

InstructionGeneral Policy Statement

The Board of Education delegates to the Superintendent the responsibility of maintaining the program of instruction and extracurricular activities.

The instructional program and extracurricular activities shall meet the accredited school system standard of the State Board of Education through the Nebraska Department of Education, Federal regulations, Nebraska School Activities Association regulations and the policies of the Board of Education.

The professional staff is responsible for the development of educational and activities programs which meet the objectives of Emerson-Hubbard Public Schools.

Date of Adoption: December 13, 2010

InstructionScope of Instructional Program

- A) The District shall provide instruction suitable to the needs of all who are legally eligible to attend school in the District.
- B) Except for special types of instruction, the instructional program may be arranged in units commonly designated as grades, each grade approximately the work of one (1) year. Such a program of instruction shall be organized into schools or other administrative units as follows:
 - 1. The elementary school shall provide for the instruction of children kindergarten through sixth grade.
 - 2. The secondary school shall provide for the instruction of children in grades seven (7) through twelve (12). Within the secondary school grades seven (7) and eight (8) may be treated as separate from grades nine (9) through twelve (12).
 - 3. Instruction appropriate to the needs of the community and individuals may be provided for adults and others beyond the age required to attend school.
 - 4. Departures from the above noted organizational plan for instruction may be made by the Superintendent of Schools upon approval of the Board of Education.

Date of Adoption: December 13, 2010

InstructionThe Program of Instruction

The minimum program of instruction in the schools shall be that prescribed by the statutes. The statutory curriculum may be augmented and extended to provide for the educational needs of individual pupils and differing areas in the School District.

The District shall educate staff and students about the harms of copyright piracy.

Legal Reference: Rule 10; ESSA

Date of Adoption: July 11, 2016

InstructionSchool Calendar

Emerson-Hubbard Public Schools will have a school year consisting of at least (a) for grades up through grade eight, the time equivalent to 1,032 hours, (b) for grades nine through twelve, the time equivalent to 1,080 hours; and (c) for kindergarten, the time equivalent to 400 hours.

An instructional hour shall mean a period of time at least sixty (60) minutes, which is actually used for the instruction of students.

Interruptions in the school year of the 1,080, 1,032, and 400 instructional hour minimums due to extracurricular activities (interscholastic sports, clubs, and contest) will be held to a minimum. All students participating in such events will be required to comply with the District's policies on student attendance for such absences to be excused, including the completion of assignments for missed classes. Extracurricular activities shall be defined as school events which involve student participation and faculty sponsorship. Interscholastic sports, clubs, and events shall be defined as school activities which involve student participation (one or more students) and faculty sponsorship. Activities so defined include Volleyball, Football, Basketball, Track, Drama, Vocal Music, Band, and Speech.

The required 1,080, 1,032, and 400 instructional hour minimums shall not include the following:

1. School Lunch Time
2. Passing Time Between Classes
3. Emergency School Closings
4. Time required for traveling to, traveling from, and participation in interscholastic sports, clubs, and events as defined in this policy when 15% or more of the student body is absent due to participation in such activities.

Date of Adoption: December 13, 2010

InstructionClassroom Environment

At all times, teachers are expected to organize, maintain and ensure that their classroom is in a safe, orderly and clean condition for student learning. Classrooms should be free from distractions (such as inappropriate or unprofessional posters or other displays) and other apparatus that may cause student health problems (such as essential oils and/or essential oil diffusers). Teachers who are uncertain as to whether their classroom meets this requirement are encouraged to consult with their building principal in a proactive manner.

The District will only permit the Gall-Peters projection map (or a similar cylindrical equal-area projection map) or the AuthaGraph projection map for display or use in the classroom.

Legal Reference: LB 1329 (2024)

Date of Adoption: June 10, 2024

InstructionSchool Day for Students

The school day shall be scheduled in such a way that students are given the best opportunity for their educational growth and development. The length of the day, and the arrangement of time segments within it, need not be uniform for all grade levels.

- A) The length of the school day in the secondary schools shall be no less than 380 minutes.
- B) The hours of opening and closing each type of school shall be determined by the Superintendent of Schools. The time of opening and ending the school day may be modified where transportation or other conditions justify such a change upon the authorization of the Superintendent of Schools provided that the length of school sessions are not shortened.
- C) During the school year, all schools shall be in session five (5) days a week, Monday through Friday, except upon emergency authorization of the Superintendent of Schools or during authorized holiday periods.
- D) In designing the student day, the following considerations are to be met:
 - 1. The learning activities of each student are carefully guided and supervised.
 - 2. Each student has opportunities to receive individual assistance from teachers outside of the regular school day.
 - 3. Parents shall be informed of late starts or early dismissal.
 - 4. Early dismissal for student employment shall be subject to approval of the building administration. Parental or guardian permission shall precede any early dismissal for work related activities. Early dismissal of other students shall be reasons of health, etc., and must be validated by the student's parent or guardian.
 - 5. Changes in the school day shall be subject to the approval of the Superintendent.

Date of Adoption: December 13, 2010

InstructionElectronic Communication Devices and Cell Phones

All students are prohibited from accessing or using an electronic communication device while on school property or attending a school instructional function, unless:

1. When required by a student's Individualized Education Program or 504 Plan;
2. When authorized by the District for educational purposes during instructional time;
3. In the case of an emergency or perceived threat of danger;
4. When necessary to monitor or manage a student's health care; or
5. When determined appropriate by the Superintendent or Superintendent's designee.

All exceptions listed herein must be approved in advance by the appropriate school staff member.

Any student who violates this Policy may be subject to discipline under the District's Student Discipline Policy.

Legal Reference: LB 140 (2025)

Date of Adoption: July, 2025

Instruction

Emergencies

All employees of the school system are responsible for promoting the safety of students.

Procedures for fire, civil defense, and other emergencies shall be maintained.

Legal Reference: §79-706

Date of Adoption: December 13, 2010

Instruction

Fire Drills

Fire drills shall be held at such times and manner as required by the State Fire Marshal.

Emergency Plans

Plans for emergencies and drill activities will be developed.

Since many parents may not be at home, all children and faculty will be normally retained at the school building in case of extreme emergency. Parents may come to the school to pick up their children if they so desire.

Legal Reference: Neb. Rev. Stat. § 79-706; § 81-527

Date of Adoption: December 13, 2010

InstructionEmergency Dismissal or Cancellation

Except for those dates designated on the school calendar, school shall not be dismissed or canceled except by action of the Board of Education or in emergency situations as determined by the Superintendent.

The Superintendent is also authorized, in the Superintendent's discretion, to cancel school when a varsity athletics team makes the State Tournament, provided that the Superintendent has a plan to ensure that the minimum hours of instruction required to be provided by statute and/or regulation be met.

InstructionCeremonies, Observances, and the Pledge of Allegiance

Appropriate patriotic exercises suitable to the occasion shall be held under the direction of the Superintendent on George Washington's birthday, Abraham Lincoln's birthday, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s birthday, Native American Heritage Day, Constitution Day, Memorial Day, Veterans Day, and Thanksgiving Day, or on the day or week preceding or following such holiday, if the school is in session. In addition, appropriate exercises may be held for Flag Day and State Fire Day.

The flags of the United States of America and the State of Nebraska shall be prominently displayed on the school grounds on each day such school is in session. All flag displays shall be in accordance with the standards prescribed for the display of the flag of the United States of America.

Each of the District's schools shall establish a period of time during the school day, when a majority of the students are scheduled to be present, during which time students will be led in the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance in the presence of the flag of the United States of America. Student participation in the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance shall be voluntary. Students not participating in the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance shall be permitted to silently stand or remain seated but shall be required to respect the rights of those students electing to participate.

Legal Reference: Neb. Rev. Stat. Sections 79-705; 79-707, 79-708, 79-724; and NDE Rule 10
70 Federal Register 55507 (Constitution Day)

Date of Adoption: July 13, 2020

InstructionSafe Schools Policy

It is the mission of Emerson-Hubbard Public Schools to provide a safe, secure, drug-free and welcoming environment for all students, staff and community members. The administration is authorized and directed to adopt such regulations and take such actions as determined appropriate by the board of education to advance the mission of providing safe schools. Such regulations and actions may include, but not be limited to, school security measures, such as use of metal detectors, surveillance, searches and seizures, and security officers, as well as staff training and student educational programs.

Date of Adoption: December 13, 2010

InstructionCurriculum Review Cycle

TEXTBOOK ADOPTION SCHEDULE

EVALUATION	IMPLEMENTATION	SUBJECT
2010-2011	2011-2012	Language Arts & Library
2011-2013	2013-2014	Science & Health
2013-2014	2014-2015	Vocational & Physical Education
2014-2016	2016-2017	Social Studies
2016-2017	2017-2018	Fine Arts & Guidance
2017-2019	2019-2020	Reading & Foreign Language
2019-2021	2021-2022	Mathematics
2021-2022		Repeat the cycle

- Computer tests will be purchased as needed due to the constant changing of technology.

Date of Adoption: December 13, 2010

InstructionObjectives of the Instructional Program

Emerson-Hubbard Public Schools has designated as its objectives the following:

Our school shall enable each student to react to his environment as a total being by:

- A. Aiding each student in acquiring fundamental skills and knowledge that will engender in each student a sense of personal worth and direction most beneficial to himself and society. This shall be accomplished through:
 - 1. Selection and using subject matter and facilities appropriate to the development of specific skills and knowledge.
 - 2. Setting standards of achievement so that every student can experience some degree of success.
 - 3. Providing equal opportunities for all students, fully realizing that not all students have the same talents and capacities for learning.
 - 4. Finding relationships which exist among the curricular studies.
 - 5. Finding relationships which exist between the curricular studies and the extra curricular activities.
 - 6. Aiding the student to recognize the value of the past as a developmental influence on aesthetic, humanistic and creative ideals for the future.
 - 7. Recognizing scholastic achievement and marks of improvement.
 - 8. Recognizing social and civic contributions made by students.
- B. Providing an environment in which freedom is regarded as a responsibility for administrators, teachers, and students. This shall be accomplished through:
 - 1. Providing direction and substantial meaning whereby respect for each other shall be paramount and reciprocal.
 - 2. Emphasizing the necessity of respect for public and private property as well as dignity of all work.
- C. Maintaining an environment conducive to good physical and mental health. This shall be accomplished through:
 - 1. Providing activities which have as their goal the development of physical fitness.

2. Providing activities in which all students can experience some measure of success.
 3. Allowing for creative response through music, art, dramatics and physical education.
 4. Providing programs of specialization to meet specific needs of the student; such as speech therapy, remedial reading, guidance counseling and student health.
- D. Providing a means of public relations. This shall be accomplished through:
1. Keeping the public informed as to current happenings in all phases of the school's activities.
 2. Allowing the public to participate in the development of the school policies and programs.
 3. Making available to the public opportunities to discuss current educational interest.
 4. Attempting to develop good relationships among students, teachers, administrators, parents and the community at large.
- E. Selecting for employment, administrators and teachers who have the inspiration, dedication and factual competence to put into effect the philosophy and objectives of Emerson-Hubbard Public Schools. This shall be accomplished through the auspices of the administration and the Board of Education as designated by the procedures set forth in the Board Policies of the Emerson-Hubbard Public Schools.
- F. Establishing a program of continuous evaluation of the entire school system that it might determine the measure of success of the philosophy and the objectives of Emerson-Hubbard Public Schools. This will be accomplished through coordinating the evaluative efforts of the students, teachers, administrators, specialists, and the entire community.

Date of Adoption: December 13, 2010

Instruction

Curriculum - Development and Adoption

All major program adoptions and/or major course revisions shall be subject to the approval of the Board of Education.

Major program adoptions and/or major course revisions may be proposed by district-wide curriculum committee and/or building curriculum committees and approved, rejected or revised and approved by the Superintendent before being submitted to the Board of Education for final approval.

Date of Adoption: December 13, 2010

InstructionCurriculum – Assessments (Policy No. 6211)1. State Assessments.

The Emerson-Hubbard Public School District has adopted an assessment plan and has aligned the curriculum with the state approved content standards. The assessment plan includes a schedule and procedures for assessing success in achieving state standards.

Teachers are to clearly articulate the learning targets and align instruction to the learning targets within each of the content standards. Teachers are to give students instruction on the content prior to students being assessed on each content standard in order to provide learning opportunities for all students.

The assessments are to be conducted in accordance with the assessment plan schedule. Teachers are to conduct the assessments in a manner that assures it accurately assesses whether or not students are meeting the targets outlined by the content standards.

Assessment results are to be reported by the teachers in the manner and within the time directed by the administration or designee. The assessment data is to be used to meet state standards, to provide students and parents with information about student progress, to enhance school improvement planning, and to improve instruction. The assessment data is to be evaluated by teachers to monitor student learning and to improve instruction or terminate ineffective teaching practices to ensure students are being given the opportunity to meet the standards.

2. Achieving Valid Assessments.

Educators are responsible for maintaining the integrity of the assessments to ensure that assessments provide a valid measure of student progress and accomplishments. Educators are not to engage in any practice that may result in assessment results that do not reflect student learning, knowledge, skills or abilities in the area assessed.

For purposes of this policy, student assessments include both “standardized assessments” (including state assessments, norm referenced tests, and evaluations conducted for special education eligibility) and “coursework assessments” (e.g., classroom tests, quizzes, and other evaluative tools used to assign grades).

The following specific assessment expectations and rules apply:

- a. Integrity of the Assessment Instrument. The integrity of the assessment instrument is to be maintained.
 - i. Standardized Assessments. Standardized assessment instruments are not to be made available to students at any time before the student takes the assessment. The assessment instrument is to be maintained in a secure manner.

- ii. Coursework Assessments. Coursework assessment instruments are to be periodically modified to keep the assessments current and prevent students from effectively using “test banks.” For coursework assessments that are given on a repeat basis to students at different times (e.g., a test that is given to students throughout the school day), the educator is to remind students to not share the content of the assessment with students who will be taking the assessment later.

b. Teaching for Success on Assessments.

It is appropriate for educators to prepare students to do well on assessments. This is to be accomplished in a manner that assures the assessment accurately reflects the student's knowledge, and not simply test preparation.

- i. Teach the Content. Educators are to prepare students to do well on assessments by teaching the subject content. Educators are not to “teach to the test” by teaching based solely on the content of the assessment. The content is to be taught to the students over an appropriate amount of time prior to the assessment. “Cramming” assessment content just before the assessment is to be taken is not appropriate. Review of content previously taught is appropriate.
- ii. Practice Tests. Educators are to prepare students by teaching test taking skills independent of the subject matter being assessed. Educators are not to conduct reviews (drills) using earlier (no longer published) versions of the same test, using alternate (parallel) forms of the same published test, or using actual items from the current form of a standardized test that will be administered to students. Educators are not to conduct reviews (drills) using items of identical format (for example, multiple choice) to the exclusion of other formats.

c. Conditions for Successful Assessments.

- i. Communications. Educators are to communicate to students and parents when assessments will be administered, the purpose of the assessment and how the assessment results will be used. Educators are to motivate students to do their best on assessments. Educators are to read and be familiar with assessment administration directions in advance and communicate the rules to students accurately and clearly.
- ii. Climate. Educators are to have sufficient assessment materials available (e.g., No. 2 pencils, if needed). The classroom is to be arranged to allow comfortable seating. Distractions are to be eliminated. Educators in nearby classrooms are to be informed that the assessment is to be administered so noises from neighboring classrooms are kept at a minimum. Activities or arrangements are to be made for students who finish early so such students do not cause a distraction to other students still taking the assessment.

- iii. Security. Educators are to monitor students while administering assessments to ensure students are complying with standards of academic integrity. Students who violate standards of academic integrity are to be reported to the administration.
- d. Full Participation. Educators are to make efforts to have all eligible students take the assessments. The educator should develop a list of students who will be exempted from assessment and the reason for the exemption and submit the list for review and approval by the Principal.
- e. Assistance During Assessments.
 - i. Standardized Assessments. Educators are not to provide assistance to students while a standardized assessment is being administered except as provided for in a student's 504 Plan or IEP. This includes giving "hints," giving extra time, reading the tests to students or defining or pronouncing words for students, allowing students access to instructional material related to the content of the assessment (e.g., displaying a map during a social studies assessment) or allowing students access to mechanical aids (e.g., calculators).
 - ii. Coursework Assessments. For coursework assessments, students may be allowed access to instructional materials or mechanical aids only when all students being given the assessment are given the aids and use of the aids does not hinder the students from learning the content of the lesson.
- f. Student Answers. Assessments are to reflect the students' work as submitted by the students. During the assessments, educators are to monitor students to make sure directions are being followed (e.g., students are using a No. 2 pencil on all "bubble" sheet assessments and completely erase mistaken answers and extra marks on "bubble" sheet assessments). Educators are not to change answers on a student's assessment sheet or otherwise participate in the submission of false or misleading assessment results.

All employees are to adhere to the Nebraska Student-Centered Assessment System (NSCAS) Security Procedures and report breaches in security to Superintendent or the Superintendent's assessment designee for report to the Nebraska Department of Education. Professionalism, common sense, and practical procedures provide the framework for testing ethics.

Violations of the rules and expectations set forth in this policy will be considered to be a breach of the District's standard of ethics and may result in disciplinary consequences. Educators are to report suspected violations of the expectation to the administration. The administration is to investigate and appropriately respond to violations of the expectations.

Legal Reference: NDE Rule 10.05; NDE Rule 27.004.02H and 004.03D

Date of Adoption: July 8, 2019

InstructionAssessments—Academic Content Standards

The Board of Education adopts the academic content standards of the State Board of Education (“State Board”). The adoption of the academic content standards includes the:

- Language Arts standards that were adopted by the State Board in September, 2021;
- Mathematics standards that were approved by the State Board in September, 2022;
- Science standards that were adopted by the State Board in September, 2017; and
- Social Studies standards that were adopted by the State Board in November, 2019.

Unless other action is taken, the Board of Education adopts the standards of the State Board as such standards are subsequently adopted or amended by the State Board.

The administration shall be responsible for implementing assessments on the state standards in accordance with the procedures established by the State Board and the Department of Education, including conducting assessments in the same subject areas and the same grade levels as established in the state standards, and the reporting of scores and sub-scores.

This policy does not supersede the existing standards adopted by the Board of Education except as set forth herein.

Legal Reference: Neb. Rev. Stat. Sections 79-760 to 79-760.05

Date of Adoption: [July 2023]

InstructionReading Instruction and Improvement

The District shall develop its curriculum to facilitate reading instruction and intervention services to address student reading needs, including, but not limited to, dyslexia. In doing so, the District will ensure that all teachers for kindergarten through grade three should be effective reading teachers as evidenced by (a) evaluations based on classroom observations and student improvement on reading assessments or (b) specialized training in reading improvement. Each student and his or her parents or guardians will be informed of the student's reading progress. It is the District's intent that each student in the District be able to read at or above grade level by third grade.

For school year 2019-20 and each school year thereafter, the District shall administer an approved reading assessment three times during the school year to all students in kindergarten through grade three, except for any student receiving specialized instruction for limited English proficiency who has been receiving such instruction for less than two years, any student receiving special education services for whom such assessment would conflict with the individualized education plan, and any student receiving services under a plan pursuant to the requirements of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 or Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, for whom such assessment would conflict with such section 504 or Title II plan. The first administration of such assessment for each such school year shall occur within the first thirty days of the school year.

Any student in kindergarten, grade one, grade two, or grade three shall be identified as having a reading deficiency if such student performs below the threshold level determined pursuant to the Reading Intervention Act. A student who is identified as having a reading deficiency pursuant to the Reading Intervention Act shall remain identified as having a reading deficiency until the student performs at or above the threshold level on an approved reading assessment. Nothing in the Nebraska Reading Improvement Act shall prohibit the District from identifying any other student as having a reading deficiency.

The District will provide a supplemental reading intervention program for the purpose of ensuring that students can read at or above grade level at the end of third grade. The District may work collaboratively with a reading specialist at the State Department of Education, with educational service units, with learning communities, or through interlocal agreements to develop and provide such supplemental reading intervention programs. Each supplemental reading intervention program shall:

- (a) Be provided to any student identified as having a reading deficiency;
- (b) Be implemented during regular school hours in addition to regularly scheduled reading instruction unless otherwise agreed to by a parent or guardian; and
- (c) Make available a summer reading program each summer for any student who has been enrolled in grade one or higher and is identified as continuing to have a reading deficiency at the conclusion of the school year preceding such summer reading program. Such summer reading

program may be held in conjunction with existing summer programs in the school district or in a community reading program not affiliated with the school district or may be offered online.

(2) The supplemental reading intervention program may also include:

- (a) Reading intervention techniques that are based on scientific research and best practices;
- (b) Diagnostic assessments to frequently monitor student progress throughout the school year and adjust instruction accordingly;
- (c) Intensive intervention using strategies to match the weaknesses identified in the diagnostic assessment:
 - (i) Development in phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, and reading comprehension;
 - (ii) Explicit and systematic instruction with detailed explanations, extensive opportunities for guided practice, and opportunities for error corrections and feedback; or
 - (iii) Daily targeted individual or small-group reading intervention based on student needs as determined by diagnostic assessment data subject to planned extracurricular school activities;
- (d) Strategies and resources to assist with reading skills at home, including parent-training workshops and suggestions for parent-guided home reading; or
- (e) Access to before-school or after-school supplemental reading intervention with a teacher or tutor who has specialized training in reading intervention.

The school of any student who is identified as having a reading deficiency shall notify such student's parents or guardians either in writing or by electronic communication no later than fifteen working days after the identification of the reading deficiency that the student has been identified as having a reading deficiency and that an individual reading improvement plan will be established and shared with the parents or guardians.

Any student who is identified as having a reading deficiency shall receive an individual reading improvement plan no later than thirty days after the identification of such reading deficiency. The reading improvement plan may be created by the teacher, the principal, other pertinent school personnel, and the parents or guardians of the student and shall describe the reading intervention services the student will receive through the supplemental reading intervention program pursuant to this policy. Each such student shall receive reading intervention services through the supplemental reading intervention program pursuant to this policy until the student is no longer identified as having a reading deficiency.

Legal Reference: Nebraska Reading Intervention Act

Date of Adoption: July 9, 2018

StudentsCollection of Information Relating to Dyslexia

The District will collect and maintain the following information relating to dyslexia during each school year:

- (1) Testing for a specific learning disability in the area of reading, including tests that identify characteristics of dyslexia and the results of such tests;
- (2) The number of students identified as having a reading issue, including dyslexia, pursuant to the assessment administered under the Nebraska Reading Improvement Act and Policy 6213;
- (3) The number of students identified in Paragraph (2) that have shown growth on the measure used to identify the reading issue; and
- (4) All other data required by law and/or the District's special education obligations.

By July 1st of each year, the District will provide the Nebraska State Department of Education with information collected about dyslexia, as requested by the Department.

Any student or parent/guardian with questions or concerns about dyslexia are encouraged to contact the District's Director of Special Education.

Legal Reference: LB 298 (2023)

Date of Adoption: [Insert Date]

Instruction

Experimental/Innovative Program

The professional staff of the school system is encouraged to seek improvement of the educational program of the schools.

Experimental programs and "pilot studies" must have the approval of the Superintendent.

Date of Adoption: December 13, 2010

Instruction

Curriculum Guides

Curriculum guides shall be prepared in harmony with the legal requirement of the state and the purposes of the program of instruction adopted by the board.

The Superintendent shall have general coordinating authority over the formation of all courses of study and curriculum guides.

Date of Adoption: December 13, 2010

InstructionHomework

Homework is a learning activity related to the experience within the school. Its purposes are to supplement and to enrich work done in the classrooms; to provide for individual interests; and to promote competency in skills; to use resource materials; to integrate learning and to teach the proper budgeting of time. Homework should be assigned at the discretion of the classroom teacher. Work not completed during the school day is not considered homework, but rather, the completion of assigned school work.

Date of Adoption: December 13, 2010

InstructionPurpose of Homework

No hard and fast rules concerning homework can be made. Some generally accepted principles should govern the teacher in the assignment of homework.

1. There should be flexibility and differences in the assignment to individual students. These should stem from real needs and the consideration of the total education background of the individual student.
2. Homework should serve a definite purpose, to provide drill or practice on a principle or skill already taught; to provide real-life application of the matter in hand; to develop appreciation for or knowledge of community resources; or to develop the personal culture of the student.
3. Homework should be used as a technique for learning, not as "busy work."
4. Homework should not be ordinarily assigned as punishment.
5. Homework should not be used to replace or reduce supervised study, which should take place during school hours. This type of study usually achieves better results than homework.
6. Homework is more effective if a conference with the parent results in understanding of purpose and ways in which help at home can best be offered.
7. There should be a cooperative effort on the part of teachers to coordinate homework assignments so students are not overburdened with excessive quantities of homework.
8. Each teacher should teach students what to study and how to study.
9. Homework should be checked by the teacher and mistakes of students indicated for correction with individual comments wherever indicated or possible.

Date of Adoption: December 13, 2010

InstructionGuidance

The classroom teacher is a key figure in the guidance of youth in both the elementary and secondary schools. The counselor and teachers, by pooling their knowledge and resources, accept the students where they are and help them go as far as their potentialities permit. The students are helped to know and develop their abilities and to recognize and accept their limitations, and in this way to better understand themselves.

The guidance program includes five (5) basic services:

1. Inventory Service. Emphasis is placed upon a system of accurate and complete student records that accentuate the uniqueness of the individual students.
2. Informational Service. Information in the areas of occupational, educational and vocational guidance is made available to teachers, students and parents.
3. Counseling Service. For an effective program, all students are encouraged to seek individual counseling. Students with needs beyond that of the counseling program are encouraged to seek the services of private counseling.
4. Placement Service. This service assists students in the selection of appropriate occupations, educational institutions and work experiences.
5. Follow-up Service. A continuing follow-up of former students through surveys should be pursued in order to evaluate and improve the effectiveness of the school program.

Date of Adoption: December 13, 2010

InstructionField Trips

Field trips shall be considered as instruction and planned as such with definite objectives determined in advance.

Teachers or other certified personnel shall accompany pupils on all field trips and shall assume responsibility for their proper conduct.

When a field trip is made to a place of business or industry, the teacher shall insist that an employee of the host company serve as conductor.

Appropriate education experience and proper supervision shall be supplied for any pupils whose parents do not wish them to participate in a field trip.

Date of Adoption: December 13, 2010

InstructionActivities

A vital component of a comprehensive education program is a properly supervised activities program. Such activities, properly supervised and kept in proper perspective, shall be maintained in the school program in order to give students opportunities for experiences not possible in classroom activities. Care and consideration should be given by educators, coaches, sponsors and parents to the amount of time these activities take students away from school during school hours or away from studies on "school nights."

Date of Adoption: December 13, 2010

InstructionActivity Funds Management

School activity funds may be expended only for purposes which may benefit the student body of the school. All rules, regulations, and procedures for the conduct, operation and maintenance of extra-curricular accounts, and for the safe-guarding, accounting and auditing of all monies received and derived therefrom are to contribute to that objective.

The accounting system for managing student activity funds shall be designed to encourage the largest possible educational return to students without sacrificing the safety of funds or exposing students to undue responsibility or unnecessary routine.

Date of Adoption: December 13, 2010

Instruction

Activities

School Colors

The official colors of Emerson-Hubbard Public Schools shall be Purple and Gold. An additional color or colors may be used for trim, but the predominant colors shall remain Purple and Gold.

Date of Adoption: December 13, 2010

Concussions: Return to Learn Protocol

Students who sustain a concussion and return to school may need informal or formal accommodations, modifications of curriculum, and monitoring by medical or academic staff until the student is fully recovered.

The school administration of [Name] Public Schools adopts the NDE Guidance entitled “Bridging the Gap from Concussion to the Classroom,” (2nd Edition)¹ and accompanying Appendix,² as its return to learn protocol, with the recognition that each student who has sustained a concussion will require an individualized response.

Any student, parent or guardian who suspects that the student sustained a concussion must immediately inform the student’s coach or building administrator. If a student is suspected of having a concussion, the student may not be permitted to participate or practice in any school-sponsored activity.

The District encourages full cooperation and support from both students and parents in each student’s return to learn protocol.

¹ <https://cdn.education.ne.gov/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/Return-to-Learn-Bridging-the-Gap-7.31.2019.pdf>

² <http://www.education.ne.gov/sped/birsst/Concussion%20Appendix%20final%20February%202014.pdf>.

InstructionInitiations, Hazing, Secret Clubs and Outside Organizations

Initiations. Initiations by classes, clubs or athletic teams are prohibited except with the approval of the administration. Any student who engages in or encourages initiations that have not been approved by the administration is subject to disciplinary action, up to and including denial of any or all school privileges and expulsion.

The administration may only give consent to initiation activities that are consistent with student conduct expectations and that do not present a risk of physical or mental injury or belittlement.

Hazing. Hazing by classes, clubs, athletic teams or other student organizations are prohibited. Hazing means any activity by which a person intentionally or recklessly endangers the physical or mental health or safety of an individual for the purpose of initiation into, admission into, affiliation with, or continued membership with any school organization. Such prohibited hazing activity includes whipping, beating, branding, an act of sexual penetration, an exposure of the genitals of the body done with intent to affront or alarm any person, a lewd fondling or caressing of the body of another person, forced and prolonged calisthenics, prolonged exposure to the elements, forced consumption of any food, liquor, beverage, drug, or harmful substance not generally intended for human consumption, prolonged sleep deprivation, sexual conduct, nudity, or any brutal treatment or the performance of any act which endangers the physical or mental health or safety of any person or the coercing of any such activity. Hazing is prohibited even though the person who has been the subject of the hazing consents to the activity. Any student who engages in or encourages hazing is subject to disciplinary action, up to and including denial of any or all school privileges and expulsion.

Secret Organizations. It is unlawful for students to participate in or be members of any secret fraternity or secret organization that is in any degree a school organization. Any student who violates this restriction is subject to disciplinary action, up to and including denial of any or all school privileges and expulsion.

Outside Organizations. It is unlawful for any person, whether a student of the District or not, to enter upon the school grounds or any school building for the purpose of rushing or soliciting, while there, any student to join any fraternity, society, or association organized outside of the schools. Any person who violates this restriction is subject to criminal prosecution and removal and exclusion from school grounds.

Legal Reference: Neb. Rev. Stat. Sections 79-2,101 to 79-2,102
 Student Discipline Act, Neb. Rev. Stat. Sections 79-254 to
 79-296
 Neb. Rev. Stat. Sections 28-311.06 to 28-311.07

Date of Adoption: [Insert Date]

InstructionStudents Participation in Athletic Contests Between Schools

Students in kindergarten through sixth grade may not participate in athletic contests between schools within a school system or between school systems. Annual field or play days are excluded from this restriction.

Elementary school systems having seventh and eighth grade athletics may include sixth grade boys or girls if the combined enrollment for seventh and eighth grade is fewer than 12 boys or 12 girls and if the school board has a policy regulating participation for sixth graders. The board's policy for participation of sixth graders is as follows: a sixth grade student may participate if (1) the student meets the same standards applicable to seventh and eighth graders and (2) participation in the activity is not prohibited by the bylaws of the Nebraska School Activities Association.

Students in seventh and eighth grades may participate in interscholastic competitions subject to and in a manner consistent with the bylaws of the Nebraska School Activities Association. The scholastic eligibility rules for seventh and eighth grades shall be the same as established by the school board for high school interscholastic competitions and, in the absence of such rules, shall be the minimum established by the Nebraska School Activities Association.

Legal Reference: NDE Rule 10.004
Nebraska School Activities Association Middle Level Activities Bylaws,
Article 9

Date of Adoption: [Friday October 3, 2014]

InstructionActivitiesReturn to Learn From Cancer

The Superintendent or designee shall make available training on how to recognize that students who have been treated for pediatric cancer and returned to school may need informal or formal accommodations, modifications of curriculum, and monitoring by medical or academic staff.

A 504 team meeting will be held, as appropriate, to develop individual return to learn accommodations and modifications.

Legal Reference: Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 79-2,148

Date of Adoption: July 11, 2016

Instruction

Dedications and Commencement

Traditions are a cherished part of the community life and Emerson-Hubbard Public Schools expresses an interest in maintaining those traditions which have a significance to the community.

Date of Adoption: December 13, 2010

InstructionSelection and Review of Instructional and Media MaterialsA) Assignment of Responsibility

The Board of Education reserves responsibility for the final acquisition of materials, but the responsibility for the selection of instructional materials is delegated to the Superintendent, with the assistance of the instructional and media staff, to establish procedures and regulations for the selection of instructional and media materials, reviewing their effectiveness, and dealing with complaints concerning instructional materials. The Superintendent may establish committees consisting of teachers and media staff to assist with these responsibilities.

B) Criteria for Instructional Materials

The selection of instructional materials shall be made in accordance with Board of Education policies, legal requirements, and reflect the following philosophy:

1. To provide materials that will stimulate growth in factual knowledge, practical skills, literary appreciation, aesthetic values, and ethical standards.
2. To provide a background of information which will enable students to make intelligent judgments in their daily life.
3. To provide materials that will enrich and support the curriculum, taking into consideration the varied interest, abilities, and maturity levels of the students served.
4. To provide materials on opposing sides on controversial issues so that young citizens may develop under guidance the practice of critical thinking and analysis.
5. To provide materials representative of the many religious, ethnic, and cultural groups and their contributions to our American heritage.
6. To place principle above personal opinion and reason above prejudices in the selection of materials of the highest quality in order to assure a comprehensive collection appropriate for the instructional materials.

C) Criteria for Media Materials

The selection of media materials shall be made in accordance with Board of Education policies, legal requirements, and with the Library Bill of Rights of the American Library Association, which Bill of Rights has been accepted by the American Association of School Librarians reflect the following philosophy:

To provide a comprehensive collection of instructional materials selected in compliance with basic, written selection principles, and to provide maximum accessibility to these materials.

To provide materials that will support the curriculum, taking into consideration the individual's needs, and the varied interest, ability, socio-economic backgrounds, and maturity levels of the students served.

To provide materials for teachers and students that will encourage growth in knowledge, and that will develop literary, cultural and aesthetic appreciation, and ethical standards.

To provide materials which reflect the ideas and beliefs of religious, social, political, historical, and ethnic groups and their contribution to the American World Heritage and Culture, thereby enabling students to develop an intellectual integrity in forming judgments.

To provide a written statement, approved by the local Boards of Education of the procedures for meeting the challenge of censorship of materials in school library media centers.

To provide qualified professional personnel to serve teachers and students.

D) Procedures for Reconsideration of Materials

Occasional objections to some materials may be voiced despite the care taken in selection and qualification of the personnel selecting materials. The following procedures apply equally to all complaints whether they be from students, parents, school personnel or district patrons.

1. Complaints should be presented to the Principal of the school where the material is used. In the event the person with the concern does not wish to make a formal complaint, the concern may be expressed to the Principal at the school at which the material was received. The Principal shall submit informal concerns to the Superintendent for the Superintendent's consideration.
2. Formal complaints about instructional materials must be presented in writing on a form approved by the board of education. In the absence of such a form, the complainant shall be required to submit a written complaint setting forth: complainant's identity, material challenged, detailed statement of reason(s) for challenging the material, action the complainant is requesting, and such other information as the Principal may reasonably request.
3. When a formal written complaint is completed and returned to the principal, the principal will discuss the issue and the procedures to be followed in resolving the issues with the person filing the complaint. The principal with whom the complaint was filed shall notify the other school administrators and also advise those faculty members who may use the instructional material, or the media staff in the case of media material, that a complaint has been filed. The school administrators shall

decide whether to appoint a building-level review committee or a district-level review committee to study the complaint. The principals will convene building-level review committees. These building-level committees shall consist of five or more committee members composed of staff and community patrons. The superintendent of schools or his designee will convene district-level review committees. These district-level committees shall consist of five or more members composed of staff and community patrons.

4. The review committees shall consider district philosophy, the professional judgment of teachers, reviews of the material by other competent authorities, compatibility with the school district's adopted curriculum, the teacher's stated goals, as well as the views of the complainant. The review committee's recommendation and all accompanying rationale shall be forwarded to the board of education for its review and final decision. The school board's decision may be to remove the material in question from district use, to modify the material for continued uses, or to reject the complaint and continue to use the material.
5. Any materials identified in a complaint may remain in use pending its review and its disposition by the board of education. Principals may, upon written request of parent(s), excuse students from using the material, or may direct teachers to use suitable substitutes, and in the case of challenged media material the Principal may place the material on a reserve shelf where it may be checked out by students only with written parent permission. However, the school shall reserve the right to require students to use material or to engage in activities which are a part of regular and/or required curricular activities.
6. Where the same or essentially the same materials have been the subject of a challenge which has been decided by the board, and another complaint is made against the material by either the same or a different person, the complaint shall be considered by the Superintendent, who may deny the complaint without following the review procedure. In considering the complaint, the Superintendent shall consider whether the complaint raises any substantially different issue than that previously decided by the board.

Date of Adoption: December 13, 2010

InstructionParent Requests for Exclusion

Parents may request that their child be excused from the study of a given book, instructional unit or particular literary work. The Principal shall determine whether to grant such requests based on legal requirements relating to the request, the reason given for the request, the effect of the request on the student's educational development and the educational program, and the availability of alternative materials or instruction for the student. In the event the Principal does not grant the request, the parent may request a review be conducted by the Superintendent, based on the same criteria.

Date of Adoption: December 13, 2010

