

## **Executive Summary: 2026-2027 Handbooks**

In preparation for the 2026-2027 school year, administration has completed the annual review and revision of the district's five primary handbooks: Highland Elementary, Monroe Center Grade School, Meridian Junior High School, Stillman Valley High School, and the Athletics/Activities Handbook. Redlined versions of these documents have been provided for your review.

### **Purpose of Request**

We are seeking Board approval for these updates during this month's meeting. Finalizing these documents now ensures they are available to families during the early registration process, which is scheduled to begin later this month.

### **Key Revision Highlights**

While many updates involve routine date changes and personnel shifts, several key policy adjustments are noted across the buildings:

- Safety & Conduct (SVHS): Revisions include expanding tobacco/nicotine prohibitions to explicitly cover vapes and electronic cigarettes. Additionally, the attendance policy has been tightened, requiring a medical excuse for any absences exceeding seven days per semester, down from the previous ten-day threshold.
- Academic Support (MJHS): The Junior High has formalized a refined retake policy focused on mastery and continuous feedback. They've also included a Clubs Policy under Athletic/Activities Ineligibility.
- Technology Operations (Elementary): Both Highland and Monroe Center will move to a model where Chromebooks remain at school rather than being transported home daily, as remote learning is no longer utilized for inclement weather days.
- Athletics/Activities: The Building Security Guidelines for Athletes section has been updated.
- Administrative Fees: Minor adjustments have been made to replacement costs for student bus scan cards and lanyards to ensure efficient and safe transportation tracking.

### **Recommendation**

Administration recommends the Board consider the approval of the 2026-2027 handbooks to maintain clear, consistent expectations for our students, staff, and community.