress codes that are consistent with this policy.

Yuma High School adoptions:

- Foot attire shall be worn at all times. Bedroom slippers are not allowed
- Hazardous apparel or jewelry, such as chains of any length, worn or connected, spiked belts, wrist bands, rings, coats, collars, or other items which may injure the wearer or someone else.
- Pants and jeans must ride at hips or higher and in good repair
- No “pajama” type pants

**ACADEMIC INTEGRITY:** Academic integrity is an essential element of promoting academic excellence.

**Cheating includes, but is not limited to, the following examples:**
- Taking, stealing, and/or using an assessment from someone else and submitting it as one’s own
- Allowing another to take and/or use an assessment to submit as his/her own
- Representing as one’s own the work or words of a parent, sibling, friend, or anyone else
- Unauthorized use of teacher test materials, answer sheets, computer files, or grading programs.
- Using any type of “crib/cliff notes” on your person, an object, or programmed within graphing calculators, palm pilots, cell phones, or other electronic devices without teacher permission.
- Receiving answers for assignments or exams from any unauthorized source.
- Working on assignments with others when not authorized by the instructor
- Giving answers to another student for an assignment or exam

**Dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, the following examples**:

- Agreeing with other students to commit academic dishonesty
- Falsification of results from research or laboratory experiments
- Written or oral presentation of results from which research was never performed

**Plagiarism includes, but is not limited to the following examples:**

- Directly quoting or paraphrasing all or part of another's written or spoken words without notes or documentation within the body of a work
- Presenting an idea, theory, or formula originated by another person as the original work of the person submitting that work
- Purchasing or receiving in any other manner a term paper or other assignment that is the work of another person and submitting that assignment as the student's own work
- Repeating information, such as statistics or demographics, which is not common knowledge and which was originally compiled by another person

**Self-Plagiarism:** Self-plagiarism is recycling a paper written earlier for another class—for example using a history or psychology paper for an English class (also known as "double-dipping"). Re-using a paper or "double-dipping" is inappropriate and not acceptable for any course. Student work should be all current, original writing, and research so that students can demonstrate their writing, thinking, and research skills.

**Students enrolled in post-secondary classes must also meet the Academic Integrity Procedure of the Institution.**

**Consequences of cheating/academic dishonesty/Plagiarism:** First offense: Teacher discusses with administration – teacher consequence: no credit. Second offense: ISS (1-3 Days): no credit.
Third offense: OSS (1-3 Days): No credit.

**LUNCH PROCEDURES:** Our cafeteria/commons is a clean, friendly place. Place trash in the proper containers. Do not cut in line. Students are not allowed in the academic hallways during lunch. **YHS is an open campus during the lunch period only, and is considered closed at all other times.** Leaving campus at lunch is a privilege, not a right, and if misused, students will have this privilege removed and may be suspended. **ALL STUDENTS** are provided a free breakfast and lunch.

**CONDUCT AT EVENTS/GAMES/DANCES**: Students are expected to conduct themselves at games, assemblies, and dances in conjunction with school rules. Students who do not follow established guidelines will be asked to leave without refund.

**Games:**

- Students should cheer ***for*** our team, not against the opponents or the officials.
- The use of alcohol or drugs is not permitted. Any violators will be referred to law enforcement immediately, will be removed from the event and may be banned from further activities at YHS.
- Be mindful that high school athletics are played solely for the enjoyment of the game. Spectators are allowed to view the contests only in the role of support.
- Be the kind of fan who leaves the opposing crowd with a feeling of envy…envious of our enthusiasm and class.
- No noisemakers are permitted.
- If you are in attendance at games you should be in the stands watching, not loitering.

**Dances**:

- Admission – Guests will be admitted for dances only if they are the date of a current YHS student and must be registered with the office by deadline. LIMIT: One guest per YHS student.
- Dress – Proper dress attire will be designated by the sponsoring group and faculty members.
- Chaperones – Must be present at all school dances, and can include parents, faculty and administration.
- Positively NO use, consumption, possession, or the sale/trade of alcoholic beverages, drugs, or tobacco products. Any student suspected of use of these products will be detained by school officials, parent/guardians and law enforcement will be called. All school behavioral policies will be followed.
- Anyone leaving the dance will not be allowed to return.
- All regulations pertaining to student conduct and behavior while in school are in effect.
- A student may be forbidden to attend future dances at YHS if he/she or their date is guilty of a rule infraction.
- Weekly Eligibility policies will apply for all dances.

**TOBACCO FREE SCHOOLS (ADC):** To promote the general health, welfare and well-being of students and staff, smoking, chewing or any other use of any tobacco product by staff, students and members of the public is prohibited on all school property.

Possession of any tobacco product by students is also prohibited on school property.

For purposes of this policy, the following definitions apply:

"School property" means all property owned, leased, rented or otherwise used or contracted for by a school including but not limited to the following:

All indoor facilities and interior portions of any building or other structure used for children under the age of 18 for instruction, educational or library services, routine health care, daycare or early childhood development services, as well as for administration, support services, maintenance or storage. The term does not apply to buildings used primarily as residences, i.e., teacherages.

All school grounds over which the school exercises control including areas surrounding any building, playgrounds, athletic fields, recreation areas and parking areas.

All vehicles used by the district for transporting students, staff, visitors or other persons.

At a school sanctioned activity or event.

"Tobacco product" means:

Any product that contains nicotine or tobacco or is derived from tobacco and is intended to be ingested or inhaled by or applied to the skin of an individual, including but not limited to vapes, e-cigarettes, cigarettes, cigars, pipe tobacco, pouches, snuff and chewing tobacco;

Any electronic device that can be used to deliver nicotine to the person inhaling from the device, including but not limited to an electronic cigarette, cigar, cigarillo or pipe.

"Tobacco product" does not include any product that has been approved by the appropriate federal agency as a tobacco use cessation product.

"Use" means lighting, chewing, smoking, ingesting or application of any tobacco product.

Signs will be posted in prominent places on all school property to notify the public that smoking or other use of tobacco products is prohibited in accordance with state law and Board policy. This policy will be published in all employee and student handbooks, posted on bulletin boards and announced in staff meetings.

Any member of the general public considered by the superintendent or designee to be in violation of this policy will be instructed to leave school district property. Employees found to be in violation of this policy will be subject to appropriate disciplinary action.

Disciplinary measures for students who violate this policy will include in-house detention, revocation of privileges and exclusion from extracurricular activities. Repeated violations may result in suspension from school. In accordance with state law, no student will be expelled solely for tobacco use.

Colorado State Law requires all Colorado public school grounds to be Tobacco Free Zones. School districts are required to ban all tobacco products or facsimiles from their buildings and grounds and at school related functions. This ban applies to students, staff, parents, visitors and administration. Students who use or possess tobacco products on school grounds, school buses, or at any school functions are subject to disciplinary actions including referral to law enforcement.

**DRUG AND ALCOHOL INVOLVEMENT BY STUDENTS (JICH):**

Yuma School District-1 shall promote a healthy environment for students by providing education, support and decision making skills in regard to alcohol, drugs and other controlled substances and their abuse. In order to accomplish this goal, a cooperative effort must be made among the schools, parents/guardians, community and its agencies.

It shall be a violation of Board policy and considered to be behavior which is detrimental to the welfare or safety of other students or school personnel for any student to possess, use, sell, distribute or exchange or to be under the influence of alcohol, drugs or other controlled substances. The unlawful possession or use of alcohol or controlled substances is wrong and harmful to students.

For purposes of this policy, controlled substances include but are not limited to narcotic drugs, hallucinogenic or mind-altering drugs or substances, amphetamines, barbiturates, stimulants, depressants, marijuana, anabolic steroids, any other controlled substances as defined in law, or any prescription or nonprescription drug, medication, vitamin or other chemical substances not taken in accordance with Board policy and regulations on administering medications to students or the Board's policy on administration of medical marijuana to qualified students.

This policy also includes substances that are represented by or to the student to be any such controlled substance or what the student believes to be any such substance.

This policy shall apply to any student on district property, being transported in vehicles dispatched by the district or one of its schools, during a school-sponsored or district-sponsored activity or event, off school property when the conduct has a reasonable connection to school or any district curricular or

non-curricular event, or whose conduct at any time or place interferes with the operations of the district or the safety or welfare of students or employees.

Students violating this policy shall be subject to disciplinary sanctions which may include suspension and/or expulsion from school and referral for prosecution.

Disciplinary sanctions and interventions for violations of this policy shall be in accordance with this policy´s accompanying regulation.

Situations in which a student seeks counseling or information from a professional staff member for the purpose of overcoming substance abuse shall be handled on an individual basis depending upon the nature and particulars of the case. When appropriate, parents shall be involved and effort made to direct the substance abuser to sources of help.

The Board, in recognition that drug and alcohol abuse is a community problem, shall cooperate actively with law enforcement, social services or other agencies and organizations, parents/guardians and any other recognized community resources committed to reducing the incidents of illegal use of drugs and alcohol by school-aged youths.

Whenever possible in dealing with student problems associated with drug and alcohol abuse, school personnel shall provide parents/guardians and students with information concerning education and rehabilitation programs which are available.

Information provided to students and/or parents/guardians about community substance abuse treatment programs or other resources shall be accompanied by a disclaimer to clarify that the school district assumes no financial responsibility for the expense of drug or alcohol assessment or treatment provided by other agencies or groups unless otherwise required

**DRUG AND ALCOHOL INVOLVEMENT BY STUDENTS (CON'T)**

In accordance with the accompanying policy, the following procedures are established for addressing alcohol- or drug-related misconduct. These procedures will supplement and complement authority conferred elsewhere by Board policy and will not be deemed to limit or suspend such other authority.

**Use**

- When a student is suspected of use, the person having the suspicion shall notify the principal or designee. Notification must include reasons for such suspicion (observed use, unusual behavior, etc.). The principal or designee will conduct a check of the suspected student and collect data. This action shall comply with the Board policy on investigations and searches.
    - If information is not sufficient to warrant further action, the principal or designee may have a personal conference with the student expressing awareness and concern.
    - If information warrants, the student´s parent/guardian will be requested to attend a conference at school. The conference may include sharing the data collected, explaining consequences of involvement with drugs/alcohol, developing a plan of action, and offering the student´s parent or guardian general information and resources related to substance abuse.

- When necessary, emergency health and safety care will be provided and any procedural or disciplinary issues postponed until the student´s immediate needs are treated.

**Possession, distribution and exchange**

- Students who possess or are involved in any distribution or exchange of alcohol, drugs, other controlled substances or drug-containing or drug-related paraphernalia in violation of Board policy will be handled in the following manner:
  - A staff member who comes in contact with evidence and/or contraband shall notify the principal or designee as soon as possible.
  - A staff member who has reasonable cause to believe that a student possesses or is involved in any distribution or exchange of alcohol, any controlled substance or drug-containing or drug-related paraphernalia in violation of Board policy will request that the student accompany him or her to the principal or designee. If the student refuses, the staff member will notify the principal or designee as soon as possible.
  - The principal or designee will undertake investigation and search procedures in accordance with Board policy.
  - The principal or designee will place any evidence in an envelope or alternative container as necessary which will be sealed, dated and initialed by the individual who originally obtained the materials and by the principal or designee. The evidence then will be placed in the school safe or other secure location.
  - The principal or designee shall refer the student to appropriate law enforcement officials in accordance with applicable law. A mutual decision will be made as to retention of the contraband by the school or testing by the authorities.
  - If information warrants, the student´s parent/guardian will be requested to attend a conference at school. The conference may include sharing the data collected, explaining consequences of involvement with drugs/alcohol, developing a plan of action, and offering the parent or guardian general information and resources related to substance abuse.

**Sanctions and interventions**

Students are subject to disciplinary action up to and including suspension and expulsion for any single violation of the accompanying policy. Offenses and consequences for violations of the accompanying policy shall be cumulative for three calendar years. Offenses confirmed from schools prior to the student's enrollment in the district may count toward the cumulative total.

**Possession, use, and/or being under the influence**

**First offense**

- The student will be suspended from school for three days.
- A parent conference will be held.
- The principal or designee will attempt to develop with the student´s parent/guardian and student a plan that will outline the responsibilities of the parent/guardian, the student and the school in an effort to prevent further offenses from occurring.
- The principal or designee may recommend additional suspension and/or expulsion depending on the severity of the case.

**Second offense**

- The student will be suspended from school for five days.
- The principal or designee may recommend additional suspension and/or expulsion depending on the severity of the case.

**Third offense**

- The student will be suspended for 10 days and recommended for expulsion.
- Alternatively, the expulsion may be waived and a suspension of no less than five days shall be imposed if the student agrees to complete an approved education/counseling/treatment program mutually agreed to by the student´s parent/guardian and the principal or designee. The student and student´s parent/guardian shall be responsible for the program´s completion and its costs. Failure to provide documentation of completion of the program within the required time limits shall result in the imposition of the full expulsion period initially recommended.
- The principal or designee may determine that the alternative to suspension is not appropriate.
- Students who complete the approved education/counseling/treatment program shall be expelled for subsequent offenses of the Board's policy regarding student involvement with drugs and alcohol.

**Purchase, sale, distribution and exchange**

**First offense**

- The student will be suspended for 10 days and recommended for expulsion.
- Alternatives to expulsion may be considered by the principal or designee.

**Second offense**

- The student will be suspended for 10 days and recommended for expulsion upon the second offense and all subsequent offenses within any three-year period.

**WEAPONS IN SCHOOL (JICI):** The Board of Education determines that student possession, use and/or threatened use of a weapon is detrimental to the welfare and safety of the students and school personnel within the district.

**Dangerous weapons**

Using, possessing or threatening to use a dangerous weapon on district property, when being transported in vehicles dispatched by the district or one of its schools, during a school -sponsored or district-sponsored activity or event, and off school property when the conduct has a reasonable connection to school or any district curricular or non-curricular event without the authorization of the school or the school district is prohibited. An exception to this policy may be made for students participating in an authorized extracurricular activity or team involving the use of firearms.

As used in this policy, "dangerous weapon" means:

- A firearm.
- Any pellet, BB gun or other device, whether operational or not, designed to propel projectiles by spring action or compressed air.
- A fixed blade knife with a blade that exceeds three inches in length.
- A spring-loaded knife or a pocket knife with a blade exceeding three and one-half inches in length.
- Any object, device, instrument, material, or substance, whether animate or inanimate, that is used or intended to be used to inflict death or serious bodily injury including, but not limited to, a slingshot, bludgeon, nunchucks, brass knuckles or artificial knuckles of any kind.

Students who use, possess or threaten to use a dangerous weapon in violation of this policy may be subject to disciplinary action in accordance with Board policy concerning student suspensions, expulsions and other disciplinary interventions.

In accordance with federal law, expulsion shall be mandatory for no less than one full calendar year for a student who is determined to have brought a firearm to or possessed a firearm at school in violation of this policy. The superintendent may modify the length of this federal requirement for expulsion on a case-by-case basis. Such modification shall be in writing.

**Firearm facsimiles**

Carrying, using, actively displaying or threatening with the use of a firearm facsimile that could reasonably be mistaken for an actual firearm on district property, when being transported in vehicles dispatched by the district or one of its schools, during a school-sponsored or district-sponsored activity or event, and off school property when such conduct has a reasonable connection to school or any district curricular or non-curricular event without the authorization of the school or school district is prohibited. Students who violate this policy provision may be subject to disciplinary action, including but not limited to suspension and/or expulsion, in accordance with Board policy concerning student suspensions, expulsions and other disciplinary interventions.

A student may seek prior authorization from the building principal to carry, bring, use or possess a firearm facsimile that could reasonably be mistaken for an actual firearm on school property for purposes of a school -related or non-school related activity. A student´s failure to obtain such prior authorization is a violation of this policy provision and may result in disciplinary action, including but not limited to suspension and/or expulsion, *in* accordance with Board policy concerning student suspensions, expulsions and other disciplinary interventions. The principal´s decision to deny or permit a student to carry, bring, use or possess a firearm facsimile that could reasonably be mistaken for an actual firearm on sc property shall be final.

School administrators shall consider violations of this policy provision on a case-by-case basis to determine whether suspension, expulsion or any other disciplinary action is appropriate based upon the individual facts and circumstances involved.

**Local restrictions** - The Board of Education determines that extra precautions are important and necessary to provide for student safety. Therefore, the using, possessing or threatening to use ANY knife (includes pocket knives), regardless of the length of the blade, on district property, when being transported in vehicles dispatched by the district or one of its schools, during a school-sponsored or district-sponsored activity or event, and off school property when the conduct has a reasonable

connection to school or any district curricular or non-curricular event without authorization of the school or school district is prohibited. Students who violate this policy provision shall be subject to disciplinary action, including suspension and/or expulsion, in accordance with Board policy concerning student suspensions, expulsions and other disciplinary interventions.

**JICDE* Bullying Prevention and Education**

The Board of Education supports a secure school climate, conducive to teaching and learning that is free from threat, harassment, and any type of bullying behavior. The purpose of this policy is to promote consistency of approach and to help create a climate in which all types of bullying are regarded as unacceptable.

Bullying is the use of coercion or intimidation to obtain control over another person or to cause physical, mental, or emotional harm to another person. Bullying can occur through written, verbal, or electronically transmitted expression or by means of a physical act or gesture. Bullying is prohibited against any student for any reason, including but not limited to any such behavior that is directed toward a student on the basis of their academic performance or any basis protected by federal and state law or against whom federal and state laws prohibit discrimination upon the bases described in C.R.S. 22-32-109 (1)(ll)(I)."

Bullying is prohibited on district property, at district or school-sanctioned activities and events, when students are being transported in any vehicle dispatched by the district or one of its schools, or off school property when such conduct has a nexus to school or any district curricular or non-curricular activity or event.

A student who engages in any act of bullying and/or a student who takes any retaliatory action against a student who reports in good faith an incident of bullying, is subject to appropriate disciplinary action including but not limited to suspension, expulsion and/or referral to law enforcement authorities. The severity and pattern, if any, of the bullying behavior will be taken into consideration when disciplinary decisions are made. Bullying behavior that constitutes unlawful discrimination or harassment will be subject to investigation and discipline under related Board policies and procedures. Students targeted by bullying when such bullying behavior may constitute unlawful discrimination or harassment also have additional rights and protections under Board policies and procedures regarding unlawful discrimination and harassment.

The superintendent will develop a comprehensive program to address bullying at all school levels. The program will be aimed toward accomplishing the following goals:

- To send a clear message to students, staff, parents, and community members that bullying and retaliation against a student who reports bullying will not be tolerated.
- To train staff and students in taking proactive steps to prevent bullying from occurring.
- To implement procedures for immediate intervention, investigation, and confrontation of students engaged in bullying behavior.
- To initiate efforts to change the behavior of students engaged in bullying behaviors through re-education on acceptable behavior, discussions, counseling, and appropriate negative consequences.

- To foster a productive partnership with parents and community members in order to help maintain a bullying-free environment.
- To support targets of bullying by means of individual and peer counseling.
- To help develop peer support networks, social skills, and confidence for all students.
- To recognize and praise positive, supportive behaviors of students toward one another on a regular basis.
- Adopted: August 10, 2009 Revised: October 30, 2017 Revised: May 18, 2020 Revised: August 16, 2021 LEGAL REF.: C.R.S. 22-32-109.1 (2)(a)(I)(K) (policy required as part of safe schools plan) CROSS REFS.: AC, Nondiscrimination/Equal Opportunity JB, Equal Educational Opportunities JBB*, Sexual Harassment JICDA, Code of Conduct JICDD*, Violent and Aggressive Behavior JICDE*-E-1, Bullying Report Form - Exhibit JICDE*-E-2, Bullying Investigation Form - Exhibit JICJ, Student Use of Electronic Communication Devices JK, Student Discipline

**SEXUAL HARASSMENT(JBB):** The Board recognizes that sexual harassment can interfere with a student´s academic performance and emotional and physical well-being and that preventing and remedying sexual harassment in schools is essential to ensure a nondiscriminatory, safe environment in which students can learn. In addition, sexual harassment is recognized as a form of sex discrimination and thus is a violation of the laws that prohibit sex discrimination, as addressed in the Board´s policy concerning unlawful discrimination and harassment.

**District´s commitment**

The district is committed to maintaining a learning environment that is free from sexual harassment. It shall be a violation of policy for any staff member to harass students or for students to harass other students through conduct or communications of a sexual nature or to retaliate against anyone that reports sexual harassment or participates in a harassment investigation.

The district shall investigate all indications, informal reports and formal grievances of sexual harassment by students, staff or third-parties and appropriate corrective action shall be taken. Corrective action includes taking all reasonable steps to end the harassment, to make the harassed student whole by restoring lost educational opportunities, to prevent harassment from recurring and to prevent retaliation against anyone who reports sexual harassment or participates in a harassment investigation.

**Sexual harassment prohibited**

Unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, or other verbal, non-verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature may constitute sexual harassment, even if the harasser and the student being harassed are the same sex and whether or not the student resists or submits to the harasser, when:

- Submission to such conduct is made either explicitly or implicitly a term or condition of a student's participation in an education program or activity.
- Submission to or rejection of such conduct by a student is used as the basis for education decisions affecting the student.
- Such conduct is sufficiently severe, persistent or pervasive such that it limits a student's ability to participate in or benefit from an education program or activity or it creates a

hostile or abusive educational environment. For a one-time incident to rise to the level of harassment, it must be severe.

Any conduct of a sexual nature directed by a student toward a staff member or by a staff member to a student is presumed to be unwelcome and shall constitute sexual harassment.

Acts of verbal or physical aggression, intimidation or hostility based on sex, but not involving conduct of a sexual nature may also constitute sexual harassment.

Sexual harassment as defined above may include, but is not limited to:

- sex-oriented verbal "kidding" abuse or harassment,
- pressure for sexual activity,
- repeated remarks to a person with sexual implications,
- unwelcome touching, such as patting, pinching or constant brushing against the body of another,
- suggesting or demanding sexual involvement, accompanied by implied or explicit threats concerning one´s grades or similar personal concerns,
- sexual violence.

**Reporting, investigation and sanctions**

Students are encouraged to report all incidences of sexual harassment to either a teacher, counselor or principal in their school building and file a complaint, through the district´s complaint and compliance process. All reports and indications from students, district employees and third parties shall be forwarded to the compliance officer.

All matters involving sexual harassment reports shall remain confidential to the extent possible as long as doing so does not preclude the district from responding effectively to the harassment or preventing future harassment. Filing of a complaint or otherwise reporting sexual harassment shall not reflect upon the individual's status or affect grades.

In determining whether alleged conduct constitutes sexual harassment, the totality of the circumstances, the nature of the conduct, and the context in which the alleged conduct occurred shall be investigated.

Any student found to have engaged in sexual harassment shall be subject to discipline, including, but not limited to, being placed under a remedial discipline plan, suspension or expulsion, subject to applicable procedural requirements and in accordance with applicable law. Conduct of a sexual nature directed toward students shall, in appropriate circumstances, be reported as child abuse for investigation by appropriate authorities in conformity with applicable law and Board policy.

**File: JICDD* Violent and Aggressive Behavior**

The Board recognizes there are certain behaviors that, if tolerated, would compromise the learning environment to which the students and staff of the district are entitled. These behaviors, categorized as violent or aggressive, will not be tolerated. Students exhibiting violent or aggressive behavior or warning signs of future violent or aggressive behavior will be subject to appropriate disciplinary action including suspension and/or expulsion in accordance with Board policy concerning student

suspensions, expulsions, and other disciplinary interventions. As appropriate and in accordance with applicable law and Board policy, students may also be referred to law enforcement authorities. At the district's discretion and when appropriate, the student may receive appropriate intervention designed to address the problem behavior. The district may also conduct a threat assessment of the student. Students must immediately report questionable behavior or potentially violent situations to an administrator, counselor, or teacher. A staff member who witnesses or receives a report of a student´s act of violence and aggression must notify the building principal or designee as soon as possible. An act of violence and aggression is any expression, direct or indirect, verbal or behavioral, of intent to inflict harm, injury, or damage to persons or property. A threat of violence and aggression carries with it implied notions of risk of violence and a probability of harm or injury. An act of violence and aggression includes but is not limited to following behaviors:

- Possession, threat with or use of a dangerous weapon — as described in the Board´s weapons policy.
- Physical assault — the act of striking or touching a person or that person´s property with a part of the body or with any object with the intent of causing hurt or harm.
- Verbal abuse — includes, but is not limited to, swearing, screaming, obscene gestures, or threats directed, either orally (including by telephone) or in writing (including by text, social media, or other electronic means), at an individual, his or their family, or a group.
- Intimidation — an act intended to frighten or coerce someone into submission or obedience.
- Extortion — the use of verbal or physical coercion in order to obtain financial or material gain from others.
- Bullying — as described in the Board's policy on bullying prevention and education.
- Gang activity — as described in the Board´s secret societies/gang activity policy.
- Sexual harassment or other forms of harassment — as described in the Board´s sexual harassment policy and nondiscrimination policy.
- Stalking — the persistent following, contacting, watching, or any other such threatening actions that compromise the peace of mind or the personal safety of an individual.
- Defiance — a serious act or instance of defying or opposing legitimate authority.
- Discriminatory slurs — insulting, disparaging, or derogatory comments made directly or by innuendo regarding a person's disability, race, creed, color, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, national origin, religion, ancestry, or need for special education services.
- Vandalism — damaging or defacing property owned by or in the rightful possession of another.
- Terrorism — a threat to commit violence communicated with the intent to terrorize or with reckless disregard for the risk of creating such terror or to cause serious public inconvenience, such as the evacuation of a building.
- Adopted: December 10, 2001 Revised: August 12, 2013 Revised: October 30, 2017 Revised: August 16, 2021 LEGAL REF.: C.R.S. 22-32-109.1 (1)(b) (definition of bullying) C.R.S. 22-32-110 (1)(k) (definition of racial or ethnic background includes hair texture, definition of protective hairstyle) C.R.S. 24-34-301 (7) (definition of sexual orientation, which includes transgender) CROSS REFS.: AC, Nondiscrimination/Equal Opportunity JBB*, Sexual Harassment JICDA, Code of Conduct JICDE*, Bullying Prevention and Education JICF, Secret Societies/Gang Activity JICI, Weapons in School

**File: JICEA School-Related Student Publications (School Publications Code)**

The Board encourages students to express their views in school-sponsored publications while observing rules for responsible journalism and complying with this policy and state and federal law. To protect the rights of all members of the school community and to support the district's educational mission and purposes, students are prohibited from publishing expression which:

• is false or obscene;

• is libelous, slanderous or defamatory under state law;

• presents a clear and present danger of the commission of unlawful acts, violation of school rules or material and substantial disruption of the orderly operation of the school;

• violates the privacy rights of others; or

• threatens violence to property or persons.

Student editors of school-sponsored publications are responsible for determining the news, opinion and advertising content of their publications subject to the limitations of this policy, its accompanying regulation and applicable state and federal law. The publications advisor within each school is responsible for supervising the production of school-sponsored publications and for teaching and encouraging free and responsible expression and professional standards of journalism.

The publications advisor has authority to establish or limit writing assignments for students working with publications and to otherwise direct and control the learning experience that publications are intended to provide when participation in a school sponsored publication is part of a school class or activity for which grades or school credits are given.

Adopted: June 12, 2006 Revised: October 30, 2017 Revised: August 16, 2021 LEGAL REFS.: C.R.S. 22-1-120 (rights of free expression for public school students) C.R.S. 22-1-123 (5)(e) (state law does not prevent a student who is working under the supervision of a journalism teacher or sponsor from preparing or participating in a survey, analysis or evaluation without obtaining written parental consent as long as participation is not prohibited by federal law) C.R.S. 22-32-110 (1)(r) (power to exclude materials that are immoral or pernicious) CROSS REF.: JLDAC, Screening/Testing of Students (And Treatment of mental disorders)

**File: JICEC* Student Distribution of Non Curricular Materials**

To understand constitutional values such as the right to free speech, students must not only study such principles but also have an opportunity to put them into practice. However, there are limitations on the right of student free speech in the school setting that have been upheld by the courts because of the unique nature of the school community.

It is the goal of this policy to strike a necessary balance between a student's right of free speech and the school´s need to maintain an orderly and safe school environment which respects the rights of all students on school grounds and during school sponsored activities.

Students may distribute non curricular materials on school property in accordance with this policy, its accompanying regulation and applicable state and federal law.

**Prohibited distribution**

Students may not distribute any non curricular materials on school property or at school sponsored activities or events that in themselves or in the manner they are distributed:

• create or threaten to create a substantial disruption or material interference with the normal operation of the school, school activity or event;

• advocate or encourage unlawful conduct or conduct that violates Board policy, including but not limited to the Board´s policies prohibiting unlawful discrimination, harassment and bullying;

• cause or threaten to cause injury to persons or property; or

• are obscene, defamatory or violate any person´s privacy rights.

Students who distribute materials in violation of this policy may be subject to appropriate disciplinary action, including suspension and/or expulsion.

School equipment and supplies may not be used for publication of such material.

Adopted: February 14, 1991 Revised: October 30, 2017 Revised: August 16, 2021 LEGAL REFS.: Tinker v. Des Moines Indep. Comm. Sch. Dist., 393 U.S. 503 (1968) Taylor v. Roswell Indep. Sch. Dist., 713 F.3d 25 (10th Cir. 2013) Colo. Const. Art 9, 5 C.R.S. 22-1-120 (rights of free expression for public school students) C.R.S. 22-32-110 (1)(r) (power to exclude materials that are immoral or pernicious) File: JICEC* Page 2 of 2 CROSS REFS.: JICEA, School-Related Student Publications JK, Student Discipline, and subcodes KHC, Distribution/Posting of Non Curricular Materials

## Safe2Tell

## Make a Call. Make a Difference.

## 1-877-542-SAFE

The Safe2Tell Program empowers students, teachers and others to anonymously report important information about violent or troubling events before or after they have happened. The Safe2Tell Hotline gives students in all Colorado schools an increased ability to both prevent violence and report violence by making safe anonymous calls.

Students and other community Members can call 1-877-542-SAFE to report threats, fights, and instances of bullying, substances abuse, or other activities that create unsafe situations. Calls are answered 24 hours per day, 365 days per year at a Colorado State patrol communication center and forwarded to local school officials and law enforcement agencies as needed. State law and the procedures established by Safe2Tell for receiving and forwarding tips guarantee the anonymity of every caller.

## Yuma 9th-12th School Discipline Matrix

## Respect for Self, Others, Learning & Property

## (Updated: 4/17/2020)

**Administrative discretion is used in any case of school discipline. This matrix is a guide to help with discipline; these categories are meant as general guidelines and may be adjusted due to the severity of the incident.**

**SD (School Detention)-May be served before or after school or at lunch based on administrative discretion**

**ISS (In-School Suspension): Students will be allowed to turn in all assignments at the end of the day for full credit.**

**TRUANCY/OSS (Out of School Suspension): Students will be allowed to turn in all assignments upon return for 70% credit.**

**2nd Referral – Refer to Response Intervention Team (RTI)**

**3rd Referral – Refer to Remedial Behavior Plan or Remedial Intervention Plan**

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| 1 | **Inappropriate Language/Profanity (JICDA – Code of Conduct – 20)**<br>● First/Second – Teacher consequence/parent contact by teacher<br>● Third- Loss of open lunch Admin Discretion<br>**Behavior Code:** Disobedience/Defiant or Repeated Interference<br><br>**Abusive/Inappropriate Language/Profanity Directed Towards an Individual or Group**<br>● First - Loss of open lunch Admin Discretion<br>● Second - ISS (1-4 days)<br>● Third - OSS (1-5 days)<br>*directed towards teacher ISS/OSS (1-5 days)<br><br>**Behavior Code:** Disobedience/Defiant or Repeated Interference or Detrimental Behavior | 1<br>1 | **Refusal to Serve Detention/Skipping Class/Academic Support (JICDA – Code of Conduct – 26)**<br>● First- Loss of open lunch Admin Discretion<br>● Second- ISS (3-5 days)<br>● Third- OSS (1-3 days)<br><br>**Behavior Code:** Other Violation or Code of Conduct |
| | | 1<br>2 | **Extortion, Coercion, or Blackmail (JICDA – Code of Conduct – 5)**<br>● Minor or $1-$99- Restitution/ISS (1-3 days)<br>● Moderate or $100-$199- Restitution/OSS (1-4 days)<br>● Severe or $200+ - Restitution/OSS (5-10 days)/Recommend for Expulsion<br><br>**Behavior Code: Other Violation of Code of Conduct** |
| 2 | **Scholastic Dishonesty/Cheating/ Plagiarism (JICDA – Code of Conduct – 22)**<br>● First- Teacher Consequence no credit<br>● Second- ISS (1-3 days), no credit<br>● Third- OSS (1-3 days),no credit<br>**Behavior Code:** Other Violation or Code of Conduct | 1<br>3 | **Disrespect towards staff/students/Defiance & Disobedient (JICDA – Code of Conduct – 26)**<br>● First- Teacher Consequence/parent contact by teacher<br>● Second- Loss of open lunch Admin Discretion<br>● Third- ISS (1-5 days)<br>● Fourth – OSS (1-5 days)<br>*Any directed vulgar comment towards a teacher will be handled by office.<br><br>**Behavior Code:** Disobedience/Defiant or Repeated Interference |
| 3 | **Bullying/Harassment/Taunt/Tease (JICDA – Code of Conduct – 8)**<br>● First- ISS (1-5 days)<br>● Second- OSS (1-5 days)<br>● Third- OSS (5-10 days)/Recommend for Expulsion<br>**Behavior Code:** Detrimental Behavior or Allegations of harassment or bullying | 1<br>4 | **Sexual Harassment (JBB – Sexual Harassment)**<br>● First- ISS (1-3 days)<br>● Second- OSS (1-5 days)<br>● Third- OSS (5-10 days)/ Recommend for Expulsion<br>*If physical contact is involved, OSS (1-10) and referral to YPD.<br><br>**Behavior Code:** Allegations of harassment or bullying on the basis of sex, Allegations of harassment or bullying on the basis of sexual orientation |
| 4 | **Classroom Disruption (JK – Student Discipline)**<br>● First/Second – Teacher consequences/parent contact by teacher<br>● Third- Loss of open lunch Admin Discretion | 1<br>5 | **Inappropriate Use of Phones/Electronic Devices (JICJ – Student Use of Cell Phones and Other Personal Technology Devices)**<br>● First- Confiscated – 3 Days Lunch Detention – Parent must arrange for phone to be returned |

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| | • Fourth- ISS (1-3 days)<br>• Fifth- OSS (1-3 days)<br>**Behavior Code:** Other Violation of Code of Conduct or Disobedience/Defiant or Repeated Interference | | • Second- Confiscated – 1 Day ISS – Parent must arrange for phone to be returned<br>• Third- Confiscated – 1 Day OSS – Parent must arrange for phone to be returned<br>**Behavior Code:** Other Violation or Code of Conduct |
| 5 | **Destruction/Vandalism/Stealing/Attempted Theft (District or Private Property) (JICDA – Code of Conduct – 1, 2, 3)**<br>• Minor or $1-$99- Restitution/ISS (1-3 days)<br>• Moderate or $100-$199- Restitution/OSS (1-4 days)<br>• Severe or $200+ - Restitution/OSS (5-10 days)/Recommend for Expulsion<br>**Behavior Code:** Robbery or Destruction of School Property<br>**Restitution = Current replacement or restoration value** | 16 | **Dress Code (JICA – Student Dress Code/JICDA – Code of Conduct – 17)**<br>• Warning/Cover Up/Change by Teacher<br>• Second- Loss of open lunch Admin Discretion – Fix Violation<br>• Third- ISS (1-3 days) Parent called – Fix Violation<br>• Fourth- OSS (1-3 days)<br>**Behavior Code:** Other Violation or Code of Conduct |
| 6 | **Displays of Public Affection (JICDA – Code of Conduct – 24, 25, 26)**<br>• First- Loss of open lunch Admin Discretion<br>• Second ISS (1-3 days)<br>• Third ISS (3-5 days)<br>**Behavior Code:** Other Violation or Code of Conduct | 17 | **Use or Possession of Tobacco Products (ADC – Tobacco-Free Schools)**<br>• First – ISS until completion of second chance program, exclusion from extracurricular activities as per Activities & Athletics Policy<br>• Second – 1 day OSS until completion of second chance program, exclusion from extracurricular activities as per Activities & Athletics Policy<br>• Third – 5 day OSS until completion of second chance program, exclusion from extracurricular activities as per Activities & Athletics Policy<br>**Behavior Code:** Tobacco Violation |
| 7 | **In-School Tardies (JH – Student Absences and Excuses/JICDA – Code of Conduct – 25)**<br>• See handbook<br>• First- Teacher Consequence<br>• Second- Teacher Consequence<br>• Third- 1 Unexcused Absence<br>• Third to Period 3 or 7- Loss of Open Lunch Admin Discretion/Unexcused Absence<br>**Behavior Code:** Other Violation or Code of Conduct | 18 | **Gang Related Activities (JICDA – Code of Conduct – 18/JICF – Secret Societies/Gang Activity – JICF)**<br>• First- Loss of open lunch Admin Discretion<br>• Second- ISS (1-3 days)<br>• Third- OSS (3-5 days)/ Recommend for Expulsion<br>**Behavior Code:** Other Violation or Code of Conduct |
| 8 | **Dangerous Weapons (JICDA – Code of Conduct – 11/JICI – Weapons in School)**<br>• OSS/ Police Notification/ Recommendation for Expulsion<br>*No Pocket Knives of any Size<br>**Behavior Code:** Dangerous Weapons | 19 | **Technology Violation (GBEE-R – Acceptable Use Agreement for Internet, Email and District Technology)**<br>• First- Loss of privileges for 1 week – ISS (1-3 days)<br>• Second- Loss of privileges for 3 weeks – ISS (3-5 days)<br>• Third- Loss of privileges for 6 weeks – OSS (1-5 days)<br>**Behavior Code:** Other Violation or Code of Conduct |
| 9 | **Physical Aggression/Scuffle (JICDA – Code of Conduct – 13)**<br>• First- ISS (1-3 days)<br>• Second- OSS (2-5 days)<br>• Third – Recommendation for Expulsion<br>**Behavior Code:** Other Violations or Code of Conduct | 20 | **Verbal or Other (i.e. social media) Violent Threat (JICDD – Code of Conduct – 3)**<br>• First- OSS (1-10)/ Police Notification and Threat Assessment<br>• Second- Recommendation for Expulsion<br>**Behavior Code:** Disobedience/Defiant or Repeated Interference or Other Violation or Code of Conduct |
| | **Physical Aggression/Assault (JICDA – Code of Conduct – 13/JICDD – Violent and Aggressive Behavior)** | | **Drug and Alcohol Abuse(JICH-R – Drug and Alcohol Involvement by Students)**<br>• First- OSS (3 days) |

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| **10** | ● **Automatic OSS – Admin Discretion – Law Enforcement Contacted – Threat Assessment**<br>○ **Recommendation for Expulsion**<br>**Behavior Code:** 3rd Degree Assault/Disorderly Conduct or 1st, 2nd Degree or Vehicular Assault | **21** | ● Second- OSS (5 days)<br>● Third- OSS (10 days) Recommendation for expulsion<br><br>**Drug and Alcohol Distribution (JICH-R – Drug and Alcohol Involvement by Students)**<br><br>● **First- OSS (10 days) Recommendation for expulsion Admin Discretion**<br>● **Second- OSS (10 days) Recommendation for expulsion**<br><br>**Behavior Code:** Drug Violation, Alcohol Violation, or Marijuana Violation |

***This matrix attempts to define violations and punishments for a wide variety of offenses. It is not possible to define every offense that may occur, and no attempt to do so is herein implied. In the handling of discipline, administrative discretion is always possible, and punishments between suspension/expulsion may be imposed where appropriate, notwithstanding and provisions herein calling for particular and disciplinary consequences for a first, second, or third offense.*

**** Behavior Codes are to be used as guidelines and can be changed depending on the situation of the event.*

August 2026

The purpose of the handbook is to ensure, to the extent possible, the safety and well-being of our students. As you review this document on the YHS webpage (www.yumaschools.org, click high school), please note the following:

- We must receive a signed acknowledgement that you have reviewed this packet.
- These policies are current as of the start date of the 2024-2025 year. Any updates can be found online at www.yumaschools.org.
- These policies are consistent with school board policy. For a complete list of YSD-1 school board policies, please go to our district website: http://www.yumaschools.org
- This student/parent handbook is a guideline and is subject to change. Additionally, Yuma High School and YSD-1 will maintain discretion in their interpretation and modification.

*Our signatures indicate that we have reviewed Yuma High School's Student/Parent Handbook on the YHS website. A copy of the handbook may be provided upon request. If we have any questions regarding this information, we will contact the school principal.* ***Please sign and return to YHS office***

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**Printed name of student**

_____
**Signature of student**

_____
**Printed name of parent/guardian**

_____
**Signature of parent/guardian**

_____
**Date**