

Ainsworth Community Schools  
Board of Education  
Public Hearings & Regular Meeting  
District Office  
June 10, 2024 - 8:00 PM

AGENDA

*The Mission Slogan of Ainsworth Community Schools is "ACS CARES: We are Committed to Achieving Results for Everyone's Success"*

*In accordance with the Nebraska Open Meetings Act 84-1407-14 the Open Meetings Act is posted on the south wall of the District Office Board Meeting Room.*

1. Opening Procedure, Regular Meeting of Board
  - 1.1. Call to Order, Roll Call, and Pledge of Allegiance
  - 1.2. Approval of Agenda
  - 1.3. Welcome Extended to Visitors
  - 1.4. Community Input on any Topic: This is your opportunity to speak to any topic concerning the school district. Since it is not an agenda item the board cannot discuss or take action at this time on the matter. Future discussion can be requested as an agenda item. Thank you for your participation.
  - 1.5. Community Input on Agenda Items: This is your opportunity to speak to items on the agenda. If you are not a part of the presentation of the agenda item you need to speak now. Thank you for your participation.
  - 1.6. Annual Public Hearing - Student Fees
  - 1.7. Annual Public Hearing - Parent & Family Involvement or Engagement Policies
  - 1.8. Bullying Policy Review
  - 1.9. Staff Conduct with Students Policy Review
  - 1.10. Consent Agenda
    - 1.10.1. Minutes of Previous Meeting(s) , attached
    - 1.10.2. Set the next regular meeting for July 8, 2024, at 8:00 p.m. in the District Office. The current agendas will be available for public inspection in the office of the superintendent.
    - 1.10.3. Payment of Claims, Authorization Report, attached
    - 1.10.4. Cash Flow & Financial Reports
2. Reports/Information to the Board
  - 2.1. Counselor Update - Dual Credit, Scholarships, etc.
  - 2.2. Principals and Activities Director Reports
  - 2.3. Superintendent Report
3. Action Items
  - 3.1. Approval of Student-Parent Handbooks for 2024-25
  - 3.2. Approval of Teacher-Staff Handbooks for 2024-25
  - 3.3. Policy 402.17 - Workplace Privacy (2nd Reading)
  - 3.4. NASB Policy Updates (Neb Legislative Action)
  - 3.5. NCDC Invoice for 2024
4. Adjourn

The Board reserves the right to move into closed session to protect the public interest or needless injury to the

reputation of an individual for any action item listed on the agenda. The Board may, at its discretion, change the order of the agenda to accommodate unforeseen issues related to an agenda item.



# **Ainsworth Community Schools**

**520 East 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, PO Box 65  
Ainsworth NE 69210  
402-387-2333  
Fax 402-387-0525**

Dale Hafer  
SUPERINTENDENT

Dedra Stoner  
Laurie Witte  
DISTRICT OFFICE

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## **Board of Education**

### **Public Hearing – Student Fees Policy**

**June 10, 2024 located in the ACS District Office**

**8:00 p.m.**

#### **Purpose**

Schools are required to hold a public hearing annually to review fees and/or materials supplied by students and to consider changes to the policy. Additionally, schools are required to provide a complete list of fees and materials that students are expected to provide during the following school year.

#### **Agenda**

1. Open the Student Fee Hearing
2. Review the Student Fee Policy and List of Fees/Waivers
3. Receive Comment(s) from the Public
4. Adjourn the Hearing

## STUDENT FEES

The board realizes some activities may require additional expenditures which are properly to be borne by students as a separate charge. Such charges may be waived as specified below depending upon the student's eligibility for the free and reduced-price lunch program. No fees, specialized or nonspecialized attire or equipment shall be required of students outside this policy. This policy does not apply to tuition payments by nonresident students.

For the purposes of this policy, the following definitions shall apply:

1. Extracurricular activities means student activities or organizations which are supervised or administered by the school district, which do not count toward graduation or advancement between grades, and in which participation is not otherwise required by the school district;
2. Postsecondary education costs means tuition and other fees associated with obtaining credit from a postsecondary educational institution.

The district may charge student fees or require students to provide specialized equipment or attire in the following areas:

1. Participation in extracurricular activities, including extracurricular music courses;
2. Admission fees and transportation charges for spectators attending extracurricular activities;
3. Postsecondary education costs, limited to tuition and fees associated with obtaining credits from the postsecondary institution;
4. Transportation fees for option students not qualifying for free lunches and nonresident students as allowed by state statute;
5. Copies of student files or records as allowed by state statute;
6. Reimbursement to the district for property lost or damaged by the student;
7. Before-and-after-school or prekindergarten services in accordance with state statute;
8. Summer school or night school; and
9. Breakfast and lunch programs.

The district may also require students to furnish musical instruments for participation in optional music courses that are not extracurricular activities. Students qualifying for free or reduced-price lunches shall be provided with a musical instrument of the school's choice.

Waivers shall be provided to students who qualify for free or reduced-price lunches for fees, specialized equipment and specialized attire required for participation in extracurricular activities.

The superintendent shall establish a Student Fee Fund and ensure that funds collected as

Approved July 13, 2020 Reviewed \_\_\_\_\_ Revised \_\_\_\_\_



79-734 (books, equipment and supplies)

79-2,104 (student files)

79-2,125 to 2,134 (student fees law)

79-1104 (before-and-after-school services)

79-1106 to 1108 (learners with high ability)

Cross Reference: 505.05 Fines for Lost or Damaged Items  
506 Student Activities  
507.01 Student Records Access  
801 Transportation  
802.05 Free or Reduced Cost Meals Eligibility  
1005.01 Public Complaints

**Appendix “1” to Student Fees Policy  
of  
Ainsworth Community Schools  
Additional Specification of Required Materials and Fees**

<b>Program</b>	<b>General Description of Fee or Material:</b>	<b>\$ Amount of Fee (Anticipated or Maximum)<sup>1</sup> or Specific Material Required:</b>
<b><u>Elementary Program:</u></b>		
Physical Education classes	Appropriate clothing (non-specialized attire)	Tennis shoes and socks, running shorts, T-shirt, undergarments.
Art classes and special projects or events	Appropriate clothing (non-specialized attire)	Old shirt for painting; other clothing which may get paint on it or otherwise be damaged.
Music—Optional band courses	Musical instruments	Musical instruments and accessories (reeds, valve oil, drum sticks, lyres, flip folders, slide grease, reed guards, cleaning swabs, mouthpiece brushes, pad savers, ligatures, recorders and a "gig bag", etc.) Limited instruments available for use by any student. Refundable damage deposit of \$20.00 for use of school owned instrument.
Classroom supplies	General supplies, such as writing instruments (pens, pencils, crayons, markers, notebooks, etc.)	None--necessary classroom supplies will be made available by the school. Students will be responsible for the replacement cost of damaged or lost supplies. Students are encouraged but not required to bring items from a class supply list that may be handed out by the office or a teacher.
Field Trips	Transportation and admission costs of field trips	None—costs of school sponsored, class-related field trips will be paid for by the school. Parents may be encouraged but not required to pay for field trip costs of up to \$5.00 per student for each field trip to defray costs.

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<sup>1</sup> Generally, dollar amounts are stated in terms of “maximums.” The actual fee or charge may be less during the school year.

Summer school courses	Classes offered during the summer, or at night, if any	Not to exceed \$60 per class.
Copies	Use of school copiers (except for one copy of the student file, which will be provided without charge)	Ten cents (10¢) per page when charges apply.
School Meals		Breakfast--\$2.00 Lunch--\$2.50 Prices are maximums based on one meal per day, will vary depending on the number of meals or items purchased by the student, and may be adjusted during the year.
	<b>General Description of Fee or Material:</b>	<b>\$ Amount of Fee (Anticipated or Maximum) or Specific Material Required:</b>
<b>Secondary Program:</b>		
Physical Education classes	Appropriate clothing (non-specialized attire)	Tennis shoes and socks, running shorts, T-shirt, undergarments.
Art and shop classes and special projects	Appropriate clothing (non-specialized attire)	Old shirt for painting; other clothing which may get paint on it or otherwise be damaged; protective clothing for shop classes.
Music—Optional band courses	Musical instruments	Musical instruments and accessories (reeds, valve oil, etc.) Limited instruments available for use by any student. Damage deposit of \$20.00 for use of school owned instrument.
Classroom Supplies	General supplies, such as writing instruments (pens, pencils, crayons, markers, notebooks, etc.)	None--necessary classroom supplies will be made available by the school. Students will be responsible for the replacement cost of damaged or lost supplies. Students are encouraged but not required to bring items from class supply lists that may be handed out by the office or individual teachers.
Laptop	Annual \$50 non-refundable Fee	Nonrefundable \$50 for one Apple MacBook, charger, battery, carrying case, & carrying strap.
Advanced math or science classes	Specialized calculators	Refundable damage deposit of \$25 per semester may be required for students who wish to use school calculators outside the classroom. Students are encouraged but not required to

		purchase such equipment for their personal use.
Copies	Use of school copiers (except for one copy of the student file, which will be provided without charge)	Ten cents (10¢) per page when charges apply.
School Meals		Breakfast--\$2.00 Lunch--\$3.70 Prices are maximums based on one meal per day, will vary depending on the number of meals or items purchased by the student, and may be adjusted during the year.
Post-secondary education classes	Tuition and fees for college courses taken for credit.	None--Any postsecondary education costs are to be paid directly by students to the college.
College entrance tests and preparation	Prep programs & tests	Costs of college entrance tests or prep courses, such as ACT preparation tutoring, PSAT test, and ACT test, are optional and to be paid directly to the private companies involved.
Summer school courses	Classes offered during the summer, or at night, if any	Drivers education class: \$325 Other classes: \$60 per class.
Student Locker usage	Use of school combination lock.	Refundable damage deposit of \$25 per year may be required for students who wish to use a school locker.
Parking	Use of school parking lot during school day	\$20.00 per year. Students may be required to sign and display a parking permit.
<b><u>Extracurricular and other programs:</u></b>	<b>General Description of Fee or Material</b>	<b>\$ Amount of Fee (Anticipated or Maximum) or Specific Material Required</b>
<b><u>Athletic Programs:</u></b>		
Admission	Spectator fees for admission to events	\$5.00 per event maximum. Students may purchase an Activity Ticket for \$35.00 per year. For District and Conference events hosted by the School, cost to be set by NSAA but not to exceed \$20.00 per event.

Athletic Physicals	NSAA required athletic physicals	Cost varies; payable directly to student's physician or clinic.																		
Athletic Participation Fee	Fee to participate in athletic programs.	In the event an athletic participation fee is charged, the fee will be \$50 per year maximum.																		
Equipment and attire	Students are responsible for required equipment and attire appropriate to the sport or activity which are not provided by the school, and are responsible for any optional clothing, equipment, or other items associated with the sport or activity.	<p>Required items include athletic undergarments (supporter, bra, socks and undershirts), practice attire, including shorts, shirts, socks and shoes suitable for the activity, and dress attire suitable for team travel. Optional items for which students are responsible include: personal athletic bags, hair ties, sweat bands, non-required gloves, towels, forearm pads and personal medical devices (braces, orthopedic inserts, arm or leg pads, etc.). Additional required items for particular sports or activities include:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="950 909 1435 1583"> <tr> <td data-bbox="950 909 1192 953">Basketball</td> <td data-bbox="1192 909 1435 953">No additional</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="950 953 1192 997">Cross County</td> <td data-bbox="1192 953 1435 997">No additional</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="950 997 1192 1041">Football</td> <td data-bbox="1192 997 1435 1041">No additional</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="950 1041 1192 1121">Golf</td> <td data-bbox="1192 1041 1435 1121">Golf bag &amp; clubs</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="950 1121 1192 1234">Speech/Debate</td> <td data-bbox="1192 1121 1435 1234">Dress attire; copies of research</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="950 1234 1192 1278">Track</td> <td data-bbox="1192 1234 1435 1278">No additional</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="950 1278 1192 1358">Volleyball</td> <td data-bbox="1192 1278 1435 1358">Volleyball knee pads</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="950 1358 1192 1402">Wrestling</td> <td data-bbox="1192 1358 1435 1402">Knee pads.</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="950 1402 1192 1583">Cheerleading and Dance Team Squads</td> <td data-bbox="1192 1402 1435 1583">Shoes, approved uniforms (top &amp; skirt; jacket), poms and other accessories</td> </tr> </table>	Basketball	No additional	Cross County	No additional	Football	No additional	Golf	Golf bag & clubs	Speech/Debate	Dress attire; copies of research	Track	No additional	Volleyball	Volleyball knee pads	Wrestling	Knee pads.	Cheerleading and Dance Team Squads	Shoes, approved uniforms (top & skirt; jacket), poms and other accessories
Basketball	No additional																			
Cross County	No additional																			
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Golf	Golf bag & clubs																			
Speech/Debate	Dress attire; copies of research																			
Track	No additional																			
Volleyball	Volleyball knee pads																			
Wrestling	Knee pads.																			
Cheerleading and Dance Team Squads	Shoes, approved uniforms (top & skirt; jacket), poms and other accessories																			
Travel meals	Meals	Students are responsible for their own meals while traveling. Meals are furnished for overnight district and/or state-level competitions. Individual sports or activities may request students to pay up to \$50 per season to be used towards team travel meals.																		

Locker use	Padlock for gym locker	Refundable damage deposit of \$25 per season may be required.
Camps and clinics	Registration and other costs of camps or clinics	Students are responsible for the cost of all clinics, camps and conditioning programs. Any personal items purchased at camps or clinics, such as t-shirts, shall be at the student's expense.
Athletic Clubs	Letterman's club and other clubs supporting the athletic program	Annual dues not to exceed \$50.00 per club if assessed by its members.
Marching Band and Musical Groups	Equipment and attire.	Students will be responsible for the same costs as are set out for the athletic program. Students will be responsible for supplying their own musical instruments and accessories and for their own uniforms. Uniforms for the marching band will be supplied by the school; students may be required to pay a refundable band uniform rental fee of up to \$50.00.
<b><u>Clubs/Organizations:</u></b>		
Future Business Leaders (FBLA)	State & national dues, meals and activities	Annual dues not to exceed \$50.00 per club.
Future Farmers (FFA)	State & national dues, meals and activities	Annual dues not to exceed \$50.00 per club.
Future Career/Community Leaders (FCCLA)	State & national dues, meals and activities	Annual dues not to exceed \$50.00 per club.
National Honor Society	State & national dues, meals and activities	Annual dues not to exceed \$50.00 per club.
Science Club	State & national dues, meals and activities	Annual dues not to exceed \$50.00 per club.
Foreign Language Club	State & national dues, meals and activities	Annual dues not to exceed \$50.00 per club.
Student Council	State & national dues, meals and activities	Annual dues not to exceed \$50.00 per club.
<b><u>Social &amp; Recognition Activities:</u></b>		
School plays, musicals and social activities	Admission to events	\$10.00 per play or activity
School dances	Admission to prom, homecoming, etc.	\$25.00 per event

Class dues		Each of the six secondary classes may assess its members an amount not to exceed \$50.00 annually for rental and decoration of dance facilities, punch and snacks at social activities, memorials and recognition plaques, flowers, and cards, and similar class activities. The payment of such an assessment shall be strictly voluntary, but students who do not pay may be denied admission to extracurricular activities supported by the class dues.
Senior recognition assessment	Optional graduation activities	Participation in class activities attendant to graduation (such as being part of the composite picture, special yearbook pages, etc.) is not required in order for students to receive their high school diploma. Students who choose to participate will be required to pay the cost of the items involved in the graduation ceremony and attendant class activities. These may include the rental of graduation robes, caps, tassels, class flowers, class gift, yearbook picture page, and class composite picture. A single Senior Class Recognition Assessment, not to exceed \$50, will be assessed to those Seniors who elect to participate in such activities.

<p>Extracurricular Activity Trips</p>	<p>Transportation, lodging, meals, admission to events, etc.</p>	<p>Students are responsible for costs of school sponsored trips where the trip is an extracurricular activity. Refer to Policy and/or AR's No. 6315, "Educational Trips"; 5305, "Activity Funds"; 3420, "Fund Raising"; 3515.1, "Transportation"; 3515.3, "Activity and Field Trips". The maximum costs of such trips will be \$1,000 per student.</p> <p>If the trip is not school sponsored, the costs of the trip are not subject to this policy and no fee waivers will apply. A trip is not school sponsored if: it is not supervised or administered by the school, attendance on the trip does not count towards graduation credit or grade advancement, and participation on the trip is voluntary for students.</p>
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## 2023-24 Student Fees

ORGANIZATION	Students	Fee	Total
<b>Elementary</b>			
Snack Milk Money for Kindergarten, 1st grade (Full Pay)(S1)	18	\$0.50	\$774.00
Snack Milk Money for Kindergarten, 1st grade (Full Pay)(S2)	17	\$0.50	\$731.00
Elementary Breakfast - Free	56	\$0.00	\$0.00
Elementary Breakfast - Reduced	20	\$0.00	\$0.00
Elementary Breakfast - Full	56	\$1.90	
Elementary Lunch - Free	56	\$0.00	\$0.00
Elementary Lunch - Reduced	20	\$0.40	
Elementary Lunch - Full	56	\$3.35	
<b>Middle School</b>			
Class of 2028 : Dues	27	\$5.00	\$135.00
Class of 2029: Dues	26	\$5.00	\$130.00
Class of 2030: Dues	29	\$3.00	\$87.00
Athletic Event Admission (Gate Receipts)	-	\$3.00-\$6.00	\$5,295.00
Fees for damage or lost property	-	\$3.00-\$50.00	\$0.00
Charged for athletic equipment, uniforms not returned	-	\$10-\$50	\$15.00
Laptop Repairs/Fees		\$22-\$1000	\$100.00
Summer School		\$25.00	\$0.00
General Shop (Lab Fees)		\$15-\$25	\$0.00
Band Repairs/Fees (reeds, oil, instrument repairs, shirts)		\$3-\$200	\$323.35
Middle School Breakfast - Free	39	\$0.00	\$0.00
Middle School Breakfast - Reduced	11	\$0.00	\$0.00
Middle School Breakfast - Full	63	\$1.90	\$0.00
Middle School Lunch- Free	39	\$0.00	\$0.00
Middle School Lunch - Reduced	11	\$0.40	\$0.00
Middle School Lunch - Full	63	\$3.55	\$0.00
<b>High School</b>			
Class of 2024 : Dues	36	\$0.00	\$0.00
Class of 2025 : Dues	28	\$10.00	\$270.00
Class of 2026 : Dues	25	\$10.00	\$250.00
Class of 2027 : Dues	26	\$0.00	\$0.00
Laptop Deposit		\$35.00	\$1,855.00
Laptop Repairs/Fees		\$22-\$1000	\$802.00
Pom Squad	-	\$50-\$200	\$0.00
Cheerleader	-	\$20-\$250	\$2,990.43
FBLA : Dues		\$0.00	\$0.00
FFA : Dues/Jacket/Convention		\$20-\$55	\$0.00
FCCLA : Dues		\$0.00	\$0.00
Thespians : Dues/tshirts		\$0.00	\$0.00
Band Repairs/Fees (reeds, oil, instrument repairs, shirts)		\$3-\$200	\$412.00
Chorus (shirts)		\$10-\$70	\$654.00
Visual Arts Club : Dues/Shirt/Trip		\$10-\$15	\$0.00
General Shop (Lab Fees)	-	\$4-\$300	\$80.00
Speech Tournament (Motel & Shirts)	-	\$5-\$35	\$0.00
Athletic Event Admission (Gate Receipts)	-	\$5-\$6	\$42,381.58
Fees for damage or lost property	-	\$3-\$50	\$10.00
Charged for athletic equipment, uniforms not returned		\$10-\$50	\$0.00
Library Fines (MS-HS)	-	\$0.05-\$30.00	\$81.50
All Sports Passess-K-6 \$25 7-12 \$35 Adult \$75/Family \$200		\$25.00-\$200.00	\$3,680.00
Summer School		\$50.00	\$0.00
High School Breakfast - Free	35	\$0.00	\$0.00
High School Breakfast - Reduced	20	\$0.00	\$0.00
High School Breakfast - Full	60	\$1.90	\$0.00
High School Lunch - Free	35	\$0.00	\$0.00
High School Lunch - Reduced	20	\$0.40	\$0.00
High School Lunch - Full	60	\$3.55	\$0.00
<b>TOTAL</b>			\$61,056.86



# **Ainsworth Community Schools**

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## **Board of Education**

### **Public Hearing – Parent & Family Involvement Policies**

**June 10, 2024 located in the ACS District Office**

**8:00 p.m. (Immediately following the Student Fees Hearing)**

#### **Purpose**

A parental involvement policy hearing is to be held annually according to statute 79-533. This will review the district's Parental Involvement Policy 1005.03 and Title 1 Family Member Engagement Policy 1005.12 and General Parental/Community Involvement in Schools.

#### **Agenda**

1. Open the Parent/Family Involvement Hearing
2. Review the Parent/Family Involvement Policies
3. Receive Comment(s) from the Public
4. Adjourn the Hearing

## PARENTAL AND FAMILY INVOLVEMENT IN THE SCHOOLS

It is the policy of the district to provide full access to the parent and family members of any student of the district to review textbooks, tests, curriculum and instructional materials, records of a student of any such parent, unless otherwise prohibited by law, and to any surveys of students done by the school district. Summary information regarding the district's curriculum, testing, and surveys will be provided at the beginning of each school year. Requests for access to specific instructional materials should be addressed to the teacher or building principal.

Requests by parents and family members to attend and monitor courses, assemblies, counseling sessions and other instructional activities shall also be made to the building principal or teacher. While requests to monitor are usually granted, if the request is denied, reasons for the denial will be provided.

It is the policy of the district to provide as consistent an experience as possible in all classroom instruction, testing, surveys, and other school experiences. It is the policy of the district not to excuse students from classroom instruction, testing, and other school experiences unless an objection is submitted to the building principal or teacher outlining the specific experience, the basis for the objection and a proposed solution for dealing with the objection that would be satisfactory to the parent and family members.

The request for the student to be excused will be reviewed by the building principal and a decision provided to the parents and family members. While verbal objections and decisions are valid, written follow-up to verbal communications is required from the parent and family members, and the principal. If a student is excused from the requested activity no penalty will be assessed but an agreed upon alternative activity must be performed to the satisfaction of the teacher and principal.

It is the policy of the district to use only testing methods and testing instruments that are not of an experimental nature and to avoid using any testing materials or testing techniques that are not generally recognized by educational professionals to be within sound educational standards and both educationally and academically appropriate. It is the policy of the district to notify parents and family members of any standardized testing that may be scheduled within the school district.

It is the policy of the district to notify parents and family members of any survey which may be scheduled and to conduct student surveys judiciously, with full consideration of the fact that parents and family members may find items of the survey objectionable.

The following activities will also be included in the district's plan for parental and family involvement:

1. The district will involve parents and family members in the development of the Title I plan, the process for school review of the plan and the process for improvement;

Approved July 13, 2020 Reviewed \_\_\_\_\_ Revised \_\_\_\_\_

2. The district will provide the coordination, technical assistance and other support necessary to assist participating schools in planning and implementing effective parental and family involvement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance;
3. The district will build the schools' and parents' and family members' capacity for strong parental and family involvement;
4. The district will coordinate and integrate parental and family involvement strategies under Title I with other programs such as Head Start, Reading First, etc.;
5. The district will conduct with the involvement of parents and family members, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the parental and family involvement policy in improving the academic quality of the school served including identifying barriers to greater participation by parents and family members in Title I activities (with particular attention to parents and families who have low income, Limited English Proficient (LEP), minorities, disabilities and low literacy) and use the findings of the evaluation to design strategies for more effective parental and family involvement and to revise, as necessary, the parental and family involvement policies; and
6. The district will involve parents and family members in Title I activities.

The parent and family members or guardian of a student may have access to that student's records during normal business hours of the district according to Policy 507.01 Student Records Access.

This policy is adopted following a public hearing to receive public comments and suggestions.

Legal Reference:       Neb. Statute 79-530 to 533  
                              No Child Left Behind, Title I, Sec. 1118, P.L. 107-110

Cross Reference:       507.01 Student Records Access  
                              606.03 Objection to Instructional Materials  
                              610.02 Test or Assessment Administration  
                              611.01 Student Progress Reports  
                              611.04 Parent Conferences  
                              1002. District Annual Report  
                              1005.01 Public Complaints

## TITLE 1 PARENT AND FAMILY MEMBER ENGAGEMENT

The district commits to meeting all requirements of the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 including Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) amendments as they apply to all Title 1 programs conducted within the District. For the purpose of this policy “parents and family members” means “parents and persons in a parental relation to the student.” This Policy will be distributed to all parents annually, in a language that parents can understand.

The written District parent and family engagement policy has been developed jointly with, updated periodically and distributed to parents and family members of participating children and the local community in an understandable and uniform format. This policy agreed on by such parents describes the means for carrying out the requirements as listed below.

1. Parents and family members of all students are welcomed and encouraged to become involved with their child’s school and education; this includes parents and family members that have limited English proficiency, limited literacy, are economically disadvantaged, have disabilities, racial or ethnic minority background or are migratory children. Information related to school and parent programs, meetings, school reports and other activities are sent to the parents of participating children in a format, and to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand.
2. Parents are involved in the planning, review, evaluation and improvement of the Title I program, Parent and Family Engagement Policy and the School-Parent Compact at an annual parent meeting scheduled at a convenient time. This would include the planning and implementation of effective parent and family involvement activities.
3. Conduct, with meaningful parent and family involvement, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the Parent and Family Engagement Policy. Use the evaluation findings to design evidence-based strategies for more effective parental involvement, and to revise the Parent and Family Engagement Policy.
4. Opportunities are provided for parents and family members to participate in decisions related to the education of their child/children. The school and local educational agency shall provide other reasonable support for parental involvement activities.
5. Parents of participating children will be provided timely information about programs under this part, a description and explanation of the curriculum in use, the forms of academic assessment used to measure student progress and the achievement levels of the challenging State academic standards. The school will provide assistance, opportunities, and/or materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve their children’s academic achievement in a format, and when feasible, in a language the parents and family members can understand.

Approved July 13, 2020 Reviewed \_\_\_\_\_ Revised \_\_\_\_\_



## BULLYING PREVENTION

The board recognizes the negative impact that bullying has on student health, welfare, safety, and the school's learning environment and prohibits such behavior. Bullying is defined as any ongoing pattern of physical, verbal, or electronic abuse on school grounds, in a vehicle owned, leased, or contracted by a school being used for a school purpose by a school employee or his or her designee, at a designated school bus stop, or at school-sponsored activities or school-sponsored athletic events.

Bullying may constitute grounds for detention, suspension, expulsion or mandatory reassignment, subject to state and federal statutes and the district's student discipline and due process procedures.

Every report of alleged bullying that can be interpreted at the outset to fall within the protections of laws against discrimination shall be handled as a joint, concurrent investigation into all allegations and coordinated with the full participation of the Compliance Officer and Title IX Coordinator. If, in the course of an ongoing bullying investigation, potential issues of discrimination are identified, the Title IX Coordinator shall be promptly notified, and the investigation shall be conducted jointly and concurrently to address the issues of alleged discrimination as well as the incidents of alleged bullying.

It shall be the responsibility of the superintendent to implement appropriate programs or procedures for the purpose of educating students regarding bullying prevention.

This policy shall be reviewed annually.

Legal Reference:               Neb. Statute 79-2,137

Cross Reference:             505     Student Discipline

## STAFF CONDUCT WITH STUDENTS

### **Definitions:**

Grooming means building trust with a student and individuals close to the student in an effort to gain access to and time alone with the student, with the ultimate goal of engaging in sexual contact or sexual penetration with the student, regardless of when in the student's life the sexual contact or sexual penetration would take place;

Personal communication system means a device or software that provides for communication between two or more parties and is capable of receiving, displaying, or transmitting communication. Personal communication system includes, but is not limited to, a mobile or cellular telephone, an email service, or a social media platform;

School employee means a person nineteen years of age or older who is employed by a public, private, denominations, or parochial school approved or accredited by the State Department of Education. Neb. Rev. Stat. § 28-720. School employee also includes any person who is contracted with, or otherwise paid by the district and who has access to or interaction with students including all student teachers or interns.

Sexual contact has the same meaning as in section 28-318;

Sexual penetration has the same meaning as in section 28-318; and

Student teacher or intern has the same meaning as in section 79-875.

All employees are expected to observe and maintain professional boundaries between themselves and students. A violation of this policy or any violation of professional boundaries is misconduct and will likely result in disciplinary action.

In addition a violation of employee and student boundaries is also a violation of standards of professional conduct which could result in the revocation of a certificated educator's certificate or permit. 92 Nebraska Administrative Code Chapter 27.

Such violations could also result in a referral to the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services and law enforcement.

All employees are prohibited from engaging in grooming, sexual contact, sexual penetration, or any other activity listed within this policy while any student is attending any school within the district and for one year after the student graduates or otherwise ceases enrollment.

### **Prohibited Activity:**

Engaging in any relationship that involves sexual contact or sexual penetration with a student while the student attends the school where the employee works and for one year after the student graduates or otherwise ceases enrollment.

The following is a non-exclusive list of actions that will be regarded as a violation of the professional boundaries that all employees are expected to maintain with all students. In addition, repeatedly engaging in any of these activities or a combination of these activities are examples of grooming as defined in this policy.

1. Communication with students through any method not approved or not designated by the school district including social networking apps or websites and texting, or other instant messaging, one-on-one with any students.
2. Communication with students on any matters or subjects that do not pertain to school or school-related activities. School or school related activities include student homework, in class activities, school sponsored sports or clubs or any other school-sponsored activity.
3. Engaging in any kind of behavior or communication that could be reasonably construed as a sexual advance or respond in any positive manner to a student's sexual advance.
4. Being alone with a student anywhere where all doors to such room are closed.
5. Showing a student any inappropriate or sexually suggestive material that is not part of classroom lesson or curriculum known to appropriate school authorities.
6. Telling jokes with sexual themes or subject matter.
7. Invading a student's physical privacy. One example would be walking in on a student changing in a locker room or bathroom when the employee has no duty to be there.
8. Intruding on a student's personal physical space in any manner that makes a student uncomfortable.
9. Initiating unwanted physical contact.
10. Treating one student differently from other students either by providing privileges or failing to enforce school policy or other disciplinary action.
11. Discussing an educator's private personal matters with a student and inquiring about a student's private personal matters when no basis for concern about the student's health or safety.
12. Providing rides to a student in an employee's personal vehicle without the express written permission of a student's parent or guardian and permission from an administrator unless another school employee is in the vehicle.
13. Meeting with a student outside of school for any reason other than a school sponsored activity or event.
14. Having a student in an employee's home without a student's parent or appropriate chaperone.
15. Giving or receiving gifts to or from one student. A gift to a class or the same gift to a group of students is not prohibited.
16. Consuming alcohol in the presences of any student when the student's parent or guardian is not present or consuming illegal drugs in the presence of students at any time.
17. Providing alcohol or illegal or unauthorized drugs or medications to a student under any circumstances.
18. Any other behavior with could exploit the unique position of trust and authority between a student and employee.

Exceptions to these prohibitions may include:

1. communicating with your own child or another student with whom there is personal relationship that exists independent of that child being a student at the same school where the employee works such as when the student is a relative, neighbor or fellow member of a group or organization outside of the school or school sponsored setting when such communications pertain to such a group or organization.
2. an emergency or concern for that student's immediate health or safety.
3. a singular chance encounter at a public place provided the encounter provided there is no additional violation of this policy.

Except in the case of a true emergency, or an unplanned chance encounter, employees should obtain permission in writing from his or her administrator prior to engaging in such communication.

**Permissible methods to communicate with students outside of school:**

The Superintendent is responsible for informing staff of any apps or social media websites permitted for employees' use in communicating with students on educationally-related matters.

In addition, employees may utilize:

1. Text messages that include at least one other adult and a student. The adult may either be the student's parent or guardian or another school employee.
2. Use of social media through a district approved social media account as a coach or supervisor of a school sponsored club or activity. However, even approved social media communication must abide by the standards of professional conduct and must be professional in nature and in the best interest of the school district.
3. Use of the school district email system.

Allowing students to view an educator's social media postings is not a preferred method of communication. Educators are responsible for any social media postings that is viewed by students when such posting violates the standards of professional conduct.

**Permissible ways to engage with students when the employee has concerns about the student's well-being:**

1. Contact the guidance counselor and ensure the student's parent or guardian is aware of your concerns.
2. Contact the student's parents or guardian if the concern is not with the parent or guardian.
3. If you believe the student is in immediate danger, contact the Nebraska Department of Health and human services child abuse hotline or contact law enforcement.

**Reporting Violations:**

If any school employee violates this policy or has reason to believe another employee has violated this policy the employee is required to make a report to the superintendent within hours. The school employee also has an obligation to report to the Nebraska Health and Human Services and the Nebraska Department of Education.

The most serious violations shall be reported immediately. The superintendent the superintendent shall also ensure a report is made to the Nebraska Department of Education, the Nebraska child abuse and neglect hotline and law enforcement authorities as required by law and notify the school board President. If the superintendent is the alleged violator or fails to take appropriate steps, the school board President shall be notified by the school employee.

Students who feel his or her boundaries have been violated or know of another student whose boundaries have been violated may report to any school employee he or she is comfortable to confide in. That school employee will then have an obligation to report as identified above.

Reprisal or retaliation for good faith reports made by students or school employees is itself a violation and is prohibited.

**Records retention:**

School employees are required to maintain copies of any and communication exchanged with students via a personal communications system. Such copies must be maintained pursuant to district records retention policies and schedules. The records may be kept electronically or in hard copy or any format easily retrievable by the employee upon request. Any employee who is unable to produce copies of such communications for any reason will be in violation of this policy.

**FERPA and Confidentiality:**

School employees are encouraged to consult their school's policy on confidentiality of personally identifiable student information before posting any information regarding student or student activities online.

Legal Reference: Neb. Statute 79-879

May 13, 2024

The Board of Education of School District #10 held a regular meeting on Monday, May 13, 2024. Board members present were Scott Erthum, Bryan Doke, Jessica Pozehl, Frank Beel, Mark Johnson, and Brad Wilkins. Board member absent: None. Also present were Principals Ben Wright, Steve Dike, AD Luke Wroblewski, and Superintendent Dale Hafer. There were several guests in attendance.

Notice of the meeting was in the Ainsworth Star Journal and on radio station KBRB.

As noted during the meeting a current copy of the Open Meetings Act was posted on the west wall of the cafeteria.

The board meeting was called to order by Board President Brad Wilkins at 8:00 p.m.

Motion was made by Mark Johnson and seconded by Frank Beel to approve the agenda as published. Roll call vote: Unanimous. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Scott Erthum and seconded by Bryan Doke to approve the following consent agenda items: Minutes of the April 8th meeting, claims in the amount of \$232,747.49 from the General Fund, \$25,378.90 from the Hot Lunch Fund and \$1,417.19 from Section 125. The Cash Flow Report for the month of April was given. The Treasurer's Report was given as follows: Cash Assets: April 30<sup>th</sup> \$2,390,011.04. The Board will host a budget retreat on May 21, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. in the District Office. No formal business will be conducted at the retreat. The next regular board meeting will be June 10, 2024, at 8:00 p.m. in the District office. Current agendas will be available for public inspection in the office of the Superintendent. Roll call vote: Unanimous. Motion carried.

40328	ACTIVITY ACCOUNT	330.00
40329	AINSWORTH STAR-JOURNAL	538.34
40330	AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	1,987.00
40331	AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	3,637.93
40332	AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	2,239.52
40333	APPEARA	58.67
40334	ASHFALL FOSSIL BEDS	175.00
40335	BLACK HILLS ENERGY	7,089.41
40336	BLICK ART MATERIALS	794.84
40337	BLUUM USA, INC	95.80
40338	BOMGAARS	2,220.89
40339	BUCKLES AUTOMOTIVE	174.08
40340	CAPSTONE	20.43
40341	CDW GOVERNMENT LLC	818.71
40342	CENGAGE LEARNING	1,957.82
40343	CENTRAL NEBRASKA COMMUNITY SERVICES, INC	24,965.05
40344	CENTRAL VALLEY AG	1,668.94
40345	CENTURY LUMBER CENTER	88.31
40346	CHARTWELLS DINING SERVICES	217.50
40347	CITY OF AINSWORTH	1,112.02
40348	COGNIA INC.	1,200.00
40349	DISCOUNT SCHOOL SUPPLY	14.63
40350	E S U #17-MAIN	57,029.00
40351	E S U #17-MAIN	5,625.00
40352	JOSEPH FINLEY	57.57
40353	FLOOR MAINTENANCE	54.40

40354	MELISSA FREUDENBURG	507.77
40355	FRONTIER DIESEL	596.00
40356	GOPHER	0.00
40357	RODNEY LUTHER	1,008.00
40358	HOUGHTON MIFFLIN COMPANY	90,108.67
40359	HUBERT COMPANY	780.46
40360	INTRADO INERACTIVE SERVICES CORPORATION	646.34
40361	ISLAND SUPPLY WELDING CO	304.39
40362	JW PEPPER	364.88
40363	KBRB AM FM	232.50
40364	KSB SCHOOL LAW	715.00
40365	LAKESHORE LEARNING MATERIALS	79.77
40366	LINCOLN MARRIOTT CORNHUSKER	392.00
40367	LOUP VALLEY LIGHTING INC	437.52
40368	MICHELLE APPELT	444.30
40369	MIDAMERICA BOOKS	174.60
40370	MIDWEST FLOOR SPECIALISTS	5,052.20
40371	NEBRASKA GAME AND PARKS	600.00
40372	NE COUNCIL OF SCHOOL ADMIN	480.00
40373	NEBRASKA PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT	6,127.81
40374	NORTHEAST COMMUNITY COLLEGE	54.00
40375	NSAA	1,510.00
40376	OFFICE PRODUCTS CENTER	1,266.26
40377	OLSONS PEST TECHNICIANS	92.00
40378	PAPER 101	1,535.06
40379	QUILL CORPORATION	1,229.74
40380	RACK PERFORMANCE	1,000.00
40381	RAMSEY SOLUTIONS, THE LAMPO GROUP LLC	1,173.67
40382	REALLY GOOD STUFF	133.64
40383	RED & WHITE	481.06
40384	ROCK COUNTY CLINIC	190.00
40385	JULIE RUHTER	567.51
40386	HANNAH SCHMITZ	672.05
40387	SCHOOL HEALTH CORPORATION	165.14
40388	SCHOOL SPECIALTY SUPPLY	1,830.79
40389	SEVEN SPRINGS INC	124.00
40390	ASHLEY SMITH	1,588.65
40391	STAPLES ADVANTAGE	1,187.17
40392	STAPLES ADVANTAGE	1,081.89
40393	DEDRA STONER	35.60
40394	RENAE SWIM	3.87
40395	THREE RIVER TELCO	650.44
40396	UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA AT KEARNEY - PUPIL TRANSPORTATION	100.00
40397	US BANK	2,626.56
40398	WAGeworks	152.00
40399	WEX BANK	1,664.41
40400	RACHEL WILLIAMS	500.00
40401	LAURIE WITTE	33.03
40402	WM KROTTER CO-AINSWORTH	101.95
41470	1ST CLASS AUTO	2,809.16
41471	ACTIVITY ACCOUNT	885.95
41472	AINSWORTH STAR-JOURNAL	648.43
41473	AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	2,181.21
41474	AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	736.29
41475	APPEARA	60.61
41476	AT&T MOBILITY	345.18
41477	BLACK HILLS ENERGY	5,874.22
41478	BOMGAARS	23.68
41479	BROWN COUNTY HOSPITAL	1,235.00
41480	BUCKLES AUTOMOTIVE	176.23
41481	CDW GOVERNMENT LLC	2,265.78
41482	CENTRAL NEBRASKA COMMUNITY SERVICES,	17,710.62

	INC	
41483	CENTRAL VALLEY AG	1,488.75
41484	CITY OF AINSWORTH	1,075.82
41485	COLONIAL RESEARCH CHEMICAL	360.90
41486	COMFORT INN - KEARNEY	374.85
41487	CONDITIONED AIR MECHAINICAL	2,222.50
41488	DISCOUNT SCHOOL SUPPLY	129.01
41489	E S U #17-MAIN	61,230.34
41490	E S U #17-MAIN	1,496.16
41491	EDUCATIONAL SERVICE UNIT #1	5,230.98
41492	EMBASSY SUITES HOTEL LINCOLN	278.00
41493	FLOOR MAINTENANCE	801.42
41494	MELISSA FREUDENBURG	519.38
41495	AMANDA GANSER	107.58
41496	LUZ GARCIA	36.00
41497	MARTHA GARCIA	77.94
41498	GENERAL FUND CLEARING ACCOUNT	39.08
41499	DALE HAFFER	251.00
41500	HEARTLAND ROOFING CONSULTANTS	1,120.75
41501	THE HOME DEPOT PRO	81.32
41502	ISLAND SUPPLY WELDING CO	19.20
41503	JUNIOR LIBRARY GUILD	2,046.18
41504	KANSAS CITY AUDIO-VISUAL	28,758.63
41505	KBRB AM FM	112.50
41506	KSB SCHOOL LAW	4,297.06
41507	LINCOLN MARRIOTT CORNHUSKER	107.00
41508	TONYA LUTHER	2,022.80
41509	LACEY MARBRY	25.02
41510	MICHELLE APPELT	481.19
41511	MIDAMERICA BOOKS	143.70
41512	MIDWEST FLOOR SPECIALISTS	5,326.27
41513	MIDWEST GRADUATES	575.62
41514	NATIONAL HISTORY DAY, INC	640.00
41515	NCDA	1,900.00
41516	NE COUNCIL OF SCHOOL ADMIN	1,605.00
41517	NEBRASKA AGRICULTURAL EDUCATORS ASSOCIATION	100.00
41518	NEBRASKA PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT	5,284.75
41519	NEBRASKA SAFETY & FIRE EQUIP	4,824.25
41520	NORFOLK LODGE & SUITES	258.00
41521	OFFICE PRODUCTS CENTER	982.67
41522	OLSONS PEST TECHNICIANS	92.00
41523	ONE SOURCE	23.00
41524	PAPER 101	3,372.04
41525	PITSCO	5,685.91
41526	PITSCO EDUCATIONAL DIVISION	3,787.30
41527	PRECISION AUTOBODY	737.49
41528	QUILL CORPORATION	264.73
41529	RAMSEY SOLUTIONS, THE LAMPO GROUP LLC	675.71
41530	REALLY GOOD STUFF	545.33
41531	RED & WHITE	319.50
41532	RENAISSANCE LEARNING INC	4,372.80
41533	JULIE RUHTER	618.68
41534	SAVVAS LEARNING COMPANY LLC	30,959.50
41535	LAVISA SCHLUETER	38.30
41536	HANNAH SCHMITZ	907.01
41537	SCHOLASTIC	22.00
41538	SCHOOL SPECIALTY SUPPLY	493.88
41539	SEVEN SPRINGS INC	205.00
41540	ZOE SHANKLAND	21.92
41541	ASHLEY SMITH	878.37
41542	STAPLES ADVANTAGE	1,062.50
41543	STAPLES ADVANTAGE	297.05
41544	DEDRA STONER	188.59
41545	THREE RIVER TELCO	637.50

41546	TRAVIS ELECTRIC INC	980.29
41547	AMANDA TURPIN	507.93
41548	US BANK	735.63
41549	WAGeworks	116.00
41550	WEX BANK	2,120.93
41551	RACHEL WILLIAMS	500.00
41552	WM KROTTER CO-AINSWORTH	196.62
21	WAGE WORKS INC	1,417.19
61	LUNCHTIME SOLUTIONS	25,378.90

Nichole Flynn and four middle school students presented their national qualifying presentations for the National History Day.

Elementary Principal Ben Wright reported on the following: May mission “Finish Strong.” Kindergarten parent meeting, NSCAS Growth tests, Summer School, K-6 Track Meet, and Enrollment.

High School Steve Dike reported on the following: Enrollment, Art Donation, FFA Annual Banquet and Awards, Academic Awards, and Graduation.

Activities Director Luke Wroblewski reported on the following: Athletic Banquet, NSAA Academic All-State Honors, District Music Competition, District Track, District Golf, ESU Quiz Bowl, Fine Arts Awards and Spring Concert, FFA Banquet, National History Day, and Survey.

Superintendent Dale Hafer reported on the following: Financial Report, Transportation, Building and Grounds, Board Policy Review, Strategic Plan, Superintendent Goals, and Board Work Session.

Motion was made by Scott Erthum and seconded by Jessica Pozehl to approve the 2024-2025 student breakfast and lunch prices and only raising each \$0.10 and all other lunches and breakfast prices as presented. Roll call vote: Unanimous. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Bryan Doke and seconded by Scott Erthum to approve the quote from Safe-N-Secure using NDE grant, and depreciations fund as directed. Roll call vote: Unanimous. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Frank Beel and seconded by Jessica Pozehl to approve the quote from Engineerer Controls as presented using depreciation funds. Roll call vote: Unanimous. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Scott Erthum and seconded by Bryan Doke to approve the first reading and revision to policy 0611.07 graduation requirements. Roll call vote: Unanimous. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Scott Erthum and Frank Beel to recognize the review of policies 0401.00 through 0402.18 and 1<sup>st</sup> reading of changes to policy 0402.17. Roll call vote: Unanimous. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Jessica Pozehl and seconded by Mark Johnson to approve the enrollment option request for Lilliana Jameson to attend Rock County for 2024-25. Roll call vote: Unanimous. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Bryan Doke and seconded by Jessica Pozehl to approve the enrollment option request for Kenna Zeman to attend Rock County for 2024-25. Roll call vote: Unanimous. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Jessica Pozehl and seconded by Frank Beel to adjourn the meeting at 9:33 p.m. Roll call vote: Unanimous. Motion carried.

The Board will host a work session/ advisory retreat on May 21, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. in the District Office. No formal business will be conducted. The next regular board meeting is scheduled for June 10, 2024, at 8:00 p.m. in the District office. Current agendas will be available for public inspection in the office of the Superintendent.

The American Civics/Americanism Committee met at 9:33 p.m. with Superintendent Hafer, Principals Steve Dike and Ben Wright to discuss Ainsworth Community School's role in Americanism teaching and processes. Principals Dike and Wright discussed current efforts to satisfy American Civics requirements as well as the outlook on Social Studies Curriculum review and consideration. Committee Members were afforded the ability to comment and ask questions. Public comment was allowed, although there were no guests present to address the committee. This was the 2<sup>nd</sup> required meeting of the Committee to satisfy statutory requirements.

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Dedra Stoner, Recording Secretary

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Brad Wilkins, Board President

<u>Vendor Name</u>	<u>Invoice</u>	<u>Check #</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Description</u>
<b>Checking</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>Fund: 01 GENERAL FUND</b>		
1ST CLASS AUTO	29202	41573	5,164.40	DOCUMENTATION FEE, MILEAGE
			<b>Vendor Total:</b>	<b>5,164.40</b>
ACCO BRANDS USA LLC	4728665796	41574	1,663.39	CORK BOARD, LAMINATING FILM, BINDING
			<b>Vendor Total:</b>	<b>1,663.39</b>
AINSWORTH STAR-JOURNAL	ASJ-MAY2024	41575	460.86	MINUTES, NOTICE, HW, PROGRAMS, ADS
			<b>Vendor Total:</b>	<b>460.86</b>
AKRS EQUIPMENT	3836149	41576	41.14	WEED EATER
AKRS EQUIPMENT	3866796	41679	141.87	BATTERY
			<b>Vendor Total:</b>	<b>183.01</b>
ALBERTS, STACEY	SA-AUG2023-	41577	1,891.54	2023-2024 MILEAGE
			<b>Vendor Total:</b>	<b>1,891.54</b>
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	136F-QY4T-KJYL	41578	612.47	SCIENCE EXPERIMENT SUPPLIES
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	139Q-TLVK-37VK	41578	231.73	SPONGES, THERMOMETER, BUNSEN BURNERS
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	139R-PQ4N-CJVC	41578	157.94	MOP BUCKETS, BUCKETS
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	13ML-XHQF-7YXY	41578	5.99	WALL CALENDAR
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	14GL-79P6-71CR	41578	130.10	PENCIL SHARPENER, BINDERS
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	14KJ-YLFV-1RGX	41578	312.44	MAGNET BUILDING TILES, GLUE, STICKERS
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	16WV-TCJQ-J3G3	41578	103.00	CEILING FAN
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	17YT-WGQD-CVT9	41578	636.92	GAMES, ROCK TUMBLER, LEGO, STEM
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	194K-GM6W-4RV3	41578	494.00	STREAMING CAMERA
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	19DH-FJC9-WDG6	41578	42.62	BINDERS, CASES
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	19QM-FXQ6-33CY	41578	290.89	BOOKS, LIFE STRATEGIES WORKBOOK
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	1C9G-9RFD-YL64	41578	328.18	STICKERS, PUZZLES, BINS, FLASHLIGHTS
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	1CDL-3RML-TJKX	41578	49.96	BINDERS
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	1CM9-JM41-RJWW	41578	461.55	BINDERS
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	1D4P-9CDV-THPG	41578	132.69	BINDERS
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	1F4M-TPMR-4YDY	41578	133.06	CARPET MARKERS, PLANNER, ZIPPER POUCH
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	1F4M-TPMR-TMDW	41579	25.98	LUGGAGE TAGS
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	1FD9-3D4X-46XC	41579	202.76	PENS, FIDGET TOYS, THREAD, BRACELET K
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	1FHN-NT4R-1PHQ	41579	341.82	CLOCKS, HAND SANITIZER, DUSTERS
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	1FMH-X3RJ-97C3	41579	(104.97)	RETURN HAND SANITIZER
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	1GNN-VYXX-9FP3	41579	44.64	PENCIL SHARPENERS
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	1H66-DWWQ-66CG	41579	29.99	3D PRINTER FILAMENT
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	1JC1-443H-CJXJ	41579	235.87	TSHIRTS
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	1KK1-FNWF-43RD	41579	370.56	PUZZLES, CHAIR, EAR PROTECTION, PENS
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	1M39-FNMF-7NVN	41579	32.73	STREAMERS
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	1MGD-7VXJ-69LD	41579	7.75	CANDLE SHELLS
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	1MQW-QL3K-3F4X	41579	300.39	GAMES, CARDS, SCALE
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	1MQX-Q7ND-R6TL	41579	110.13	PENCIL HOLDERS, POST ITS
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	1P1V-V3YH-4DTD	41579	529.71	SEEDS, GROW LIGHTS, STENCILS, PAPER
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	1P7C-T4N7-6Y66	41579	853.69	SAW TRACK, SAW MOTOR, CLOCK MOVEMENTS
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	1P7C-T4N7-G9XR	41579	210.20	BINDERS, FOLDERS
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	1PFH-PH4Q-G47H	41579	175.57	PENCILS, STICKERS, ZIPPER POUCHES
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	1PFH-PH4W-61HK	41579	219.55	BINDERS, PENCIL POUCHES, FOLDERS
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	1PLL-D94L-Q9RY	41579	410.99	CUPS, STRING, LEGO, STORAGE, PAPER
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	1PNY-QNTX-NLFY	41580	(8.33)	RETURN DAMAGED CANDLE SHELLS
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	1QXC-617L-7VKV	41580	40.38	FEATHERS, GLUE STICKS, FOAM BALLS
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	1QXC-617L-NJ1D	41580	168.76	HOLE PUNCH, DESKTOP HELPERS, FOLDERS

<u>Vendor Name</u>	<u>Invoice</u>	<u>Check #</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Description</u>
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	1R3V-6PDP-XKV4	41580	34.57	LAMINATING POUCHES, HANGING FOLDERS
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	1RCK-7NNG-3TQD	41580	426.59	TAPE, POST ITS, PLANNER, EASEL BOARD
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	1RLM-FN1Y-9RMX	41580	185.18	CARDS, GAMES, BANDANAS
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	1T1D-WFMC-6X9R	41580	680.05	MAGNETIC LETTERS, CRAYONS, BLOCKS
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	1T1D-WFMC-74NN	41580	88.28	PENCIL HOLDERS, PENCILS, LABELS
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	1TP9-6GQ1-WNL1	41580	225.94	MARKERS, 3D FILAMENT, COLOR BY NUMBER
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	1VMH-RVRJ-DFJF	41580	29.20	PLANNERS
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	1VQ3-RPDM-FLX9	41580	306.91	TAPE, WITE-OUT, PAPER ROLL, SAFETY PII
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	1WF4-HTJW-4LJF	41580	160.20	MARKERS, BINDERS, ERASERS, FOLDERS
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	1WM6-Y1XN-V3MG	41580	89.98	CHAIR
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	1WQR-4HPV-739F	41580	123.63	LEATHER BELT, LIFTING STRAPS
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	1WQR-4HPV-PM7V	41581	38.53	BEAN BAG CHAIR
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	1WVV-YMLT-DLY3	41581	124.73	SHELVING
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	1X46-QGT9-T6DT	41581	171.57	GLUE GUN, GLUE STICKS, PENCILS, TAPE
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	1XFJ-GXGF-P6XV	41581	522.43	VINYL, PAINT, WOOD ITEMS, BLOCKS
			Vendor Total:	11,529.50
APPEARA	0972589	41582	60.61	MATS, DUST MOPS, FLOORCARE, RAGS, SUPPLIES
			Vendor Total:	60.61
ASCD	BWMEMBER24-25	41583	89.00	WRIGHT MEMBERSHIP
ASCD	DHMEMBER24-25	41583	89.00	HAFER MEMBERSHIP
ASCD	SDMEMBER24-25	41583	89.00	DIKE MEMBERSHIP
			Vendor Total:	267.00
AT&T MOBILITY	FN-MAY2024	41584	345.18	MONTHLY SERVICE
			Vendor Total:	345.18
BJ'S INSTRUMENT REPAIR	776382	41585	225.00	TUBA REPAIR
			Vendor Total:	225.00
BLACK HILLS ENERGY	BH89-MAY2024	41586	100.31	NATURAL GAS
BLACK HILLS ENERGY	BH90-MAY2024	41586	1,047.78	NATURAL GAS & BUS BARN
			Vendor Total:	1,148.09
BLICK ART MATERIALS	3016888	41587	832.00	VENT A KILN HOOD
BLICK ART MATERIALS	3103990	41587	41.50	PAINT
			Vendor Total:	873.50
BLUUM USA, INC	980613	41588	59.46	BLUETOOTH WIRELESS KEYPAD
			Vendor Total:	59.46
BOMGAARS	32859457-131	41589	396.65	MULCH, WORMS, PADLOCKS, ANT SPRAY
			Vendor Total:	396.65
BREAKOUT EDU	52169	41590	99.00	PLATFORM RENEWAL
			Vendor Total:	99.00
BROWN COUNTY HOSPITAL	3190	41591	529.18	PHYSICAL THERAPY & MILEAGE
			Vendor Total:	529.18
BUCKLES AUTOMOTIVE	407881-408390	41592	10.49	FUNNEL, HOSE CLAMP
			Vendor Total:	10.49

<u>Vendor Name</u>	<u>Invoice</u>	<u>Check #</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Description</u>
CAROLINA BIOLOGICAL SUPPLY CO.	52584380 RI	41593	695.83	COW EYE, PIG, SHEEP HEART & BRAIN Vendor Total: 695.83
CENGAGE LEARNING	84372564	41594	1,327.70	JOURNAL WORKING PAPERS, RED CARPET EVI Vendor Total: 1,327.70
CENTRAL VALLEY AG	CVS-MAY2024	41595	545.17	FUEL Vendor Total: 545.17
CHURCHICH RECREATION, LLC	F2024-1089	41596	3,110.46	SLIDE REPLACEMENT Vendor Total: 3,110.46
CITY OF AINSWORTH	CA-MAY2024	41597	1,133.32	WATER, SEWER & GARBAGE Vendor Total: 1,133.32
COLONIAL RESEARCH CHEMICAL	152251	41598	2,647.60	TRIPLE THREAT, SOIL CONDITIONER Vendor Total: 2,647.60
CONDITIONED AIR MECHAINICAL	41737	41599	1,585.00	CHILLER REPAIRS, MILEAGE Vendor Total: 1,585.00
DAYS INN OF KEARNEY	88354EE029896	41600	129.00	ROOM POWERSCHOOL - GOODLOE
DAYS INN OF KEARNEY	88354EE029897	41600	129.00	ROOM POWERSCHOOL - NILSON
DAYS INN OF KEARNEY	88354EE029898	41600	129.00	ROOM POWERSCHOOL - SCHLUETER Vendor Total: 387.00
DERAAD, LILA	LD-JAN-MAY2024	41601	595.76	MAY 2024 MILEAGE Vendor Total: 595.76
E S U #17-MAIN	ACS-145-151	41602	78,790.64	SERVICES Vendor Total: 78,790.64
EDMENTUM	INV3228868	41604	2,728.55	COURSEWARE LICENSE Vendor Total: 2,728.55
EGAN SUPPLY CO	385317	41605	2,024.10	GLOVES, LINERS, BAGS Vendor Total: 2,024.10
EPS OPERATIONS LLC	INV900032408	41606	2,247.02	INTERVENTION MATERIALS Vendor Total: 2,247.02
ESU COORDINATING COUNCIL	PFPT000126	41607	137.76	PROOFPOINT RENEWAL Vendor Total: 137.76
ETA HAND2MIND	INV000284555	41608	339.98	SCIENCE CLASSROOM KIT Vendor Total: 339.98
FLINN SCIENTIFIC INC	3003902	41609	204.20	PLASTIC TUBING, CONNECTORS, STOPPERS Vendor Total: 204.20
FREUDENBURG, MELISSA	MF-MAY2024	41610	336.07	MAY 2024 MILEAGE Vendor Total: 336.07
FRONTIER DIESEL	INV-1108	41611	726.92	2018 INTERNATIONAL BUS REPAIR

<u>Vendor Name</u>	<u>Invoice</u>	<u>Check #</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Description</u>	
				Vendor Total:	726.92
GANSER, AMANDA	AG-05292024	41612	85.07	TOTES	
				Vendor Total:	85.07
GENERAL FUND CLEARING ACCOUNT	GF-MAY2024	41613	390.55	REIMBURSEMENT	
				Vendor Total:	390.55
GOODLOE, LAURIE	LG-06042024	41680	20.70	POWERSCHOOL CONF MEAL	
				Vendor Total:	20.70
GRIZZLY INDUSTRIAL INC	11713655	41614	143.30	FOAM BRUSH, SANDING BELT	
				Vendor Total:	143.30
ISLAND SUPPLY WELDING CO	319176	41615	19.84	C25	
				Vendor Total:	19.84
JAYMAR BUSINESS FORMS, INC	064000	41681	209.00	GENERAL FUND CHECKS	
JAYMAR BUSINESS FORMS, INC	0640001	41681	39.25	GENERAL FUND CHECKS	
				Vendor Total:	248.25
JOHNSON, JERRY	JJ-JAN-MAY2024	41616	975.75	JANUARY-MAY 2024 MILEAGE	
				Vendor Total:	975.75
JOURNEY ED.COM	10538804	41617	2,242.08	MICROSOFT OFFICE	
				Vendor Total:	2,242.08
JUNIOR LIBRARY GUILD	685395	41618	126.00	BOOKS	
				Vendor Total:	126.00
JW PEPPER	366485709	41619	1,360.20	MUSIC	
JW PEPPER	366486215	41619	119.60	MUSIC	
				Vendor Total:	1,479.80
KBRB AM FM	KBRB-MAY2024	41620	285.00	TEACHER APPREC, NURSE, HW CUSTODIAN	
				Vendor Total:	285.00
KING, HEATHER	HK-MAR-MAY2024	41621	280.70	MAR-MAY 2024 MILEAGE	
				Vendor Total:	280.70
KSB SCHOOL LAW	16401	41622	108.00	LEGAL SERVICES	
				Vendor Total:	108.00
LAKESHORE LEARNING MATERIALS	435316050224	41623	71.24	POSTERBOARD	
LAKESHORE LEARNING MATERIALS	535969052824	41623	57.49	MAGNETIC FRACTION CIRCLES/BARS	
				Vendor Total:	128.73
LIBRARY WORLD INC	14899	41624	1,050.00	ANNUAL RENEWAL	
				Vendor Total:	1,050.00
LIVESTOCK JUDGING PRO	4585	41625	300.00	ONE YEAR SUBSCRIPTION	
				Vendor Total:	300.00
LOUP VALLEY LIGHTING INC	24-16493	41626	606.60	LIGHTS	

<u>Vendor Name</u>	<u>Invoice</u>	<u>Check #</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Description</u>	
				Vendor Total:	606.60
LUNCHTIME SOLUTIONS	INV-37027	41627	186.46	CATERING STAFF RECOGNITION	
				Vendor Total:	186.46
MARENEM, INC C/O SECRET STORIES	16314	41628	122.10	SECRET STORIES CLASS KIT	
				Vendor Total:	122.10
MCMURTREY, JOSEPH	JM-MAY2024	41629	61.64	MILEAGE	
				Vendor Total:	61.64
MICHELLE APPELT	MA-MAY2024	41630	133.67	MAY 2024 MILEAGE	
				Vendor Total:	133.67
MIDAMERICA BOOKS	0036891	41631	154.75	BOOKS	
MIDAMERICA BOOKS	0041606	41631	150.70	BOOKS	
				Vendor Total:	305.45
MIDWEST FLOOR SPECIALISTS	283	41632	3,540.00	REFINISH GYM FLOOR	
				Vendor Total:	3,540.00
MIDWEST TECHNOLOGY PRODUCTS	2144491-00	41633	18.40	DUCT TAPE	
MIDWEST TECHNOLOGY PRODUCTS	2144895-00	41633	205.47	ANIMATION STUDIO KIT	
				Vendor Total:	223.87
NASCO	597642	41634	69.90	COW EYE & UTURUS, PIG HEART & UTERUS	
NASCO	599641	41634	137.25	RULERS, XY COORD POST IT, EASEL POST :	
NASCO	600791	41634	271.64	DEEP FRYER, DISH SOAP, FRY PAN	
				Vendor Total:	478.79
NASSP	9001766494	41635	95.00	NATIONAL STUDENT COUNCIL	
				Vendor Total:	95.00
NE ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL BOARD	50536	41682	370.00	2024 SCHOOL LEADERS & LAW CONF	
				Vendor Total:	370.00
NEBRASKA DEPT OF EDUCATION	5306-69-1-4768	41636	500.00	NEMTSS SUMMIT	
				Vendor Total:	500.00
NEBRASKA PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT	NPPD19974-	41637	40.47	ELECTRICITY	
NEBRASKA PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT	NPPD19977-	41637	31.58	ELECTRICITY	
NEBRASKA PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT	NPPD19980-	41637	109.41	ELECTRICITY	
NEBRASKA PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT	NPPD19983-	41637	5,643.33	ELECTRICITY	
NEBRASKA PUBLIC POWER DISTRICT	NPPD19986-	41637	82.16	ELECTRICITY	
				Vendor Total:	5,906.95
NEBRASKA SCHOOL TRANSPORTATION	JF-CONF2024	41638	150.00	SUMMER CONFERENCE	
				Vendor Total:	150.00
NILSON, DEANN	DN-06042024	41683	22.88	POWERSCHOOL CONF MEAL	
				Vendor Total:	22.88
NIMCO	529312	41639	64.92	DRUG FREE SUPPLIES	
				Vendor Total:	64.92

<u>Vendor Name</u>	<u>Invoice</u>	<u>Check #</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Description</u>	
NORTH CENTRAL DEV CENTER INC	2024-1	41640	10,000.00	CONTRIBUTION	
				Vendor Total:	10,000.00
NORTHEAST COMMUNITY COLLEGE	70428	41641	84.00	CPR	
				Vendor Total:	84.00
OFFICE PRODUCTS CENTER	01KZ0460	41642	24.54	CALCULATOR RIBBON	
OFFICE PRODUCTS CENTER	01KZ1007	41642	1,148.53	SERVICE CONTRACT	
				Vendor Total:	1,173.07
OLSONS PEST TECHNICIANS	354716	41643	92.00	MONTHLY SERVICE	
				Vendor Total:	92.00
OMAHA'S HENRY DOORLY ZOO &	50395	41644	140.00	PENGUINS	
				Vendor Total:	140.00
ORTON, SUMMER	SO-AUG2023-	41645	2,206.80	2023-2024 MILEAGE	
				Vendor Total:	2,206.80
PAM HOLLENBECK	PH-MAR-MAY2024	41646	1,833.12	MARCH-MAY 2024 MILEAGE	
				Vendor Total:	1,833.12
PARCO SCIENTIFIC COMPANY	PU121740	41647	57.00	CLAMPS, TEST TUBES	
				Vendor Total:	57.00
PITSCO EDUCATIONAL DIVISION	24-000009728	41648	195.65	BRIDGES, ROCKETS, BOTTLE RACERS	
PITSCO EDUCATIONAL DIVISION	24-000009977	41648	641.14	CO2 DRAGPAK, CARTRIDGE, GLUE	
				Vendor Total:	836.79
POSTMASTER	ANNUAL2024	41649	246.00	ANNUAL PO BOX RENTAL	
				Vendor Total:	246.00
PRECISION AUTOBODY	7535	41650	486.37	2000 CHEVY PICKUP QUARTER WINDOW	
				Vendor Total:	486.37
RACK PERFORMANCE	6088	41651	1,000.00	RACK PRO RENEWAL	
				Vendor Total:	1,000.00
RAPIDS	I2023156	41652	13.75	MULTI-TASK TIMER	
				Vendor Total:	13.75
REALLY GOOD STUFF	8526607	41653	50.41	LINE HELPER, ORNAMENT SHAPES, BRACELET	
REALLY GOOD STUFF	8528361	41653	1,699.90	MEDIA PRODUCTION KIT, STEM KITS	
				Vendor Total:	1,750.31
RED & WHITE	RW-MAY2024	41654	673.05	SUPPLIES	
				Vendor Total:	673.05
RUHTER, JULIE	JR-MAY2024	41655	378.08	MAY 2024 MILEAGE	
				Vendor Total:	378.08
SAFE-N-SECURE	098972	41656	283.63	BACKUP BATTERY REPLACEMENT	
				Vendor Total:	283.63

<u>Vendor Name</u>	<u>Invoice</u>	<u>Check #</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Description</u>	
SAVVAS LEARNING COMPANY LLC	7028737618	41657	250.00	MASTERING PHYSICS	
				Vendor Total:	250.00
SCHLUETER, LAVISA	LS-06042024	41684	21.80	POWERSCHOOL CONF MEAL	
				Vendor Total:	21.80
SCHMITZ, HANNAH	HS-MAY2024	41658	572.85	MAY 2024 MILEAGE	
				Vendor Total:	572.85
SCHOLASTIC	10190170	41659	343.87	BOOKS	
				Vendor Total:	343.87
SCHOOL SPECIALTY SUPPLY	208134140880	41660	147.21	TAKE HOME FOLDERS	
SCHOOL SPECIALTY SUPPLY	308104509715	41660	619.05	SUPPLIES	
SCHOOL SPECIALTY SUPPLY	308104514649	41660	1,440.92	STEM ACTIVITIES, ENRICHMENT PROGRAM	
				Vendor Total:	2,207.18
SCHOOLARTS MAGAZINE	SA96197	41661	19.95	SCHOOLARTS MAGAZINE	
				Vendor Total:	19.95
SEVEN SPRINGS INC	0116992	41662	35.00	WATER	
SEVEN SPRINGS INC	0117086	41662	45.00	RENTAL	
				Vendor Total:	80.00
SMITH, ASHLEY	AS-MAY2024	41663	439.19	MAY 2024 MILEAGE	
				Vendor Total:	439.19
STANEK FIRE PROTECTION	39696	41664	1,387.00	SERVICE, PRESSURE TEST, FUSELINKS	
				Vendor Total:	1,387.00
TEACHER INNOVATIONS, INC.	948038	41665	324.00	12 MONTH SUBSCRIPTION PLANBOOK.COM	
				Vendor Total:	324.00
THREE RIVER TELCO	10479222	41666	640.91	PHONE SERVICE	
				Vendor Total:	640.91
TK ELEVATOR CORPORATION	1000612298	41667	582.48	SERVICE JUN-AUG 2024	
				Vendor Total:	582.48
UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA AT	57-12842	41668	270.00	CATEGORY C ELDT ENDORSEMENT - YOUNG	
				Vendor Total:	270.00
UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA MEDICAL	1840001769	41669	500.00	ASAP PROGRAM OBSERVATION & FEEDBACK	
				Vendor Total:	500.00
US BANK	USBANK4445-	41670	1,944.84	SUPPLIES	
				Vendor Total:	1,944.84
VENTRIS LEARNING	20244956	41671	160.00	UFLI FOUNDATIONS TEACHER MANUAL	
				Vendor Total:	160.00
WAGEWORKS	INV6583807	41672	116.00	MONTHLY ADMIN FEE	
				Vendor Total:	116.00

<u>Vendor Name</u>	<u>Invoice</u>	<u>Check #</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Description</u>	
WELKE, ANGELA	AW-JAN-MAY2024	41673	611.04	JANUARY-MAY 2024 MILEAGE	
				Vendor Total:	611.04
WEST MUSIC COMPANY	SI2411689	41674	2,285.80	MALLETS, LYRES, REEDS, RECORDERS	
WEST MUSIC COMPANY	SI2412041	41674	451.39	STAND, FOLDERS, SNARE	
WEST MUSIC COMPANY	SI2412129	41674	274.77	MUSIC	
WEST MUSIC COMPANY	SI2413360	41674	7.98	PICKS	
				Vendor Total:	3,019.94
WEX BANK	96879736-2	10	2,120.93	FUEL PMNT BY PHONE	
WEX BANK	97423118	41675	1,250.24	FUEL	
				Vendor Total:	3,371.17
WINDSOR LEARNING	997925	41676	4,933.50	INTERVENTION MATERIALS	
				Vendor Total:	4,933.50
WRIGHT, BENJAMIN	BW-05162024	41677	20.64	DONUTS FOR STUDENTS	
				Vendor Total:	20.64
ZELIFF CONTROL SYSTEMS	05062024	41678	964.95	CONTROLLER, TOWER, PLAYER BOXES	
				Vendor Total:	964.95
				Fund Total:	189,157.32
				Checking Account Total:	189,157.32
Checking	13	Fund: 13 SECTION 125			
WAGE WORKS INC	6500762-6602421	22	3,495.39	FUND TRANSFER	
				Vendor Total:	3,495.39
				Fund Total:	3,495.39
				Checking Account Total:	3,495.39
Checking	4	Fund: 06 SCHOOL NUTRITION			
BOWEN, BECKY	BB REFUND 2024	3582	123.25	LUNCH REFUND	
				Vendor Total:	123.25
JOHNSON, JERRY	JJ REFUND 2024	3583	16.95	LUNCH REFUND	
				Vendor Total:	16.95
KRAL, KELLI	KK REFUND 2024	3584	21.35	LUNCH REFUND	
				Vendor Total:	21.35
LITTLE ELK, MERCEDES	MLE REFUND 2024	3585	6.80	LUNCH REFUND	
				Vendor Total:	6.80
LUNCHTIME SOLUTIONS	INV-36904	62	1,178.27	APRIL FFVP	
LUNCHTIME SOLUTIONS	INV-36937	62	33,535.22	APRIL MEALS	
				Vendor Total:	34,713.49
MICHELLE APPELT	TA REFUND 2024	3580	58.65	LUNCH REFUND	
				Vendor Total:	58.65
PADDOCK, CHRISTY	EP REFUND 2024	3587	15.55	LUNCH REFUND	
				Vendor Total:	15.55

BOARD AUTHORIZATION REPORT

<u>Vendor Name</u>	<u>Invoice</u>	<u>Check #</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Description</u>	
ROWLEY, MISTY	CB REFUND 2024	3581	51.40	LUNCH REFUND	
				<b>Vendor Total:</b>	<b>51.40</b>
TROXEL, ROXANNE	KT REFUND 2024	3586	20.00	LUNCH REFUND	
				<b>Vendor Total:</b>	<b>20.00</b>
KBRB AM FM	121112-3	3588	157.50	SUMMER FOOD PROGRAM AD	
				<b>Vendor Total:</b>	<b>157.50</b>
AINSWORTH STAR JOURNAL	MAY2024	2589	141.75	SUMMER FEEDING ADS	
				<b>Vendor Total:</b>	<b>141.75</b>
				<b>Fund Total:</b>	<b>35,326.69</b>
				<b>Checking Account Total:</b>	<b>35,326.69</b>
Checking	<b>08</b>	Fund: <b>08</b>	<b>SPECIAL BUILDING</b>		
FIRST NATIONAL BANK OMAHA	JUN2024-8734181	432	452,265.00	PRINCIPAL & INTEREST	
				<b>Vendor Total:</b>	<b>452,265.00</b>
Checking	<b>02</b>	Fund: <b>02</b>	<b>DEPRECIATION</b>		
FISHER TRACKS, INC	8270	366	79,917.00	MATERIALS & INSTALL TRACK	
				<b>Vendor Total:</b>	<b>79,917.00</b>

**Activity Fund Balance Report - Summary - Exclude Encumbrances**

05/2024 - 05/2024

Regular; Beginning Month 05/2024; Processing Month 05/2024; Accounts to Include Accounts with Activity; Fund Number 05

**Fund: 05      ACTIVITIES**

<u>Chart of Account Number</u>	<u>Chart of Account Description</u>	<u>Beginning Balance</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Revenues</u>	<u>Balance Change</u>	<u>Balance</u>
05 704	FUND BALANCE	50,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	50,000.00
05 704 0101	A CLUB BALANCE	1,553.82	0.00	85.00	0.00	1,638.82
05 704 0105	ACTIVITY TICKET BALANCE	3,680.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,680.00
05 704 0106	AD FUNDRAISER BALANCE	(23.29)	0.00	0.00	0.00	(23.29)
05 704 0120	ATHLETICS BALANCE	3,427.00	382.19	10.00	0.00	3,054.81
05 704 0125	BAND BALANCE	7,894.35	160.50	455.00	0.00	8,188.85
05 704 0126	BAND FUND RAISER	2,061.82	0.00	110.00	0.00	2,171.82
05 704 0127	BBB FUNDRAISER BALANCE	1,634.67	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,634.67
05 704 0132	BOYS GOLF FUNDRAISER	1,229.76	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,229.76
05 704 0136	CLAPPER CD BALANCE	128.82	0.00	0.00	0.00	128.82
05 704 0137	CARL PERKINS BALANCE	297.05	0.00	0.00	0.00	297.05
05 704 0140	CHEER FUNDRAISER BALANCE	1,318.97	85.00	1,286.82	0.00	2,520.79
05 704 0145	CHORUS BALANCE	2,432.45	135.00	0.00	0.00	2,297.45
05 704 0167	CONCESSIONS - BULLDOG BALANCE	6,283.33	218.02	514.19	0.00	6,579.50
05 704 0168	VB FUNDRAISER BALANCE	5,522.13	0.00	0.00	0.00	5,522.13
05 704 0169	COCA COLA PARTNERSHIP BALANCE	11,839.50	200.00	0.00	0.00	11,639.50
05 704 0175	DRILL TEAM FUNDRAISER BALANCE	3,693.12	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,693.12
05 704 0180	DRIVER EDUCATION BALANCE	2,860.00	0.00	16,300.00	0.00	19,160.00
05 704 0185	ELEMENTARY FACULTY BALANCE	3,945.01	160.00	812.00	0.00	4,597.01
05 704 0186	ENTREPRENEUR CLASS BALANCE	156.40	0.00	0.00	0.00	156.40
05 704 0187	ESU INSERVICE BALANCE	487.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	487.01
05 704 0188	EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION BALANCE	2,436.35	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,436.35
05 704 0190	FBLA BALANCE	1,483.68	0.00	384.95	0.00	1,868.63
05 704 0195	FFA BALANCE	27,431.61	2,810.96	306.00	0.00	24,926.65
05 704 0196	FFA SWEETCORN BALANCE	10,988.35	0.00	0.00	0.00	10,988.35
05 704 0200	FCCLA BALANCE	2,025.48	0.00	150.00	0.00	2,175.48
05 704 0205	FOREIGN LANGUAGE BALANCE	1,086.98	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,086.98
05 704 0210	GBB FUNDRAISER BALANCE	2,663.50	170.00	0.00	0.00	2,493.50
05 704 0215	GENERAL SHOP BALANCE	(5,419.09)	350.99	0.00	0.00	(5,770.08)
05 704 0221	GIRLS GOLF FUNDRAISER BALANCE	183.37	0.00	0.00	0.00	183.37
05 704 0223	MS TRACK FUNDRAISER BALANCE	157.27	0.00	0.00	0.00	157.27
05 704 0225	HIGH SCHOOL FACULTY BALANCE	2,193.08	160.00	315.60	0.00	2,348.68
05 704 0230	INTEREST BALANCE	14,050.51	1,000.00	292.60	0.00	13,343.11
05 704 0235	INVESTMENTS BALANCE	(50,000.00)	0.00	0.00	0.00	(50,000.00)
05 704 0240	ONE ACTS BALANCE	437.66	0.00	0.00	0.00	437.66
05 704 0244	FOOTBALL FUNDRAISER BALANCE	9,846.57	351.24	0.00	0.00	9,495.33

**Activity Fund Balance Report - Summary - Exclude Encumbrances**

05/2024 - 05/2024

Regular; Beginning Month 05/2024; Processing Month 05/2024; Accounts to Include Accounts with Activity; Fund Number 05

**Fund: 05      ACTIVITIES**

<u>Chart of Account Number</u>	<u>Chart of Account Description</u>	<u>Beginning Balance</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Revenues</u>	<u>Balance Change</u>	<u>Balance</u>
05 704 0245	LIBRARY BALANCE	12,931.70	74.90	81.50	0.00	12,938.30
05 704 0251	MID SCH STUDENT COUNCIL BALANCE	3,763.07	127.90	0.00	0.00	3,635.17
05 704 0255	MISCELLANEOUS BALANCE	10.60	510.60	500.00	0.00	0.00
05 704 0256	PLAYGROUND BALANCE	7,663.13	0.00	0.00	0.00	7,663.13
05 704 0257	DI GLOBAL FINALS BALANCE	5,696.72	0.00	154.00	0.00	5,850.72
05 704 0258	RENTALS BALANCE	1,972.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,972.50
05 704 0259	DISTRICT MUSIC BALANCE	1,900.65	790.36	160.00	0.00	1,270.29
05 704 0260	NATIONAL HISTORY DAY BALANCE	3,139.18	5,725.25	3,524.00	0.00	937.93
05 704 0261	MOCK TRIAL BALANCE	(487.28)	0.00	0.00	0.00	(487.28)
05 704 0262	QUIZ BOWL	211.03	0.00	0.00	0.00	211.03
05 704 0265	SPEECH TOURNAMENT BALANCE	2,107.18	35.00	0.00	0.00	2,072.18
05 704 0268	NOT ACTIVE STRENGTH & CONDITION BALANCE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
05 704 0270	HS STUDENT COUNCIL BALANCE	126.36	100.00	0.00	0.00	26.36
05 704 0271	STUDENT WELLNESS BALANCE	1,694.96	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,694.96
05 704 0273	SUMMER INS BALANCE	3,565.04	1,940.07	2,143.64	0.00	3,768.61
05 704 0275	SUMMER READING/MATH BALANCE	502.60	0.00	0.00	0.00	502.60
05 704 0277	ONE TO ONE TECHNOLOGY BALANCE	6,269.80	414.35	2,364.00	0.00	8,219.45
05 704 0280	THESPIANS BALANCE	3,021.06	172.75	0.00	0.00	2,848.31
05 704 0282	TRACK FUNDRAISER BALANCE	790.46	569.46	66.00	0.00	287.00
05 704 0283	TANSY PITCHER MEM	9,937.93	0.00	0.00	0.00	9,937.93
05 704 0284	VIDEO BOARD	21,873.96	398.20	0.00	0.00	21,475.76
05 704 0285	VISUAL ARTS CLUB BALANCE	7,098.64	0.00	0.00	0.00	7,098.64
05 704 0286	YEARBOOK BALANCE	18,489.94	612.55	2,652.00	0.00	20,529.39
05 704 0288	XC FUNDRAISER BALANCE	(13.97)	0.00	0.00	0.00	(13.97)
05 704 0290	WR BOYS FUNDRAISER BALANCE	3,435.74	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,435.74
05 704 0291	WEICHMAN LC BALANCE	1,977.12	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,977.12
05 704 0292	WR GIRLS FUNDRAISER	2,062.98	2,743.50	5,551.00	0.00	4,870.48
05 704 1001	HS FOOTBALL BALANCE	(6,342.08)	3,291.40	0.00	0.00	(9,633.48)
05 704 1002	MS FOOTBALL BALANCE	272.85	399.99	0.00	0.00	(127.14)
05 704 1003	HS VOLLEYBALL BALANCE	(1,339.31)	0.00	0.00	0.00	(1,339.31)
05 704 1004	MS VOLLEYBALL BALANCE	4,713.76	0.00	0.00	0.00	4,713.76
05 704 1005	CROSS COUNTRY BALANCE	1,360.49	127.60	0.00	0.00	1,232.89
05 704 1006	HS WRESTLING BALANCE	(2,763.40)	100.22	175.00	0.00	(2,688.62)
05 704 1007	MS WRESTLING BALANCE	4,107.62	0.00	0.00	0.00	4,107.62
05 704 1008	HS TRACK BALANCE	(5,372.66)	3,402.00	0.00	0.00	(8,774.66)
05 704 1009	MS TRACK BALANCE	1,295.47	313.79	15.00	0.00	996.68

**Activity Fund Balance Report - Summary - Exclude Encumbrances**

05/2024 - 05/2024

Regular; Beginning Month 05/2024; Processing Month 05/2024; Accounts to Include Accounts with Activity; Fund Number 05

**Fund: 05      ACTIVITIES**

<u>Chart of Account Number</u>	<u>Chart of Account Description</u>	<u>Beginning Balance</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Revenues</u>	<u>Balance Change</u>	<u>Balance</u>
05 704 1010	HS BOYS BASKETBALL BALANCE	4,906.76	175.56	0.00	0.00	4,731.20
05 704 1011	MS BOYS BASKETBALL BALANCE	1,495.03	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,495.03
05 704 1012	HS GIRLS BASKETBALL BALANCE	(2,264.91)	139.96	0.00	0.00	(2,404.87)
05 704 1013	MS GIRLS BASKETBALL BALANCE	3,274.91	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,274.91
05 704 1014	BOYS GOLF BALANCE	1,887.91	530.98	735.00	0.00	2,091.93
05 704 1015	TRAINING SUPPLIES BALANCE	3,234.54	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,234.54
05 704 1016	GIRLS GOLF BALANCE	124.52	0.00	0.00	0.00	124.52
05 704 1017	CHEER BALANCE	(4,947.00)	0.00	0.00	0.00	(4,947.00)
05 704 1018	DRILL TEAM BALANCE	(1,603.13)	0.00	0.00	0.00	(1,603.13)
05 704 1020	MS GOLF BALANCE	18.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	18.50
05 704 2017	CLASS OF 2017 BALANCE	637.78	0.00	0.00	0.00	637.78
05 704 2018	CLASS OF 2018 BALANCE	55.94	0.00	0.00	0.00	55.94
05 704 2019	CLASS OF 2019 BALANCE	553.93	0.00	0.00	0.00	553.93
05 704 2020	CLASS OF 2020 BALANCE	246.04	0.00	0.00	0.00	246.04
05 704 2021	CLASS OF 2021 BALANCE	274.08	0.00	0.00	0.00	274.08
05 704 2022	CLASS OF 2022 BALANCE	90.06	0.00	0.00	0.00	90.06
05 704 2023	CLASS OF 2023 BALANCE	517.58	0.00	0.00	0.00	517.58
05 704 2024	CLASS OF 2024 BALANCE	2,408.75	2,052.43	732.00	0.00	1,088.32
05 704 2025	CLASS OF 2025 BALANCE	4,812.85	1,237.46	20.00	0.00	3,595.39
05 704 2026	CLASS OF 2026 BALANCE	4,452.46	0.00	30.00	0.00	4,482.46
05 704 2027	CLASS OF 2027 BALANCE	3,227.61	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,227.61
05 704 2028	CLASS OF 2028 BALANCE	3,176.11	0.00	115.00	0.00	3,291.11
05 704 2029	CLASS OF 2029 BALANCE	1,269.58	0.00	25.00	0.00	1,294.58
05 704 2030	CLASS OF 2030	507.25	0.00	8.00	0.00	515.25
Fund Total: 05		274,018.23	32,170.18	40,073.30	0.00	281,921.35



May 31, 2024

INVESTMENTS

CLAPPER

Week of	Amount	Term	Homestead	WPB	Number	Maturity
June 20, 2022	4,000	24 Mo	<u>0.50%</u>	0.45%		Jun 24, 2024

ACTIVITY ACCOUNT

Week of	Amount	Term	Homestead	WPB	Number	Maturity
Jun 20, 2023	25,000	12 Mo	<u>4.80%</u>	4.29%	9524682	Jun 15, 2024
Dec 20, 2023	25,000	12 Mo	5.00%	<u>5.25%</u>	26208125	Dec 20, 2024

GENERAL FUND

Week of	Amount	Term	Homestead	WPB	Number	Maturity
Oct 13, 2023	240,000	8 Mo	5.48%	5.45%	<u>NLAF 5.55%</u>	Jun 14, 2023
Jan 12, 2024	250,000	6 Mo	<u>5.35%</u>	5.12%	NLAF 5.28%	Jul 15, 2024
Jan 12, 2024	275,000	7 Mo	<u>5.35%</u>	5.02%	NLAF 5.06%	Aug 15, 2024
Jan 12, 2024	275,000	8 Mo	<u>5.35%</u>	4.61%	NLAF 5.02%	Sep 13, 2024
Feb 15, 2024	241,000	8 Mo	5.05%	5.15%	<u>NLAF 5.20%</u>	Oct 15, 2024
Feb 15, 2024	100,000	8 Mo	5.05%	5.15%	<u>NLAF 5.15%</u>	Oct 15, 2024
Apr 15, 2024	242,000	7 Mo	5.10%	4.77%	<u>NLAF 5.20%</u>	Nov 15, 2024
May 15, 2024	125,000	7 Mo	5.10%	4.91%	<u>NLAF 5.10%</u>	Dec 13, 2024
May 15, 2024	235,000	8 Mo	4.96%	4.88%	<u>NLAF 5.15%</u>	Jan 15, 2025
May 15, 2024	235,000	9 Mo	4.96%	4.82%	<u>NLAF 5.15%</u>	Feb 14, 2025
May 15, 2024	235,000	10 Mo	4.96%	4.77%	<u>NLAF 5.35%</u>	Mar 14, 2025

DEPRECIATION FUND

Week of	Amount	Term	Homestead	WPB	Number	Maturity
Feb 20, 2024	237,000	12 Mo	4.95%	5.15%	<u>NSDLAF5.20%</u>	Feb 14, 2025

BUILDING FUND

Week of	Amount	Term	Homestead	WPB	Number	Maturity
Aug 21, 2022	246,000	12 Mo	5.35%	5.00%	<u>NSDLAF5.53%</u>	Aug 20, 2024
Feb 15, 2024	238,000	12 Mo	4.95%	<u>5.15%</u>	26221425NLAF5.14%	Feb 14, 2025

EMPLOYEE BENEFIT FUND

Week of	Amount	Term	Homestead	WPB	Number	Maturity
Jan 19, 2024	100,000	12 Mo	4.95%	5.25%	<u>NSDLAF5.35%</u>	Jan 15, 2025

## FUND BALANCES

5/31/2024

### DEPRECIATION FUND

Account	<i>Checking</i>	<i>CD</i>	<i>NSDLAF</i>	<i>Total</i>
Band/Choir Uniforms	\$ 576.62			\$ 576.62
Vehicle	10,537.58			10,537.58
Desks	191.01			191.01
Interest	39,571.69	-		39,571.69
Ag Equipment	3,000.00			3,000.00
Undesignated	106,755.59	-	237,000.00	343,755.59
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$ 160,632.49</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 237,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 397,632.49</b>

### BUILDING/SINKING FUND

Account	<i>Checking</i>	<i>CD</i>		<i>Total</i>
Track	\$ -			\$ -
Bleachers	-			-
Interest	29,004.95		-	29,004.95
Undesignated	439,738.85	238,000.00	246,000.00	923,738.85
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$ 468,743.80</b>	<b>\$ 238,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 246,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 952,743.80</b>

### EMPLOYEE BENEFIT FUND

Account	<i>Checking</i>	<i>CD</i>		<i>Total</i>
Unemployment	\$ 6,967.55			\$ 6,967.55
Volunteer Retirement	9,074.49			9,074.49
Interest	2,503.83		100,000.00	102,503.83
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$ 18,545.87</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 100,000.00</b>	<b>\$ 118,545.87</b>

### BOND FUND

Account	<i>Checking</i>	<i>CD</i>		<i>Total</i>
Bond	\$ -			\$ -

### STUDENT FEES

Account	<i>Checking</i>		<i>Total</i>
Fees	\$ 1,575.00		\$ 1,575.00

**Counselor Update:**

**Ainsworth**

**Community Schools**



Providing Opportunities for Our Students

**DUAL**

**CREDIT**



# DUAL CREDIT COURSES OUR STUDENTS TAKE

These classes are taken online with a proctor in the building.

American History II

Intro to Psychology

Public Speaking

World History II

Intro to Sociology

Personal Finance

American Government

Intro to Education

Principles of Accounting

World Regional Geography

Intro to Criminal Justice

Lifetime Wellness

Elementary Spanish I

Criminology

Topics and Ideas in Mathematics

# DUAL CREDIT COURSES OUR STUDENTS TAKE

These classes are taken online with a proctor in the building, unless noted.

Intro to the Econ of Ag

Applied Statistics (Virtual)

College Biology (In-house)

Feeds and Feeding

English Comp. I (In-house)

Medical Terminology (In-house)

Micro Computer Applications in Ag

English Comp. II (In-house)

Nutrition (In-house)

Technical Math I (In-house)

Intro to Literature (In-house)

Construction Trades (In-house)

College Algebra (Virtual)

Workplace Comm. (In-house)

Intro to Music (In-house)

# DUAL CREDIT NUMBERS

## Students/Courses

**2021-22**

54 students took  
136 classes



**2022-23**

39 students took  
114 classes



**2023-24**

46 students took  
142 classes



**2024-25**

Projected for fall  
31 students will  
take 57 classes



# HOW ARE OPPORTUNITIES COMMUNICATED?

## Email

Emails are sent to students and parents about opportunities

## Student Bulletin

Reminders are placed in the student bulletin regarding opportunities

## Facebook

In past years, screen shots of opportunities have been posted on Facebook

## Dual Credit Event

A time or times outside of the school day are offered to help students apply and register



# MAINTAINING & INCREASING DUAL CREDIT OPPORTUNITIES

- Offer Independent Learning periods in the school day
- Program specific/College specific planning
- Northeast has made tuition free
- Northeast has expanded their course offerings
- Resources for assistance on books
- In-house teacher Professional Development

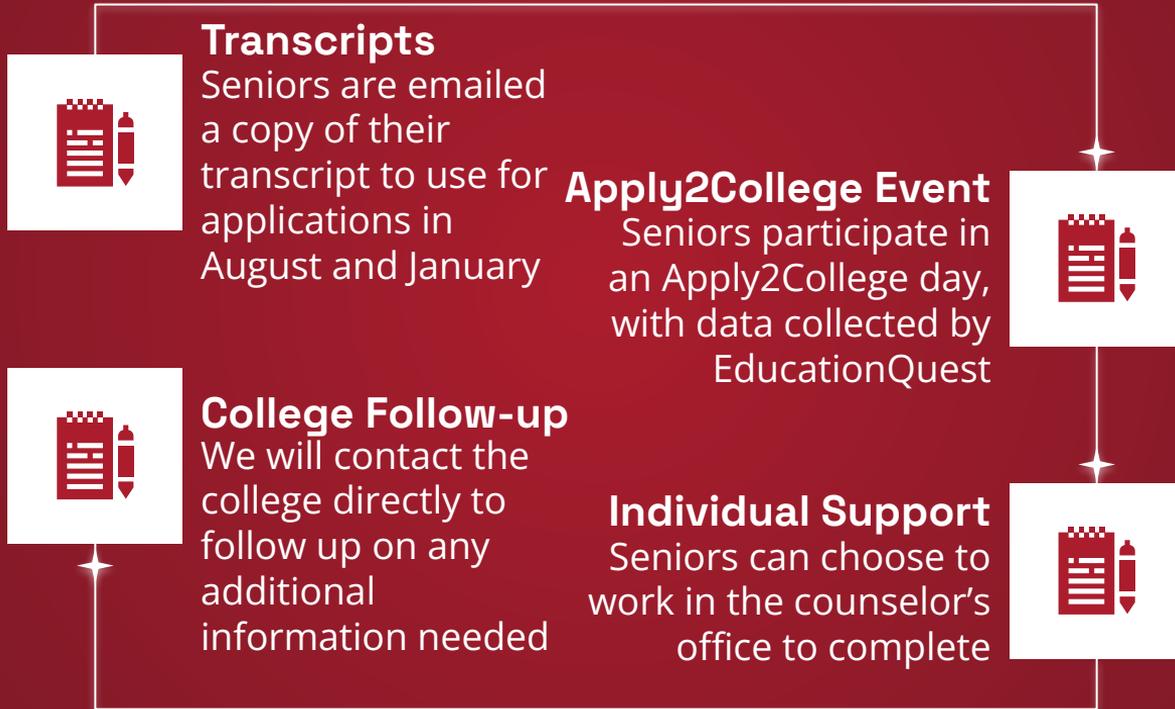


**COLLEGE**

**ACCESS and**

**PREP**

# COLLEGE APPLICATIONS



# ADDITIONAL HELP IN SUPPORTING THE STUDENT'S APPLICATION PROCESS

- Setting up the student access within the system
- Sending official transcripts
- Sending immunization records/health forms
- Assistance with completing housing contracts
- Common App Counselor's Report
- Selected for verification paperwork
- Assistance with the FAFSA



**SCHOLARSHIP**

**PROCESS**



# SCHOLARSHIP PROCESS

## Senior Packet, August

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All students receive a hard copy of annual scholarships

## Counselor Corner Website

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A scholarship list is also found on the school website

## Emails

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All students are directly emailed links or fillable applications with instructions and reminders

## Additional Communication

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Reminders are placed in the student bulletin and on KBRB open line information

# SUPPORTING THE SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION PROCESS

- Making applications a fillable PDF
- Directly contacting students with special qualifications
- Individual application assistance
- Proofreading applications and essays, help with wording
- Letters of Recommendation
- Fancy paper is available, paperclips, envelopes, etc.
- EducationQuest Activities Resume
- Mailtracker



# Ainsworth Community Schools

520 East 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, PO Box 65  
Ainsworth NE 69210

402-387-2083

Benjamin Wright  
PK-6 PRINCIPAL



Board of Education Meeting  
06/10/2024

May's Monthly Mission was to **"Finish Strong!"** This is a very simple but important mission for the end of the school year. We always encourage all of our students to finish a year strong and not just coast to the end. We want to build valuable skills when wrapping up a job or a project in the future and not just getting done to get done, but to Finish Strong!!

We finished out another great school year and continue to push through to the end. A Lot of students continued to grow and achieve goals set, as well as exceeding those expectations.

Summer school is currently underway for students in grades Kindergarten through Sixth Grade. We have around 34 students attending each day and receiving instruction. The groups of students are a great size, which allows teachers to truly target small groups of students in areas they need foundational instruction. We have also introduced our ASAP program into the summer school where children get to enrich themselves with various activities everyday as part of the summer program. Summer school will continue to run from through June 30th (Monday-Thursday each week) and will be from 8:30-11:45 each day. Special Education services will also continue to run on Tuesday and Thursdays through the second week of July.

As we close the chapter on another school year, it's with a sense of pride and gratitude that we reflect on the journey we've undertaken together. Despite the challenges we faced, our students, teachers, staff, and parents have shown incredible resilience, adaptability, and determination. Together, we navigated through unprecedented circumstances, finding



# Ainsworth Community Schools

520 East 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, PO Box 65  
Ainsworth NE 69210

402-387-2083

**Benjamin Wright**  
**PK-6 PRINCIPAL**



innovative ways to learn, connect, and grow. As we say goodbye to this academic year, let's carry forward the lessons learned, the friendships forged, and the memories cherished. Let's continue this progress forward through the summer with training as well as getting prepped for the 2024-25 school year.

Current Enrollment for the 2023-2024 school year as of June 5th:

**\*PK: 30 students**

Kindergarten- **25**

1st Grade- **26**

2nd Grade- **23**

3rd Grade- **29**

4th Grade- **27**

5th Grade- **32**

6th Grade- **29**

**Total: 191 Students K-6**

**Total: 221 Students Pk-6**



**Report to the Board of Education  
June 2024**



<b><u>Enrollment Summary</u></b> <b><u>(As of 5/31/24)</u></b>					
<b>Middle School (7th &amp; 8th)</b>			<b>High School</b>		
<b>Grade Level</b>	<b>Total in Grade</b>		<b>Grade Level</b>	<b>Total in Grade</b>	
<b>7th Grade</b>	M 10 / F 16	<b>26</b>	<b>9th Grade</b>	M 11 / F 15	<b>26</b>
<b>8th Grade</b>	M 20 / F 7	<b>27</b>	<b>10th Grade</b>	M 13 / F 12	<b>25</b>
			<b>11th Grade</b>	M 13 / F 15	<b>28</b>
			<b>12th Grade</b>	M 15 / F 21	<b>36</b>
<b>Total</b>	M 30 / F 23	<b>53</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>M 52 / F 63</b>	<b>115</b>

**Summer School**

Summer school is off and running and the start has been very smooth. We will be in session from June 3-27th and currently have 8 students in attendance. (4 middle school, 2 high School credit recovery and 2 high school attendance make-up). Ms.Wirth, Mrs. Nelson, Mrs. Williams and Mrs. Allen are guiding this process.

**Summer Professional Development**

We planning the following Professional Development for Various staff this summer:

- 6/10 - ESU #17 Mental Health Symposium
- 6/11 - ESU #17 MTSS Refine and Refocus
- 6/25 - Power of Positive Leadership (Norfolk)
- 6/26 - SWIS CICO Training
- 6/27 - ACS Tier 2 Training CICO and Beyond

Respectfully Submitted:  
Steve Dike  
7-12 Principal

**AINSWORTH COMMUNITY SCHOOLS**  
**ACTIVITIES DEPARTMENT**

P.O. BOX 65 - 520 EAST 2ND  
AINSWORTH, NE 69210  
402-387-0535



*Luke Wroblewski – Activities Directors*

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**JUNE 2024 ACTIVITIES REPORT**

The track and field season ended at the State Track and Field Meet. Carter Nelson placed 3rd in the 200m Dash, 1st in the Long Jump, and Katherine Kerrigan placed 8th in the 3200 M run.

The middle school track and field team sent four athletes to the Nebraska State Championship meet in Gothenburg: Zaine Evens in the Pole Vault, Graham Duester in the High Jump, Easton McMillin in the 200m Hurdles, and Reagan Moody in the 800m run (6th place) and 1600m run (3rd place).

The boys golf season ended at the district meet we hosted at the Ainsworth Municipal Golf Course.

The third season of middle school golf ended in May. We had increased numbers and competed in four meets.

Pre-participation physicals for all 7th-12th graders participating in a sport next school year will need to have a physical on or after May 1, 2024, and before being able to participate. We are now using SWAY concussion testing. We tested some students before the end of the school year and will test the rest in the fall before the season begins.

The summer strength and conditioning program has begun. Several programs are conducting sport-specific workouts and camps throughout the summer.

The All Sports Kids camp (3-8) was a success and was hosted by the high school coaches on June 3rd and 4th.

The Community Center gym floor was refinished on April 20th and is back open for use. The high school gym floor was refinished on May 22nd and is back open.

The track was resurfaced at the end of May. We are now waiting on them to paint the lines on the track.

# NASB BOARD QUICKS

A MONTHLY E-UPDATE OF KEY DATES FROM THE NEBRASKA ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL BOARDS



1,960,000 Nebraskans 324,000 Students 1,700 Locally Elected School Board Members 260 Member Districts/ESUs ONE NEBRASKA

To register for an NASB event, click on the 'My Membership' link, then navigate to the 'Events' dropdown and select 'Register'. If you do not have an email and password to log in or have forgotten it, please contact NASB at 402-423-4951 for assistance. All Dates & Locations Tentative & Subject to Change

JOIN US!

Events & Networking - <https://members.nasbonline.org/events>



NASB Leadership Workshop - June 5-6 - Lincoln

NASB Member Golf Outing - June 12 - Kearney

Email [sendorf@NASBonline.org](mailto:sendorf@NASBonline.org) to sign up



School Leaders & Law Conference - June 12-13 - Kearney



Call for Legislative Proposals - Due July 1

Legislative Proposals for 2025 can be submitted at any time between now and July 1 at <https://members.nasbonline.org/government-relations/legislative-proposals>

Board Candidate Workshop - July 9 - Ogallala

Board Candidate Workshop - July 10 - Hastings

Board Candidate Workshop - July 11 - Ord

Board Candidate Workshop - July 16 - Milford

ALICAP Summer Workshop - July 10 - Gering

ALICAP Summer Workshop - July 11 - Kearney

ALICAP Summer Workshop - July 12 - Lincoln

Continued on Page 2



Leadership

Innovation

Vision

Engagement

#liveNASB

#weLIVEhere

NASB provides programs, services, and advocacy to strengthen public education for all Nebraskans. Learn more at [www.NASBonline.org](http://www.NASBonline.org)

# NASB BOARD QUICKS

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PAGE 2



## Area Membership Meetings - August & September



North Platte, Gering, Valentine, Kearney, York, Norfolk, Nebraska City, Omaha & Fremont

Learn more and see specific dates at:  
<https://members.nasbonline.org/events>

## State Education Conference - November 20-22 - Omaha

## YOUR 2024 PLATINUM AFFILIATES

If your business would like to become an Affiliate Member of NASB, please visit: <https://members.nasbonline.org/about-us/affiliate-members>

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a different opinion

**BCDM**  
architects

**Boyd Jones**

**BISHOP**  
BUSINESS

**BVH**  
ARCHITECTURE

**CP** CARLSON  
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ARCHITECTS

**CMBA**  
ARCHITECTS

**CROUCH**  
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## Ainsworth Community Schools

520 East 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, PO Box 65  
Ainsworth NE 69210  
402-387-2333  
Fax 402-387-0525

Dale Hafer  
SUPERINTENDENT

Dedra Stoner  
Laurie Witte  
DISTRICT OFFICE

---

June 10, 2024

**TO:** Board Members

**FROM:** Dale

**SUBJECT:** Superintendent's Report for the June Regular Meeting

### 1) Financial Report

Our expenses and revenue are as follows through the month of May with comparison to the 2 previous years as well. Through May, we have spent 55.66% of the budget (\$6,145,585) compared to 54.39% (\$6,016,841) and 53.93% (\$5,868,495) through May of 2023 and 2022, respectively. For revenue, we have brought in \$7,309,307 through May compared to 2023 (\$6,461,443) and 2022 (\$7,029,729).

It is not too early to be thinking about when to have our annual budget retreat. The purpose of the retreat is to afford the Board the opportunity to explore budget options and hear input from any patrons wishing to attend. The 19<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup>, or 21<sup>st</sup> of August appear to be workable dates at this time on the school calendar. We can pick a date at the July 8<sup>th</sup> regular meeting unless one is obvious now.

### 2) Transportation, Buildings and Grounds

The refurbishment of the track is going well. The new layer of coating was completed on Memorial Day. We now are waiting for them to return to paint the official lines and marks.

The custodial crew is making good progress in the building with summer cleaning and maintenance. They are working around the current summer school needs and schedule as well as addressing various other needs.

Joe and Todd are doing some repair and maintenance on the playground to clean up excess gravel and re-install the playground borders. We will wait and see whether or not the district and NCDC are successful in getting a grant to address the whole playground. We won't know that answer until likely October.

### **3) Board Policy Review**

We received the annual update of policy changes from NASB. These changes are due to legislative action and are not optional. Please refer to the attached PDF on the agenda that begins with an email explanation from Jim Luebbe. He gives a brief explanation of each policy change, including the bill that caused the change.

Due to considering these legislative updates and changes, we will pause our routine review of policies and will resume that process in July. We are ahead of schedule with our review.

### **4) Strategic Plan**

The Principals and I are currently completing the second progress analysis survey for NASB and our strategic plan. Once that is completed, we will share our results when compiled. I feel good about our progress and where we are in our plan. With this being our year to have our 5-year school improvement review, the strategic plan and documented efforts are going to be very helpful in sharing our efforts and progress over the last several years.

### **5) Personnel and Vacancies**

We are excited to announce that Austin Jones will be joining team ACS as a custodian. He will start his new position July 8<sup>th</sup> which will be helpful as we transition, and Nick finishes his duties and prepares for retirement. We are also excited to welcome Katrina Beel on staff as a new paraprofessional for the 2024-25 school year.

Currently we are sitting pretty well with paras according to our current needs. We do have another custodian position open and are advertising to fill that position.

### **6) Other**

Please let me know if you have any questions or needs. Thanks!

# Ainsworth Community Schools

## Grades 7-12 Student-Parent Handbook

### 2024-25

*\*Approved by the Board of Education - June 10, 2024*



Ainsworth Community Schools  
520 East 2nd Street  
Ainsworth, NE 69210  
402-387-2333 (District Office)  
402-387-2082 (MS/HS Office)

**IMPORTANT:** The receipt page must be signed (electronic or paper) by **8/19/24**.

# (7-12) STUDENT - PARENT HANDBOOK OF AINSWORTH COMMUNITY SCHOOLS 2024-2025

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

### Foreword

		Page
<b>Section 1</b>	<b>Intent of Handbook</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Section 2</b>	<b>Members of the Board of Education</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Section 3</b>	<b>Administrative Staff</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Section 4</b>	<b>Teaching Staff</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Section 5</b>	<b>School Calendar</b>	<b>8</b>

### Article 1 - Mission and Goals

		Page
<b>Section 1</b>	<b>School Mission Statement</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Section 2</b>	<b>Goals and Objectives</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Section 3</b>	<b>Mutual Respect</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Section 4</b>	<b>Complaint Procedures</b>	<b>10</b>

### Article 2 - School Day

		Page
<b>Section 1</b>	<b>Daily Schedule</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Section 3</b>	<b>Severe Weather and School Cancellations</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Section 4</b>	<b>Open-Closed Campus</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>Section 5</b>	<b>Supervision Responsibility Before/After School</b>	<b>13</b>

### Article 3 - Use of Building and Grounds

		Page
<b>Section 1</b>	<b>Visitors</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Section 2</b>	<b>Smoke-Free Environment</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Section 3</b>	<b>Care of School Property</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>Section 4</b>	<b>Lockers</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Section 5</b>	<b>Searches of Lockers and Other Types of Searches</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Section 6</b>	<b>Video Surveillance</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>Section 7</b>	<b>Recording of Others</b>	<b>17</b>

<b>Section 8</b>	<b>Use of Cell Phones and Personal Listening Devices (Head Phones and Ear Buds)</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>Section 9</b>	<b>Bicycles</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>Section 10</b>	<b>Student Valuables</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>Section 11</b>	<b>Lost and Found</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>Section 12</b>	<b>Accidents</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>Section 13</b>	<b>Laboratory Safety Glasses</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>Section 14</b>	<b>Insurance</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>Section 15</b>	<b>Bulletins and Announcements</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>Section 16</b>	<b>Copyright and Fair Use Policy</b>	<b>19</b>

**Article 4 – Attendance**

		<b>Page</b>
<b>Section 1</b>	<b>Attendance Policy</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>Section 2</b>	<b>Attendance and Absences</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>Section 3</b>	<b>Absence Procedures</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>Section 4</b>	<b>Make-up Work</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>Section 5</b>	<b>Attendance is Required to Participate in Activities</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>Section 6</b>	<b>Truancy</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>Section 7</b>	<b>Non-Public Students and Part-Time Enrollment</b>	<b>25</b>

**Article 5 - Scholastic Achievement**

		<b>Page</b>
<b>Section 1</b>	<b>Grading System</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>Section 2</b>	<b>High School Yearly Course Requirements</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>Section 3</b>	<b>Graduation Requirements</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>Section 4</b>	<b>Promotion and Retention</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>Section 5</b>	<b>Schedule Changes</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>Section 6</b>	<b>Interim Progress Reports</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>Section 7</b>	<b>Report Cards</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>Section 8</b>	<b>Parent-Teacher Conferences</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>Section 9</b>	<b>Honor Roll</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>Section 10</b>	<b>National Honor Society</b>	<b>30</b>

**Article 6 - Support Services**

		<b>Page</b>
<b>Section 1</b>	<b>Special Education Services</b>	<b>31</b>
<b>Section 2</b>	<b>Students with Disabilities: Section 504</b>	<b>32</b>
<b>Section 3</b>	<b>Guidance Services</b>	<b>33</b>
<b>Section 4</b>	<b>Health Services</b>	<b>33</b>
<b>Section 5</b>	<b>Transportation Services</b>	<b>36</b>

**Article 7 - Drugs, Alcohol and Tobacco**

		<b>Page</b>
<b>Section 1</b>	<b>Drug-Free Schools</b>	<b>37</b>
<b>Section 2</b>	<b>Education and Prevention</b>	<b>38</b>
<b>Section 3</b>	<b>Student Conduct Pertaining to Drugs, Alcohol and Tobacco</b>	<b>38</b>

**Article 8 - Student Rights, Conduct, Rules and Regulations**

		<b>Page</b>
<b>Section 1</b>	<b>Purpose of Student Conduct Rules</b>	<b>38</b>
<b>Section 2</b>	<b>Forms of School Discipline</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>●Short-Term Suspensions</li> <li>●Long-Term Suspensions</li> <li>●Expulsions</li> <li>●Other Forms of Student Discipline</li> <li>●Grounds for Short-Term Suspension, Long-Term Suspension, Expulsion or Mandatory Reassignment</li> <li>●Additional Student Conduct Expectations and Grounds for Discipline</li> <li>●Student Appearance Policy</li> <li>●Electronic Devices</li> <li>●Harassment and Bullying Policy</li> <li>●Inappropriate Public Displays of Affection</li> <li>●Specific Rule Items</li> <li>●Network, E-Mail, Internet and Other Computer Use Rules</li> <li>●Risks of Facebook and Similar Social Networking</li> </ul>	<b>38</b>

**Article 9 - Extra-Curricular Activities - Rights, Conduct, Rules and Regulations**

		<b>Page</b>
<b>Section 1</b>	<b>Extracurricular Activity Philosophy</b>	<b>62</b>
<b>Section 2</b>	<b>Extracurricular Activity Code of Conduct &amp; Discipline</b>	<b>63</b>
<b>Section 3</b>	<b>Attendance</b>	<b>71</b>
<b>Section 4</b>	<b>Academic Standards</b>	<b>72</b>
<b>Section 5</b>	<b>“Team Selection” and “Playing Time”</b>	<b>72</b>
<b>Section 6</b>	<b>Pre-Practice Regulations</b>	<b>73</b>
<b>Section 7</b>	<b>Practice Regulations</b>	<b>73</b>
<b>Section 8</b>	<b>Equipment</b>	<b>74</b>
<b>Section 9</b>	<b>Team Travel</b>	<b>74</b>
<b>Section 10</b>	<b>School Dances &amp; Eligibility of Royalty</b>	<b>74</b>
<b>Section 11</b>	<b>Relationships Between Parents and Coaches/Sponsors</b>	<b>77</b>
<b>Section 12</b>	<b>Behavior Expectations of Spectators</b>	<b>78</b>
<b>Section 13</b>	<b>Students Fees Policy</b>	<b>79</b>

**Article 10 - State and Federal Programs**

		<b>Page</b>
<b>Section 1</b>	<b>Notice of Nondiscrimination</b>	<b>83</b>
<b>Section 2</b>	<b>Designation of Coordinator(s)</b>	<b>83</b>
<b>Section 3</b>	<b>Anti-discrimination &amp; Harassment Policy</b>	<b>84</b>
<b>Section 4</b>	<b>Multicultural Policy</b>	<b>85</b>

<b>Section 5</b>	<b>Notice to Parents of Rights Afforded by Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973</b>	<b>86</b>
<b>Section 6</b>	<b>Notification of Rights Under FERPA</b>	<b>86</b>
<b>Section 7</b>	<b>Military Recruiters</b>	<b>89</b>
<b>Section 8</b>	<b>Combined District and School Title I Parent and Family Involvement</b>	<b>89</b>
<b>Section 9</b>	<b>Student Privacy Protection Policy</b>	<b>90</b>
<b>Section 10</b>	<b>Parental Involvement</b>	<b>93</b>
<b>Section 11</b>	<b>Homeless Students</b>	<b>94</b>
<b>Section 12</b>	<b>Pregnant and Parenting Students</b>	<b>99</b>
<b>Section 13</b>	<b>Married Students</b>	<b>101</b>

	<b>Availability of Handbook</b>	<b>102</b>
	<b>Acknowledgment of Receipt</b>	<b>102</b>

**Ainsworth Community Schools Student-Parent Handbook  
2022-2023 School Year**

**Foreword**

**Section 1 Intent of Handbook**

This handbook is intended to be used by students, parents and staff as a guide to the rules, regulations, and general information about Ainsworth Community Schools. Each student is responsible for becoming familiar with the handbook and knowing the information contained in it. Parents are encouraged to use this handbook as a resource and to assist their child in following the rules contained in this handbook.

Although the information found in this handbook is detailed and specific on many topics, the handbook is not intended to be all encompassing so as to cover every situation and circumstance that may arise during any school day, or school year. This handbook does not create a “contract.” The administration reserves the right to make decisions and make rule revisions at any time to implement the educational program and to assure the well-being of all students and the educational program. The administration will be responsible for interpreting the rules contained in the handbook. Should a situation or circumstance arise that is not specifically covered in this handbook, the administration will make a decision based upon all applicable school district policies, and state and federal statutes and regulations.

**Section 2 Members of the Board of Education**

Name	Contact Information
Brad Wilkins, President	<a href="mailto:bwilkins@ainsworthschools.org">bwilkins@ainsworthschools.org</a>
Mark Johnson, Vice President	<a href="mailto:majohnson@ainsworthschools.org">majohnson@ainsworthschools.org</a>
Scott Erthum, Secretary	<a href="mailto:serthum@ainsworthschools.org">serthum@ainsworthschools.org</a>
Frank Beel	<a href="mailto:fbeel@ainsworthschools.org">fbeel@ainsworthschools.org</a>
Jessica Pozehl	<a href="mailto:jpozehl@ainsworthschools.org">jpozehl@ainsworthschools.org</a>
Bryan Doke	<a href="mailto:bdoke@ainsworthschools.org">bdoke@ainsworthschools.org</a>

**Section 3 Administrative Staff**

Name	Position	School	Contact Information
Dale Hafer	Superintendent	District Office	402-387-2333
Steve Dike	7-12 Principal	Ainsworth 7-12	402-387-2082
Luke Wroblewski	Activities Director	Ainsworth 7-12	402-387-2082
Ben Wright	PK-6 Principal	Ainsworth PK-6	402-387-2083

**Section 4 Teaching Staff - 7-12 MS/HS**

Wade Alberts	Brandy Dowdy	Amanda Kroeger	Lauren Osborne	Kara Welch
Bethany Alder	Amanda Evans	Heather Lutter	Jessi Owen	Emily Whipple
Wendy Allen	Nichole Flynn	Hailey McBride	Todd Pollock	Rachel Williams
Pam Barrow	Amanda Ganser	Juli Murphy	Erin Rathe	Amanda Wirth
Betty Bower	Tammy Hancock	Sandi Nelson	Kelsey Riesen	
Ronda Davis	Jennifer Hitchcock	Jake Nelson	Lisa Schlueter	
Roberta Denny	Jessica Kempcke	Kayla Nilson	Scott Steinhauser	

Angie Welke-Secretary

Zoe Shankland-Secretary

# Section 6 School Calendar

## Ainsworth Community Schools 2024-2025 School Calendar

<p>5 Fall Sports Practice Begins 7, 8 Teacher work days 9, 12, 13 Teacher In-service 14 First Day Students</p>	<p><b>AUGUST 2024</b></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr><th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>Th</th><th>F</th><th>S</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td></tr> <tr><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td></tr> <tr><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td></tr> <tr><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td></tr> <tr><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td></tr> </tbody> </table>	S	M	T	W	Th	F	S					1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	<p><b>SEPTEMBER 2024</b></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr><th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>Th</th><th>F</th><th>S</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td></tr> <tr><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td></tr> <tr><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td></tr> <tr><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td></tr> <tr><td>29</td><td>30</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </tbody> </table>	S	M	T	W	Th	F	S	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30						<p>2 No School - Labor Day 16 No School Teacher In-Service</p>							
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<p>11 End of 1<sup>st</sup> Qtr 14 No School - Work Time &amp; P/T Conferences 25 No School - Fall Break</p>	<p><b>OCTOBER 2024</b></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr><th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>Th</th><th>F</th><th>S</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td></tr> <tr><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td></tr> <tr><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td></tr> <tr><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td></tr> <tr><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td><td></td></tr> </tbody> </table>	S	M	T	W	Th	F	S			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31			<p><b>NOVEMBER 2024</b></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr><th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>Th</th><th>F</th><th>S</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td></tr> <tr><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td></tr> <tr><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td></tr> <tr><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td></tr> <tr><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td></tr> </tbody> </table>	S	M	T	W	Th	F	S						1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	<p>27, 28, 29 - Thanksgiving Break</p>							
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Number of Student Days	Number of Teacher Days
Aug 13	Aug 18
Sept 19	Sept 20
Oct 21	Oct 22
Nov 18	Nov 18
Dec 15	Dec 15
Jan 19	Jan 22
Feb 18	Feb 19
Mar 18	Mar 19
Apr 20	Apr 20
May 11	May 12
<b>Total 172</b>	<b>Total 185</b>

Early Out Days for Students	Teacher In-Service/work Days
Dec 20 (2:00)	Aug 7-9, 12, 13
May 16 (2:00)	Sept 16
	Oct 14
	Feb 10
	Jan 3, 6
	Mar 21
	May 16

Purple – PT Conferences  
Red – Teacher In-Serv/Work time  
Yellow – No School  
Green – Semester Tests/Finals

*\*Subject to change. Please follow the website and app for current calendar updates.  
Board Approved 4/8/24*

## **Article 1 – Mission and Goals**

### **Section 1 School Mission Statement**

Welcome to Ainsworth Community Schools. The Board of Education, administration and staff are committed to providing an environment where every child can grow and learn in a positive environment.

### **Section 2 Goals and Objectives**

The goals and objectives of the Ainsworth Community Schools are to provide:

1. A curriculum that is based on state standards; comprehensive, coordinated, and sequential and is directed toward locally approved goals and standards for student learning. It draws upon research, best practice, and reputable theory and provides the foundation for standards based instruction. The instructional program focuses on achievement and provides for the diverse learning needs of all students including learners with disabilities and high ability learners. Curriculum and instruction help students develop content and skill mastery, analytical thinking, problem solving, work ethics, creativity, and respect for diversity.
2. An instructional program that focuses on achievement and provides for the needs of all students including learners with disabilities and high ability learners. It draws upon research, best practice, and reputable theory broad enough yet with sufficient depth to allow education for all of the students.
3. Assessment procedures and results that assist teachers in planning and providing appropriate instruction for all students. Assessment results also provide information for monitoring program success, and for reporting to parents, policy makers, and the community. The school periodically reviews procedures to improve assessment quality and increase student learning. The information assists schools in establishing and achieving improvement goals.
4. A library/media/technology program that provides a wide range of accessible print and electronic resources that expand opportunity for learning, contribute to information literacy, support the local curriculum, and enhance and enrich learning experiences for all students. The program provides materials through onsite and electronic access that complement, supplement, and enrich curriculum and instruction. It facilitates research, supports and encourages personal interest in reading and the study of current events, and develops technological and other skills for accessing, evaluating, and using resources.
5. Instructional staff who have appropriate training and preparation to work with the students assigned to them, who are knowledgeable of principles of child growth and development and of the curriculum content for which they are responsible, who use teaching strategies that engage students actively in learning, and who help students understand and apply content across subject areas. Staff development activities that support the school's efforts in curriculum development, instructional improvement, assessment, and general school improvement to achieve school improvement goals.
6. Administration that exercises leadership in the development and implementation of school goals and policies. Administrators who demonstrate leadership in

management and operation of the school system and in the improvement of curriculum and instruction. Building administrators who provide leadership to curriculum, instruction, assessment, and school improvement. They guide staff and students in achieving goals and fulfill other functions supportive of quality learning.

7. A systematic ongoing process that guides planning, implementation, and evaluation and renewal of school improvement activities to meet local and statewide goals and priorities. The school improvement process focuses on improving student learning. The process includes a periodic review by visiting educators who provide consultation to the school/community in continued accomplishment of plans and goals.
8. A school system that demonstrates accountability to the school community. School staff periodically assesses and reports student progress toward accomplishment of academic content standards. Results are used to plan and make needed changes to improve instruction for all students.
9. School facilities and a general environment that supports quality learning. Facilities and grounds are safe, orderly, and well maintained, and facilities that have adequate space, lighting, and furnishings. The system has plans or provisions for climate-controlled buildings to the extent feasible. The environment is emotionally safe and supportive and promotes respect, trust, and integrity.
10. A Board of Education that governs through orderly procedures which focus efforts of the school upon quality learning, result in equitable opportunities for learning for all students, and insure accountability to the local community.
11. An activities program that is scheduled outside the regular school day, focuses on active participation of all students involved in the activity, and promotes a positive image of the school and community.
12. A welcoming environment for parents and the community.

### **Section 3 Mutual Respect**

The Ainsworth Community Schools expects every staff member and student to be treated with respect and dignity. A show of disrespect toward a staff member or insubordination on the part of students will not be tolerated.

### **Section 4 Complaint Procedures**

The proper procedure for a parent or student to make complaints or raise concerns is to begin with the school employee who is most immediately or directly involved in the matter, as illustrated in the complaint procedure set forth below. There are specific procedures to address certain complaints or concerns, such as discrimination or harassment, bullying, disciplinary actions. Those procedures should be used where applicable.

#### **1. Complaint procedure**

- Step 1. Schedule a conference with the staff person most immediately or directly involved in the matter.
- Step 2. Address the concern to the Principal if the matter is not resolved at Step 1.
- Step 3. Address the concern to the Superintendent if the matter is not resolved at Step 2.

Step 4. Address the concern to the Board of Education if the matter is not resolved at Step 3.

2. Conditions Applicable to All Levels of Complaint Procedure

All information to be considered at each step should be placed in writing in order to be most effective. Action or decisions will be expedited as quickly as possible, typically within ten (10) calendar days, depending on the nature of the complaint and the need for prompt resolution.

**Article 2 – School Day**

**Section 1 Daily Schedules**

**Regular Schedule**

Warning Bell			7:55
Period 1	8:00	–	8:44
Period 2	8:47	–	9:31
Period 3	9:34	–	10:18
BULLDOG TIME	10:21	--	10:45
Period 4	10:48	–	11:32
7 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup> Lunch	11:32	--	12:01
Period 5 (7-8)	12:04	–	12:46
Period 5 (9-12)	11:35	–	12:19
9 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> Lunch	12:19	–	12:46
Period 6	12:49	–	1:33
Period 7	1:36	–	2:20
Seminar	2:23	–	2:47
Period 8	2:50	–	3:34

**2:00 Dismissal**

Warning Bell			7:55
Period 1	8:00	–	8:39
Period 2	8:42	–	9:21
Period 3	9:24	–	10:03
Period 4	10:06	–	10:45
Period 5	10:48	–	11:27
Period 6	11:30	–	12:09
7 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> Lunch	12:09	-	12:36
Period 7	12:39	–	1:18
Period 8	1:21	–	2:00

**10:00 Late Start**

Warning Bell			9:55
Period 1	10:00	–	10:35
Period 2	10:38	–	11:13
Period 3	11:16	–	11:51
Period 4	11:54	–	12:29
7 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> Lunch	12:29	–	12:59
Period 5	1:02	–	1:37
Period 6	1:40	–	2:15
Period 7	2:18	–	2:53
Period 8	2:56	–	3:31

**Semester Test Schedule**

<b>Day 1 (1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup>)</b>	<b>Day 2 (4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup>)</b>	<b>Day 3 (7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>)</b>
Warning Bell		7:55
Seminar (All Students)	8:00	– 8:30
Period 1,4,7	8:35	– 9:45
Seminar (All Students)	9:50	– 10:20
Period 2,5,8	10:25	– 11:35
Seminar (All Students)	12:45	– 12:15
7 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> Lunch	12:15	-- 12:42
Period 3/6	12:45	– 2:00

Remediation 2:00 – 3:34  
(Days 1&2)

## **Section 2      Severe Weather and School Cancellations**

The Superintendent may close public schools in case of severe weather. Representatives of the Superintendent's staff will notify local news media when inclement weather warrants such action. The information is broadcast regularly by radio and television stations.

Decision to Close Schools. A decision to close school is made when forecasts by the weather service, law enforcement advisories or civil defense officials indicate that it would be unwise to hold school. If possible, a decision about the next school day will be made by 9 p.m. for announcement during the 10 p.m. news. An early decision is not always possible because of uncertain weather conditions. School officials will make periodic assessments of conditions during the night and will decide early in the morning (by 6 a.m. if possible). **In case the school must be closed or opened later than usual because of inclement weather or some other cause, an announcement will be made through the Aptegy notification program, over KBRB radio and Channel 10/11 TV.** In some instances, schools will be open, but certain services may be canceled (bus transportation, pre-school, kindergarten, student activities). Please do not call the school unnecessarily under these circumstances as it ties up the lines in case of emergency.

After School Starts. Every attempt will be made to avoid closing school once classes are in session. In some instances closing school during the day is inevitable if children are to safely return home before the brunt of a major storm hits. In these cases as much advance notice as possible will be given to parents. If school is closed during the day the notice will be broadcast by the media. **Parents should have a plan in place to accommodate these circumstances.**

Parental Decisions. **Parents may decide to keep their children at home in inclement weather because of personal circumstances.** Students absent because of severe weather when school is in session will be marked absent. The absence will be treated like any other PARENT EXCUSED absence for legitimate causes provided parents properly notify the school of their decision. Parents may pick up their children in inclement weather during the school day. Students will not normally be dismissed from school during severe weather on the basis of a telephone request.

What Not To Do. Parents should not attempt to come to school during a tornado warning or any other emergency event. **School officials are not permitted to release students from the school building during a tornado warning.** Tornado safety procedures are practiced regularly by students and staff members. Also, parents are urged not to call radio and television stations and school buildings during severe weather.

Emergency Conditions. The school has a signal which, when activated, includes the necessity to either evacuate the building or to move to safer areas of the building. Regular drills are held as required by law through the school year. There are plans for an Emergency Exit system, Tornado Warning System, and Critical Incident Response.

### Section 3 Open-Closed Campus

All students are required to remain on campus during the school day, except high school (9-12) are allowed to leave campus during lunch. This privilege may be revoked at the discretion of the administration due to poor academic or behavioral performance.

### Section 4 Supervision Responsibility Before/After School

#### Arrival at School/Dismissal From School

##### Student Entrances (Pick up and Drop off)

All High School students will use the west entrance of the school and 7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade students are to use the south door. After activity practices, students are to wait for rides, parents, etc., outside the entrance and not in the building.

Building Entrance Times:

Weights and Conditioning	6:00 AM
Breakfast	7:30 AM
All Other Students	7:45 AM

Times may be adjusted in case of inclement weather. If this is necessary, students should remain in the following locations:

● ***Bus riders will be dropped off and picked up at the SOUTH entrance to the school unless eating breakfast or after 7:55 AM.***

- 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Grades
  - Parents drop off on the SOUTH side of the school
  - Enter on South Side by the bus drop off
  - In case of inclement weather, remain seated on the stairs inside the south entrance until released.
- 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Grades
  - Parents drop off on the WEST side of the school (by the Big A) and do NOT pull into the crosswalk when dropping off.
  - Students may drop items off in the locker rooms but do not loiter. Please report to the commons area outside the counselor's office until 7:45.

Students are expected to arrive at school no earlier than 15 minutes prior to the first class or school program in which they are participating. **Prior to that time, the school is not responsible for supervision of the students.** Students will be admitted to the school building no earlier than 7:45 AM unless eating breakfast or meeting with a teacher unless the Principal determines it to be necessary due to inclement weather or other factors. Students are to enter through their assigned entrance and proceed to the gymnasium until the Warning Bell rings 5 minutes prior to the first bell.

Students will be dismissed at the end of the last period of the school day unless there are other circumstances (early dismissal, detention etc.). Upon dismissal, students must leave the school grounds and proceed home or to a previously designated location unless participating in a school-sponsored activity or working directly with a teacher. **The school is not responsible for supervision of students once the students are to have left school grounds.**

Certain days on the calendar are “shortened days,” meaning that the school day starts or ends other than on the normal schedule. Parents are strongly encouraged to be aware of those days so their children are not left in an unsupervised situation or without a means to get home upon dismissal.

#### Student Parking Lot:

- Students shall not display signs, flags, stickers, and/or tags that have a negative meaning, sexual overtones, racial indifference, gang affiliation, profane language, promotion of tobacco and alcoholic products, and threatening material.
- Each student must park in areas assigned to student parking.
- Backing into parking places is prohibited.
- Parking in a no parking zone is not permitted.
- Sitting in cars during the school day is not permitted.
- Do not park in the visitors or handicapped zones.
- Students being dropped off or picked up by a parent will load and unload on the west side of the building.
- Students will adhere to minimal safe speeds at all times.
- Due to the availability of parking spaces within our lot, the spaces are first come first served. If you are unable to find a parking spot, do not “layer” cars along the back of the lot. Student’s will then need to park on the street.

Violation of any of the rules stated above may result in the revoking of parking privileges and/or other discipline measures including involvement of law enforcement.

#### Signing a Child In and Out of School

Parents or guardians are required to sign their children in and/or out of school if they are entering after their first class or leaving prior to their final class. The parent or guardian must either phone the appropriate office for each student or personally report to the main office for this purpose. The sheet for signing a child in and/or out of school is located on the front counter. If a child is being signed out, the school secretary will call the appropriate classroom and indicate to the teacher that the child is leaving. Parents are not to go directly to the classrooms. The schools will only release children to adults designated by the parent on the emergency card.

If there is a special circumstance, such as a court order limiting access to a student by a parent or guardian, affecting who a student can be released to, the parent must inform the Principal and provide the Principal with a copy of that order to maintain on file at the school.

#### Supervision at Dismissal

Parents or guardians of children in grades Pre-K to 6, where the child does not use district-provided transportation after dismissal, may request the school or program not release the child to walk home after dismissal unless the child is released to the parent or legal guardian or an escort designated by the parent or guardian. The parent or guardian may designate up to two (2) escorts. Parents or guardians requesting their children only be released to the parent or guardian or a designated escort after dismissal must submit a completed written request with the Principal to this effect.

Students who leave before the end of the day are to be signed out by a parent or guardian or an escort designated by the parent or guardian.

## Emergency Closing Procedures

Parents are requested to provide an emergency contact telephone number to have on file in the event of an emergency closing or any other general or individual situation that requires the immediate presence of a parent/guardian. In the event that parents do not have such a number or cannot be contacted, it will be assumed that the parent has instructed their children concerning the procedure they are to follow should school be dismissed early. Realizing that the school might be unable to reach all parents, it is suggested that all children be advised as to what they are to do should they ever be dismissed early. It is recommended that parents give their children an alternate destination and that the building principal be made aware of this information.

If conditions allow and supervision is available in the event of an early dismissal, the child will be held in school until the normal dismissal time. If the parent or guardian has not arrived to pick up the child by the normal dismissal time, law enforcement or child protective services may be contacted to ensure the safety of the child.

### **Article 3 – Use of Building and Grounds**

#### **Section 1      Visitors**

All visitors must report to the office, upon entering the main entrance, to sign in and receive a visitor's pass. Visits to classrooms during the first week of school and the last week of school may be limited to ensure a smooth transition. Visits by parents to classrooms are encouraged; provided that the visits do not disrupt the educational program, individual students, or create a safety concern. In an effort to offer quality time with parents that wish to have a conference with a teacher or a team of teachers, please contact the team or individual teacher to set up an appointment.

In order to limit disruptions to the learning environment, students from other schools are not permitted to visit classes without prior administrative approval and an approved educational purpose. Parents or students wishing to visit during lunch must have the approval of a building administrator. No student is to leave the school with a visitor unless they have checked out through the office.

#### **Section 2      Smoke-Free Environment**

All of our school buildings and grounds are smoke and tobacco-free. We would appreciate your help in meeting the goal of a smoke and tobacco-free environment for our children. When you attend school events, including athletic events, please abide by our District's policy.

#### **Section 3      Care of School Property**

1. Students are responsible for the proper care of all books, equipment, supplies and furniture supplied by the school.
2. Students who disfigure property, break windows or do other damage to school property or equipment will be required to pay for the damage done or replace the item.

School-issued items that are stolen or damaged from unlocked lockers are the responsibility of the student to whom they were issued. Students must pay all fines before they can receive school publications and final grades.

#### **Section 4 Lockers**

Each student 7-8 will be assigned a hallway locker and each student 9-12 will be assigned a hallway locker upon request. Students are not to share lockers with other students except as assigned by school officials. We recommend that the locker be locked with a combination lock. Students may turn in an extra key to the office if they choose to use a key lock. Students who are assigned lockers are expected to keep all books, etc., in their assigned locker. Students are also responsible for the cleanliness inside their locker and the door of their locker. Students may be assessed a fine for damage to lockers.

Students may not display images, information or messages that may cause a substantial disruption to the operations of the school. If a principal sees or learns of an image or message that may cause a disruption, the principal will ask the student to remove the image or message from the locker. If the student refuses, then the principal will meet with the student and parents to discuss the situation. The principal shall have the final say on whether a student needs to remove the image or message from the locker.

#### **Section 5 Searches of Lockers and Other Types of Searches**

School authorities may seize any contraband, or controlled substance or any object considered to be illegal, and any material or object which violates a school rule or poses a hazard to the safety and well-being of any person or the learning environment. Any event leading an administrator to have reasonable suspicion that a student may be in possession of contraband may lead to search of student lockers, bags, pockets or vehicles while on school property. Students are not to bring any item of this nature to school or to a school activity.

Student lockers, desks, computer equipment, and other such property are owned by the school. The school exercises exclusive control over school property. Students should not expect privacy regarding usage of or items placed in or on school property, including student vehicles parked on school property, because school property is subject to search at any time by school officials. Periodic, random searches of lockers, desks, computers and other such property may be conducted at the discretion of the administration.

The following rules apply to searches of students and of a student's personal property and to the seizure of items in a student's possession or control:

1. School officials may conduct a search if there is a reasonable basis to believe that the search will uncover evidence of a crime or a school rule violation. The search is to be conducted in a reasonable manner under the circumstances.
2. Random searches of student lockers, desks, and other similar school property provided for use by students may be conducted at the discretion of the administration.
3. Drug or alcohol tests may be conducted on students based on reasonable suspicion.
4. School officials may search offices and storage devices provided to or used by employees where permitted by law, such as where reasonable grounds exist for

suspecting that a search will turn up evidence that the employee has committed work-related misconduct, or that a search is necessary for a non-investigatory work-related purpose, such as to retrieve a file.

5. Searches of the District's computer system may be conducted at the discretion of the administration at any time.

### **Video Surveillance**

The Board of Education has authorized the use of video cameras on School District property to ensure the health, welfare and safety of all staff, students and visitors to District property, and to safeguard District facilities and equipment. Video cameras may be used in locations as deemed appropriate by the Superintendent.

Notice is hereby given that video surveillance may occur on District property. In the event a video surveillance recording captures a student or other building user violating school policies or rules or local, state or federal laws, the video surveillance recording may be used in appropriate disciplinary proceedings against the student or other building user and may also be provided to law enforcement agencies.

### **Section 6 Recording of Others**

To ensure the privacy and confidentiality of student information, **no person is authorized to record or transmit any sound or image of any person (including themselves) without the prior consent or authorization of either (1) the person or persons being recorded or whose image or sound is being transmitted, (2) by authorized staff for purposes of child welfare (for example, to record images of injuries to students caused or believed to be caused by another person), or (3) the Superintendent or Superintendent's designee.** This prohibition applies to all persons, including staff, students and community members, regardless of the content or context of the image or sound; however, this provision shall not apply to District-sponsored athletic or activity events where the focus of the recording or transmission is on the student performances or activity. Nothing in this provision shall prohibit the recording of an Individualized Education Program meeting if the recording is necessary to ensure that the parent understands the IEP or the IEP process or to implement other parental rights guaranteed by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. **Violation of this expectation of privacy may lead to suspension of the recording device for the remainder of the school year.**

### **Section 7 Use of Cell Phones and Personal Listening Devices (Head Phones and Ear Buds)**

Students may not use cell phones during class time or instructional time. Cell Phone distractions are prohibited in the classrooms during class periods. Students may use their phones before school, at lunch, after school and in between class periods only and phones should be either silenced or shut off and put away prior to entering the classroom. Any staff member shall confiscate the cell phone if they observe a student in violation of this policy. Teachers may require students to surrender phones upon entering the classroom as a proactive management technique.

Personal listening devices should not be used at any time during the school day unless these are school issued for testing purposes.

- 1<sup>st</sup> Offense: Phone or PLD will be confiscated and sent to the office and the student may pick up the phone after school that day.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Offense: Phone or PLD is sent to the office and a parent may pick it up after school that day.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Offense: Phone or PLD is not allowed to be brought to school. If the student brings the phone, it will be confiscated and a parent may pick it up after school. Additional consequences may be assigned for excessive non-compliance with this policy.

### **Section 8 Bicycles**

Bicycles must be parked in the racks provided. All bicycles are encouraged to be equipped with locks. The school is not responsible for damage or theft of parts while bicycles are on school property.

### **Section 9 Student Valuables**

Students, not the school, are responsible for their personal property. Students are cautioned not to bring large amounts of money or items of value to school. If it is necessary to bring valuable items or more money than is needed to pay for lunch, leave the money or valuables with the secretaries in the school office for temporary safe-keeping. Even then, the school is not in a position to guarantee that the student's property will not be subject to loss, theft, or damage.

### **Section 10 Lost and Found**

Students who find lost articles are asked to take them to the office. Lost and Found articles will be placed on the table in the hall by the elevator and custodian's office and can be recovered by the owner. , where the articles can be claimed by the owner. Articles will be periodically removed from the lost and found area and donated to the Thrift Shop for repurposing. If articles are lost at school, report that loss to office personnel.

### **Section 11 Accidents**

Every accident in the school building, on the school grounds, at practice sessions, or at any athletic event sponsored by the school must be reported immediately to the School Nurse.

### **Section 12 Laboratory Safety Glasses**

As required by law, approved safety glasses will be required of every student and teacher while participating in or observing vocational, technical, industrial technology, science, and art classes. All visitors to these areas must check out a pair of safety glasses when entering any of these areas.

### **Section 13 Insurance**

Under Nebraska law the District may not use school funds to provide general student accident or athletic insurance. The District requires that all student participants in athletic programs have injury and accident insurance and encourages all students who are in classes with risk of personal injury or accident to have insurance coverage. The District does not make recommendations nor handle the premiums or claims for any insurance company, agent or carrier. Information about student insurance providers will be available in the school office.

## **Section 14     Bulletins and Announcements**

Bulletin boards and display cases are available for school-related and approved materials to be posted and displayed. Posters to be used in the halls or materials for distribution will need to be approved by the Principal's or Activities Director's office. Posters are not to be attached to any painted wall surfaces. Place posters on marble, glass, metal, brick and wood. The person or organization responsible for distributing the posters is responsible to see that all posters are removed within 48 hours after the event.

## **Section 15     Copyright and Fair Use Policy**

It is the school's policy to follow the federal copyright law. Students are reminded that, when using school equipment and when completing course work, they also must follow the federal copyright laws. The federal copyright law governs the reproduction of works of authorship. Copyrighted works are protected regardless of the medium in which they are created or reproduced; thus, copyright extends to digital works and works transformed into a digital format. Copyrighted works are not limited to those that bear a copyright notice.

The "fair use" doctrine allows limited reproduction of copyrighted works for educational and research purposes. The relevant portion of the copyright statute provides that the "fair use" of a copyrighted work, including reproduction "for purposes such as criticism, news reporting, teaching (including multiple copies for classroom use), scholarship, or research" is not an infringement of copyright. The law lists the following factors as the ones to be evaluated in determining whether a particular use of a copyrighted work is a permitted "fair use," rather than an infringement of the copyright:

- the purpose and character of the use, including whether such use is of a commercial nature or is for nonprofit educational purposes;
- the nature of the copyrighted work;
- the amount and substantiality of the portion used in relation to the copyrighted work as a whole, and
- the effect of the use upon the potential market for or value of the copyrighted work.

Although all of these factors will be considered, the last factor is the most important in determining whether a particular use is "fair." Students should seek assistance from a faculty member if there are any questions regarding what may be copied.

## **Article 4 – Attendance**

### **Section 1             Attendance Policy**

It is the philosophy of Ainsworth Community Schools to educate the total student and not merely to provide the academic or skills portion of the individual's education. Active attendance in class is a valuable and integral part of the student's formal education. Absence from class, for whatever reason, causes the student to miss a truly necessary part of learning, which can be only partially regained through make-up work. Attendance in school is the combined responsibility of the student and parents/guardians. The responsibility of the school is to provide instruction and

to inform parents of absences from class.

## **Section 2                      Attendance and Absences**

### **Parent/Guardian Responsibilities**

- Families should make certain accurate contact information (phone numbers, email addresses, etc.) are available in PowerSchool
- Depending on the type of absence, Parents should contact the school before the student is absent.
- Families should schedule vacations and appointments for students when school is not in session.
- Parents/guardians should, whenever possible, submit to the office all court and medical documentation for verification of absence.

### **Release of Student During School Day**

Students may be released upon request from the lawful parent or custodian and whose identification is verified to the satisfaction of the principal or upon written request of a parent or lawful custodian.

Before releasing a student during the school day, the building principal or the Attendance Secretary shall be responsible for the verification of the identity of any parent or lawful custodian or anyone seeking release of a student. If the principal is not satisfied with the identification of the person seeking release of a student, he/she may refuse to grant the release.

Students leaving during the school day ***MUST SIGN OUT AT THE OFFICE*** before leaving the building and sign in at the office upon their return or when arriving at school after 8:00 a.m.

### **Notification of Absences:**

- Absences, Not Planned or Due to Illness

A written note or telephone call from the parent/guardian stating the reason for the absence will be required for all student absences. Prior to returning to school, students who have been absent due to a communicable disease may be required to bring written permission from a doctor upon returning to school. Students who become ill during school will not be sent home until the school has determined that there will be someone there. It is your responsibility, if both parents work, to let the school know where you can be reached on these occasions.

- **Absences, Planned or Requested**

There will be the rare instance where emergencies occur or a student must attend a professional appointment. In these rare instances, parent-approved activities may be requested and approved by the Principal. A note or telephone call from a parent or legal guardian concerning the expected absence must be presented prior to the requested absence and documentation from any professional appointments may be requested upon return to excuse the absence.

- Requests should be submitted to the attendance secretary at least three school

days prior to the absence if possible.

- Approval may be denied if the student has excessive absenteeism or poor academic progress.
- ***Work-related absences will not be excused.***
- Any student of any religion shall be excused if his/her absence is for the purpose of observing a religious holiday consistent with his/her creed or belief.

### **Types of Absences:**

School officials reserve the right to determine if an absence is School Excused, Self-Excused or Unexcused. Students whose absences are approved shall make up the work missed and receive full credit for the missed school work, within guidelines of the student handbook. It shall be the responsibility of the student to initiate a procedure with the student's teacher to complete the work missed.

Students who wish to participate in or attend school-sponsored activities or practices must attend school for the full day on the day of the activity/practice unless permission has been given by the principal or his designee for the student to be absent **prior to the absence**.

It shall be the responsibility of the superintendent, in conjunction with the principal, to develop administrative regulations regarding this policy.

### **School Approved Absences**

- Absences for school activities and school functions
- Shall count as days/hours in attendance for purposes of addressing excessive absenteeism.

### **Documented Excused Absences**

- **Documented** (by professional appointment) illness or professional appointment to include time and date of the professional appointment
- Shall count as days/hours of excused absence for purposes of addressing excessive absenteeism but extenuating circumstances may be taken into account when determining loss of credit or other remedial measures if appropriate, timely documentation is provided.
- The student should provide professional documentation upon return to school for the time requested as documented absence including time and duration of appointment
- Administration may request further documentation or written verification of the student's reason for absence.
- **Professional appointment documentation must be submitted within three (3) days from the date of return from the absence if the absence is to be excused.** Absence for professional appointments may be broken down into partial days at the discretion of the administration. In cases where documentation is required to excuse the absence, after three days, the absence will be determined to be parental self-excused.

### **Parental Self-Excused Absence**

- Will be counted as days/hours of absence for purposes of addressing excessive absenteeism.

- Parents are encouraged to contact with the school as soon as possible prior to the absence.
- **Failure to report the absence upon return may result in an absence as being classified as unexcused.**

### **Unexcused Absences.**

- Will be counted as days/hours of absence for purposes of addressing excessive absenteeism
- All other absences or failure to follow procedures for absence may be considered unexcused unless previously approved by the building principal.
- Detention time or other remediation time may be assigned to make up time for unexcused absence.
- 7-12 students will be counted absent from the class if he/she misses over five (5) minutes of the class period.

### **Excessive Absences (Excused or Unexcused)**

Any administrator, teacher, or member of the board of education who knows of any failure on the part of any child of mandatory school attendance age to attend school regularly without lawful reason, shall within three days report such violation to the superintendent or such person(s) who the superintendent designates to be the attendance officer (hereafter, “attendance officer”). The attendance officer shall immediately cause an investigation into any such report to be made. The attendance officer shall also investigate any case when of his or her personal knowledge, or by report or complaint from any resident of the district, the attendance officer believes there is a violation of the compulsory attendance laws. The school shall render all services in its power to compel such child to attend some public, private, denominational, or parochial school, which the person having control of the child shall designate, in an attempt to address the problem of excessive absenteeism.

Students who accumulate five (5) self-excused and documented-excused absences or three (3) unexcused absences in a semester shall be deemed to have “excessive absences.” Such absences shall be determined per class basis for middle and high school students. When a student has excessive absences, the following procedures shall be implemented:

- After five (5) accumulated days of self-excused, documented-excused and unexcused absences in a semester, verbal, written or digital communication by school officials will be given to the person or persons who have legal or actual charge or control of any child.
- After seven (7) accumulated days of self-excused, documented absences and/or three (3) unexcused absences in a semester, one or more in-person meeting(s) between the school (a school attendance officer, a school administrator or his or her designee, and/or a school counselor), the child’s parent or guardian, and the child, when appropriate, to address the barriers to attendance. The result of the meeting or meetings shall be to develop a collaborative plan to reduce barriers identified to improve regular attendance. The plan shall consider, but not be limited to:
  - (i) Illness related to physical or behavioral health of the child.
  - (ii) Educational counseling;
  - (iii) Educational evaluation;
  - (iv) Referral to community agencies for economic services;

- (v) Family or individual counseling; and
- (vi) Assisting the family in working with other community services.

From this meeting, a Student Attendance Plan will be developed and monitored by the principal or his designee to address any barriers determined exist for the student to be in attendance.

- After ten (10) accumulated days of self-excused absence or three (3) unexcused absences, an in-person meeting will be held including the school (a school attendance officer, a school administrator or his or her designee, and/or a school counselor), staff members selected by administration, the child's parent or guardian, and the child, when appropriate. The purpose of this meeting is to review the Student Attendance Plan to address any new barriers to attendance.

If the parent/guardian refuses to participate in such meetings and process, the principal shall place documentation of such refusal in the child's attendance records and may result in loss of credit or possible legal action as allowed by state statute.

### **Attendance and Credit**

Self-excused, documented and unexcused absences of seven (7) accumulated days and/or three (3) unexcused absences in a semester will result in the automatic review of credit for the class by the principal, regardless of the student's grade in class. The absence count will begin with the student's first day of the semester in the class and will be combined with previous attendance for any transfer student. At the end of the semester, the principal and guidance counselor will serve as the Attendance Review committee for the purpose of reviewing the cases of all students who have been placed on review status in a class(es).

The Attendance Review Committee will consider the following in determining if the student will require remediation due to absence:

1. Reason for prolonged absence and appropriate documentation
2. Whether the student is passing or did pass the class.
3. Whether the student's attendance improved and the reasons for the student's absences.
- 4.. Whether all make up work and make up tests for which the student was eligible have been completed.

The Attendance Review Committee may reach one of the following decisions after considering a student's case:

1. Restore the student's credit for the semester, either outright or subject to specified conditions.
2. Not restore the student's loss of credit for the semester.

### **Tardies**

Tardy to School. Students will be considered tardy to school if they are not seated in their assigned class or ready and attentive in their assigned area when the bell for their first class rings.

Tardy to Class. Students have a sufficient time period between classes to make it to their next assigned class on time. Students will be considered tardy to class if they are not in their assigned classroom when the tardy bell rings, unless they have a pass from the teacher who detained them.

Specific tardy guidelines once students are in the classroom doorway are at the discretion of the classroom teacher.

A student shall be marked tardy if they are not in the classroom unexcused when the bell to begin class rings or needs to leave immediately at the beginning of the class. The first offense in each semester in a class results in a warning for the teacher; 2<sup>nd</sup> offense – a teacher assigned detention; 3<sup>rd</sup> and subsequent offenses will be referred to the principal for disciplinary action.

### **College Visits**

Seniors (2 days) and juniors (1 day) in good standing may have an excused absence for an on-campus visit if the following criteria are met:

- Request must be made at least 3 days in advance of the visit
- All required paperwork be completed and turned into the guidance office **before** the scheduled visit day.
- If a student is not in good standing (ie. passing all classes and/or classified as excessively absent), the request for approval may be denied until the student has addressed the deficiencies.

### **Section 3 Absence Procedures**

A student will not be allowed to enter class after an absence until an admit slip, based upon a written or verbal parental excuse, or a conditional admit slip, is issued by the Principal's office. A conditional admit slip, good for two (2) days, may be issued to allow time to bring an excuse, in case no excuse has been provided upon returning to school. Work must be made up within the time allowed on the admit slip.

### **Section 4 Make-up Work**

Written make-up work may be assigned for each day missed regardless of the type of absence. If make-up work is not completed, students will receive no credit for the work required. The time each student is allowed will coincide with two days for the first day of absence and one day for each day thereafter.

The student has the responsibility to contact teachers, initially, regarding make-up assignments. If the parents or students have concerns prior to the three (3) days, they are encouraged to contact the office to aid in communication.

### **Section 5 Attendance is Required to Participate in Activities**

Students must attend school all day the day of any scheduled school activity in order to participate in the activity. This includes athletic contests, practices and dances. Failure to attend will result in a student being withheld from participation in the activity. The Principal retains the right to grant participation should exceptional circumstances prevail.

### **Section 6 Truancy**

A student who engages in unexcused absences may be considered truant as per state law. Truancy is a violation of school rules. The consequence of trancies may include disciplinary action up to expulsion and referral to the county attorney for compulsory attendance violations.

Illness that makes attendance impossible or impracticable as determined by the Principal shall not be the basis for referral to the county attorney.

Reporting and Responding to Truant Behavior. Any administrator, teacher, or member of the board of education who knows of any failure on the part of any child age six (6) to eighteen (18) to attend school regularly without lawful reason, shall within three days report such violation to the Superintendent. The Superintendent shall immediately cause an investigation into any such report to be made. The Superintendent shall also investigate any case when, based on the Superintendent's personal knowledge or based on a report or complaint from any resident of the district, the Superintendent believes that any child is unlawfully absent from school. The school shall render all services in its power to compel such child to attend some public, private, denominational, or parochial school, which the person having control of the child shall designate, in an attempt to remediate the child's truant behavior.

Reporting Habitual Truancy. Students who accumulate twenty (20) unexcused absences or the hourly equivalent per year shall be deemed to be habitually truant. If the student continues to be or becomes habitually truant, the principal shall serve a written notice to the person violating the Nebraska truancy laws (i.e., the person who has legal or active charge or control of the student) warning him or her to comply with the provisions of that law. If within one (1) week after the time the notice is given such person is still violating the school attendance laws or policies, the Principal shall file a report with the county attorney of the county in which such person resides.

## **Section 7     Non-Public Students and Part-Time Enrollment**

Ainsworth Community Schools, in alignment with state statute and Policy 605.07, allows for the part-time attendance of home-school or private-school students under the following guiding principles:

1. The primary school for a non-public school student is the student's private, denominational, parochial or home school.
2. Enrollment of a non-public school student in Ainsworth Community Schools is allowed for the purpose of providing enhanced educational opportunities not otherwise available to the non-public school student. It is not to supplant programming of the student's primary school.
3. Non-public school students are not to be given priority over full-time students.
4. Non-public school students are to be enrolled only in programs or courses that are educationally appropriate for the student.
5. Enrollment of non-public school students is not to negatively affect the educational services to be provided to full-time students.

Part-time students will be subject to all applicable handbooks and policies while in attendance and may be subject to any disciplinary practices as other enrolled students. Part-time students and may be subject to limitations of opportunity and access of materials including, but not limited to:

- Part-time students may enroll in no more than four (4) hours of instruction / day
- Application should be received no later than August 1.
- Acceptance may be limited by class capacity

- Master schedules will not be changed to accommodate part-time students and families
- Placement and pre-requisite eligibility will be determined by administration or their designee
- Upon enrollment, students are not exempt from compulsory attendance laws and attendance procedures outlined in this handbook
- Part-time students will be provided access to computers while in class if determined necessary by the instructor and administration but a computer will not be “checked-out” to students to take home.
- Part-time students may participate in co-curricular and extra-curricular programming. However, the following limitations will apply:
  - will not be eligible to hold office or elected positions for clubs, classes or organizations,
  - will not be included in class rank or honor roll,
  - will not be allowed to attend school activities or dances as a member of the school (but may attend as the guest of an ACS student)
  - may not be selected as a member to the ACS Chapter of National Honor Society,
  - may not participate in graduation ceremonies or receive a diploma from ACS.

The above list is not all-inclusive. For further clarification, please review policy 605.07 on the district website or contact the ACS District Office for a hard copy of the formal policy.

## **Article 5 – Scholastic Achievement**

### **Section 1      Grading System**

Students will receive letter grades on report cards and transcripts. The following scale will be used to assign letter grades and a grade point average from a percent:

A+ 99-100	B+ 91-92	C+ 84-85	D+ 76-77	F < 69
A 95-98	B 88-90	C 80-83	D 72-75	
A- 93-94	B- 86-87	C- 78-79	D- 70-71	

Each teacher will define the grading procedures to be used in their classes.

### **Section 2      High School Yearly Course Requirements**

High school students in all grade levels are required to register in the following courses: Math, Social Studies, Science, Health and Physical Education, and Language-Arts Core.

High school students are required to register in the following exploratory courses:

9th Grade	0-49 Credits
10th Grade	50-99 Credits
11th Grade	100-159 Credits
12th Grade	160 + Credits

All students are required to successfully complete six (6) semesters of exploratory courses. Students also have the option of taking band or a vocal music/study hall combination.

### Section 3 Graduation Requirements

In order to receive a signed diploma from AHS, each student must have earned a minimum of 240 credit hours. In addition, specific credits must be earned in English, Mathematics, Social Studies, Science and Physical Education. Students should check Board Policy 611.07 for an explanation of these requirements.

#### Class of 2025, 2026, 2027

<u>COURSE</u>	<u>HOURS</u>	<u>SPECIFIC COURSES REQUIRED</u>
English	40	English I, II, III
Mathematics	30	Algebra I, Geometry, an 11th grade math
Science	30	Physical Science (09), Biology (10)
Social Studies	40	Civics, World History, Amer. History (11), Govmt.(12)
Physical Education/Health	10	*unless excused by a physician
Communication	5	“Intro to Public Speaking”
Personal Finance	5	
Fine Arts	10	2 semesters of any Art or Music class.
Vocational	10	2 semesters of any introductory Vocational Class
<b>TOTAL HOURS REQUIRED FOR GRADUATION</b>	<b>=</b>	<b>240</b>

A total of 10 hours per year (5 per semester) will be awarded for the successful completion of each class taken.

#### Class of 2028 and After

<u>COURSE</u>	<u>HOURS</u>	<u>SPECIFIC COURSES REQUIRED</u>
English	40	English I, II, III
Mathematics	30	Algebra I, Geometry, an 11th grade math
Science	30	Physical Science (09), Biology (10)
Social Studies	40	Civics, World History, Amer. History (11), Govmt.(12)
Physical Education/Health	10	*unless excused by a physician
Communication	5	“Intro to Public Speaking”
Personal Finance	5	
Fine Arts	10	2 semesters of any Art or Music class.
Vocational	10	2 semesters of any introductory Vocational Class
Computer Science and Technology	5	Computer Science
Career Planning	5	Life and Career Readiness
Total Elective Hours	50 credit hours	
<b>TOTAL HOURS REQUIRED FOR GRADUATION</b>	<b>=</b>	<b>240</b>

A total of 10 hours per year (5 per semester) will be awarded for the successful completion of each class taken.

## **Middle School:**

Each Middle School student in grades five through eight shall be required to take the following classes each school year:

English	2 Semesters
Science	2 Semesters
Social Studies	2 Semesters
Mathematics	2 Semesters
Reading	2 Semesters
Health/Physical Education	2 Semesters

### **Section 4 Promotion and Retention**

#### **Grades 7-8**

Requirements for promotion from grades 7 and 8 will be to pass eight (8) of ten (10) semesters of core classes (Reading, Math, ELA, Socials Studies and Science) and three (3) Trimesters of exploratory classes. Students that fail two (2) of the same classes OR 3 or more core classes will be required to retake the class in summer school for promotion... The Middle School Principal will make the final decision for retention on an individual basis.

### **Section 5 Schedule Changes**

Students may not drop, discontinue or add subjects after the first week of classes without the permission of the Counselor **and** Principal. All schedule changes are to be done within the time allotted (by the end of the first week of the semester, five days) To drop or add a subject, the student should secure the proper form from the Counselor who will give the student directions on how to proceed with a schedule change including parent permission for any class changes.

### **Section 6 Interim Progress Reports**

#### **Middle School (7-8)**

Grades for middle school students will be generated and reported on a quarterly basis. Progress reports will be made available to parents and students near the middle of each quarter and quarterly grades will be made available on Tuesday following the end of the each quarter. These will be generated by the office and distributed to students through their seminar teacher. These should be signed by at least one parent and returned to the seminar teacher by the last school day of the week. Parent use of PowerSchool is encouraged to check student progress on a regular basis. Quarterly grade reports are made available to parents and students at the end of every nine weeks.

	<u>Begins</u>		<u>Ends</u>	<u>Progress Report</u>	<u>Grades Available</u>
Quarter 1	August 14	-	October 11	September 13	October 14
Quarter 2	October 15	-	December 20	November 13	January 2
Quarter 3	January 6	-	March 5	February 5	March 10
Quarter 4	March 10	-	May 15	April 9	May 16

## High School (9-12)

Grades for high school students will be generated and reported on a semester basis. Progress reports will be made available to parents and students approximately at the end of the 5<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> weeks of the semester and final grades will be made available at the end of each semester. These will be generated by the office and distributed to students through their seminar teacher. These should be signed by at least one parent and returned to the seminar teacher by the last school day of the week. Parent use of PowerSchool is encouraged to check student progress on a regular basis.

	<u>Begins</u>		<u>Ends</u>	<u>Grades Available</u>
Semester 1	August 14	-	December 20	January 2
Progress Report Dates	September 13		October 14	November 13
Semester 2	January 6	-	May 15	May 17
Progress Report Dates	February 5		March 10	April 9

### Section 7 Report Cards

Report cards are available online at the end of each quarter (7-8) and at the end of the semester (9-12). A hard copy of the report cards is also available upon request from the high school office. Letter grades are used to designate a student's progress. A grade of "F" (failing) carries no credit. A grade of "I" (incomplete) received at the end of a grading period must be made up within two weeks or missing assignments will receive grades of "0" and those grades will be averaged into the final grade. No incompletes will be given at the end of the fourth quarter, as all course work must be completed by the end of the fourth quarter.

### Section 8 Parent-Teacher Conferences

Grades 7-12

Parent/Teacher Conferences are scheduled according to the school calendar (Oct. 14 and Feb. 10). Conferences with teachers, at any other time, are possible by calling the school office and making arrangements with the teachers.

### Section 9 Honor Roll

The purpose of the honor roll is to recognize those students who demonstrate academic excellence. The High School will publish a Roll of Excellence, GPA 4.0 and an Honor Roll, GPA 3.5 to 3.99 with no grade below a "B-". Middle school honor rolls will be created for each quarter and semester. High school honor rolls will be generated only for each semester. Honor roll lists are published in school and community publications.

## **Section 10 National Honor Society and National Junior Honor Society**

The National Honor Society and Junior National Honor Society chapters of Ainsworth Community Schools is a duly chartered and affiliated chapter of this prestigious national organization.

### Admission to the National Honor Society

Membership is open to those students who meet the required standards in four (4) areas of evaluation: scholarship, leadership, service, and character. Standards for selection are established by the national office of NHS and have been revised to meet our local chapter needs. Students are selected to be members by a five (5) member Faculty Council consisting of certified staff members chosen by the advisor and approved by the principal:

- a. Such that:
  - i. Those that have first-hand knowledge of those seeking membership
  - ii. Those that fully appreciate the society and its ideals

which bestows this honor upon qualified students on behalf of the faculty of our school during the spring semester each year.

Students in the 10th, 11th, or 12th grades are eligible for membership into the National Honor Society and students in the 7th, 8th and 9th grades are eligible for membership into the National Junior Honor Society. For the scholarship criterion, a student must have a cumulative grade point average of 3.5 or better on a 4.0 scale. Those students who meet this criterion are invited to complete a Student Activity Information Form that provides the Faculty Council with information regarding the candidate's leadership and service. A history of leadership experiences and participation in school or community service is required.

To evaluate a candidate's character, the faculty council uses two forms of input: first, school disciplinary records are reviewed; second, members of the faculty are solicited for input regarding their professional reflections on a candidate's service activities, character, and leadership. These forms and the Student Activity Information Forms are carefully reviewed by the Faculty Council to determine membership. A majority vote of the council is necessary for selection. Candidates are notified regarding selection or non-selection according to a predetermined schedule.

Following notification, a formal induction ceremony is held at the school to recognize all the newly selected members. Once inducted, new members are required to maintain the same level of performance in all four criteria (or better) that led to their selection. This obligation includes regular attendance at chapter meetings when and as scheduled and participation in the chapter service projects(s).

Students or parents who have questions regarding the selection process or membership obligations can contact the chapter adviser, Mrs. Wendy Allen at 402-387-2082.

### Removal from National Honor Society

A student may be removed from the NHS by action of the Principal upon a determination by a majority vote of the Faculty Council that the student:

1. Prior Conduct. Engaged in conduct prior to induction which was not known at the time of induction and which, if known, would have caused denial of induction;
2. Post-Induction Conduct. Engaged in conduct after induction which is grounds for a student to be long-term suspended or expelled from school under the student code of conduct; which is grounds for suspension or removal from any extracurricular activity of the school, or which would cause denial of induction if such conduct had taken place prior to the time of induction.

The student may appeal the Faculty Council's decision to the Principal by giving written notice of appeal to the Principal within ten calendar days of receipt of the Faculty Council's removal decision. The appeal procedures shall be established in the discretion of the Principal such as to allow a fair opportunity for the student's views and information to be considered. The decision of the Principal on the appeal shall be final.

## **Article 6 - Support Services**

### **Section 1 Special Education Services**

#### What Does Special Education Mean?

Special education means specially designed instruction and related services adapted as appropriate to the needs of an eligible student with a disability. Special education is provided at no cost to the parent to meet the unique needs of a child with a disability.

#### Students Who May Benefit

A student verified as having autism, behavior disorders, deaf-blindness, developmental delay, hearing impairments, mental handicaps, multiple disabilities, orthopedic impairments, other health impairments, specific learning disabilities, speech-language impairments, traumatic brain injury or visual impairments, who because of these impairments need special education and related services.

#### How are Students With Disabilities Identified?

Referrals are made by teachers or parents to a Student Assistance Team. If the student assistance team or comparable problem solving team feels that all viable alternatives have been explored, a referral for multidisciplinary evaluation is completed. An evaluation is conducted to assist in the determination of whether a student has a disability and the nature and extent of the special education and related services the student needs. The evaluation is conducted only with written consent of a parent or guardian. A multidisciplinary evaluation team (MDT) will then meet to determine whether the student is eligible for special education.

#### Independent Evaluation

If a parent disagrees with an evaluation completed by the school district, the parent has a right to request an independent educational evaluation at public expense. Parents should direct inquiries to school officials to determine if the school district will arrange for further evaluation at public expense. If school district officials feel the original evaluation was appropriate and the parents disagree, a due process hearing may be initiated. If it is determined that the original evaluation was appropriate, parents still have the right to an independent educational evaluation at their own

expense.

### Reevaluation

Students identified for special education will be reevaluated at least every three (3) years by the IEP team. The IEP team will review existing evaluation data on the student and will identify what additional data, if any, are needed. The school district will obtain parental consent prior to conducting any reevaluation of a student with a disability.

### Individual Education Program (IEP)

Upon a student being verified as having a disability, a conference will be held with parents. At the conference, an Individualized Education Program (IEP) will be developed specifying programs and services which will be provided by the schools. Parent consent will be obtained prior to a student being placed for the first time in a program providing special education and related services or early intervention services to infant and toddlers. Once in place, the IEP is reviewed on an annual basis, or more frequently as needed. Parents are given a copy of the IEP.

### Special Education Placement

The student's placement in a special education program is dependent on the student's educational needs as outlined in the Individual Education Program (IEP). To the maximum extent appropriate, students with disabilities are educated with students who are not disabled. Special classes, separate schooling, or other removal of children with disabilities from the regular educational environment occurs only when the nature or severity of the disability is such that education in regular classes with the use of supplementary aids and services cannot be achieved satisfactorily. Determination of a student's educational placement will be made by the IEP team.

Written notice shall be given to parents a reasonable time before the school district: 1. Proposes to initiate or change the identification, evaluation, verification or educational placement of a child or the provision of a free appropriate public education; or 2. Refuses to initiate or change the identification, evaluation, or educational placement of the child or the provision of a free appropriate public education to the child.

### More Information

Anyone interested in obtaining a copy of the District's special education policy, the Parental Rights in Special Education brochure, or a copy of the Nebraska Department of Education Rule 51 (special education regulations and complaint procedures) or Rule 55 (special education appeal procedures) may contact the Superintendent. A notice of parental rights, Rules 51 and 55 and more information about special education are also available at the Nebraska Department of Education's website: <http://www.nde.state.ne.us/SPED/sped.html>.

## **Section 2 Students with Disabilities: Section 504**

Accommodations and related services are made available to students with disabilities under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. Under Section 504, parents have the following rights:

1. Have your child take part in, and receive benefits from, public education programs without discrimination because of your child's disability.
2. Have the school district advise you of your rights under federal law.
3. Receive notice with respect to identification, evaluation or placement of your

- child.
4. Have your child receive a free appropriate public education. This includes the right to be educated with non-disabled students to the maximum extent appropriate. It also includes the right to have the school district make reasonable accommodations to allow your child an equal opportunity to participate in school and school-related activities.
  5. Have your child receive services and be educated in facilities which are comparable to those provided to students without disabilities.
  6. Have your child receive an individualized evaluation and receive special education and related services if your child is found eligible under Section 504.
  7. Have evaluation, eligibility, educational and placement decisions made based on a variety of information sources and by persons who know your child and who are knowledgeable about the evaluation data and placement options.
  8. Have transportation provided to and from an alternative placement setting at no greater cost to you than would be incurred if your child were placed in a program operated by the school district.
  9. Have your child be given an equal opportunity to participate in nonacademic and extracurricular activities offered by the school district.
  10. Examine all relevant records relating to decisions regarding your child's identification, evaluation and placement. Obtain copies of educational records at a reasonable cost on the same terms as records are provided students without a disability unless the fee would effectively deny you access to the records.
  11. Receive a response from the school district to reasonable requests for explanations and interpretations of your child's records.
  12. Request amendment of your child's educational records if there is reasonable cause to believe that they are inaccurate, misleading or otherwise in violation of the privacy rights of your child. If the school district refuses this request, it shall notify you within a reasonable time, and advise you of the right to a hearing.
  13. File a local grievance in accordance with school policy.
  14. Request an impartial hearing related to decisions regarding your child's identification, eligibility, and educational program or placement with opportunity for participation by the person's parents or guardian and representation by counsel, and a review procedure. This is provided in the local grievance procedure.

### **Section 3      Guidance Services**

Counseling is available for every student in the school. Help with home, school and/or any question the student has can be discussed with the counselor. Typical guidance and counseling services include academic and personal counseling, crisis intervention, referrals and coordination with agencies and professionals outside the school setting and the coordination of the school testing program.

### **Section 4      Health Services**

#### Student Illnesses

School health personnel will notify parents when a student needs to be sent home from school due to illness. Conditions requiring a student be sent home include: Temperature greater than 100°F., vomiting, diarrhea, unexplained rashes, live head lice, or on determination by the school

nurse that the child's condition prevents meaningful participation in the educational program, presents a health risk to the child or others, or that medical consultation is warranted unless the condition resolves.

Please include emergency daytime phone numbers on your child's enrollment card so that you can be reached if your child becomes ill or injured while at school. Please also inform your school health office staff of health related information you feel is important for your student's success in the classroom and/or safety at school.

#### Guidelines for Administering Medication

Whenever possible your child should be provided medications by you outside of school hours. In the event it is necessary that your child take or have medication available at school, the parents/guardians must provide a signed written consent for the child to be given medication at school. A consent form is available at the school health office. If your child has asthma or diabetes and is capable of self-managing his or her health condition, contact the health office to develop a self-management plan.

Medications must be provided to the school by the parent/guardian in the pharmacy-labeled or manufacturer-labeled bottle. Repackaged medications will not be accepted. All medications also require a physician's authorization to be given at school or, for asthma and anaphylaxis, a health care professional who prescribed the medication for treatment of the student's condition. The school nurse may limit medications to those set forth in the Physician's Desk Reference (PDR). Please limit the amount of medication provided to the school to a two-week supply.

#### School Health Screening

Children in Preschool and Kindergarten through third grade, as well as children in sixth and ninth grades are screened for vision, hearing, dental defects, height and weight. The screening program also incorporates scoliosis and blood pressure at the sixth and ninth grades. Students entering the Student Assistance Process at any grade level, and those about whom health concerns are identified to the school nurse, may also be screened. Parents who do not wish their child to participate in the school screening program must communicate this in writing to the school health office at the start of the school year. Because Nebraska statutes require school-age screening, parents who remove their child from the screening program must submit findings from an alternate medical provider to the school by December 1.

#### Physical and Visual Examination

Evidence of a physical examination and a visual evaluation is required within six (6) months prior to entrance into kindergarten and, in the case of transfer from out of state, to any other grade. A physical examination is also required prior to entrance into the seventh grade. The physical examination is to be completed by a physician, a physician's assistant, or an advanced practice registered nurse; the visual evaluation is to be completed by any of the forgoing or an optometrist. A parent or guardian who objects to the physical examination and/or visual evaluation may submit a written statement of refusal for his or her child. Waiver forms are available in the school health office. Additional physical examination requirements exist for students participating in athletic participation.

Immunizations

Students must show proof of immunization. A student who does not comply with the immunization requirements will not be permitted to continue in school. Students with medical conditions or sincerely held religious beliefs which do not allow immunizations must complete a waiver statement or affidavit. Forms are available in school health offices.

Unimmunized students may be excluded from school in the event of a disease outbreak.

**Summary of the School Immunization Rules and Regulations  
For 2024-2025 School Year**

<b>Student Age Group</b>	<b>Required Vaccines</b>
Ages 2 through 5 years enrolled in a school based program not licensed as a child care provider	4 doses of DTaP, DTP, or DT vaccine 3 doses of Polio vaccine 3 doses of Hib vaccine or 1 dose of Hib given at or after 15 months of age 3 doses of pediatric Hepatitis B vaccine 1 dose of MMR or MMRV given on or after 12 months of age 1 dose of varicella (chickenpox) or MMRV given on or after 12 months of age. Written documentation (including year) of varicella disease from parent, guardian, or health care provider will be accepted. 4 doses of pneumococcal or 1 dose of pneumococcal given on or after 15 months of age
Students entering school (Kindergarten or 1st Grade depending on the school district's entering grade)	3 doses of DTaP, DTP, DT, or Td vaccine, one given on or after the 4 <sup>th</sup> birthday 3 doses of Polio vaccine 3 doses of pediatric Hepatitis B vaccine or 2 doses of adolescent vaccine if student is 11-15 years of age 2 doses of MMR or MMRV vaccine, given on or after 12 months of age and separated by at least one month 2 doses of varicella (chickenpox) or MMRV given on or after 12 months of age. Written documentation (including year) of varicella disease from parent, guardian, or health care provider will be accepted. If the child has had varicella disease, they do not need any varicella shots.
Students entering 7 <sup>th</sup> grade	Must be current with the above vaccinations AND receive 1 dose of Tdap (contain Pertussis booster)
Students transferring from outside the state at any grade	Must be immunized appropriately according to the grade entered.

Source: Nebraska Immunization Program, Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services. For additional information, call 402-471-6423.

The School Rules & Regulations are available on the internet: [http://dhhs.ne.gov/Pages/reg\\_t173.aspx](http://dhhs.ne.gov/Pages/reg_t173.aspx) (Title 173: Control of Communicable Diseases - Chapter 3; revised and implemented 2011)

**Updated 01/26/2018**

Birth Certificate Requirements

State law requires that a certified copy of a student's birth certificate be provided within 30 days

of enrollment of a student in school for the first time. You may obtain a certified copy from the Bureau of Vital Statistics in the state in which your child was born. Assistance in obtaining birth certificates may be obtained from Health Records Management, P.O. Box 95065, Lincoln, NE 68509-5065. There is a fee per certificate.

Please note: The document parents receive from the hospital looks like a birth certificate, but it is not a certified copy. A certified copy has the raised seal of the state of Nebraska on it and is signed by the director of vital statistics.

If a birth certificate is unavailable, other reliable proof of a student's identity may be used. These documents could include naturalization or immigration documents showing date of birth or official hospital birth records, a passport, or a translation of a birth certificate from another country. The documents must be accompanied by an affidavit explaining the inability to produce a copy of the birth certificate.

### Guidelines for Head Lice

The following guidelines are in place to: better control a nuisance condition; reduce absenteeism due to head lice; and involve parents as partners with the school in control efforts:

1. Children will be sent home from school for live head lice. In the event a child has two (2) cases of live lice in a semester, the child will be sent home until free of both live lice and nits (eggs).
2. Health office staff will provide written treatment information and instructions, including how to check and identify head lice\*.
3. A child who is sent home from school for head lice should miss no more than two (2) school days.
4. A child who has been sent from school due to head lice must come to the health office for inspection before returning to class.
5. A child who returns to class with nits (eggs) will be checked again in 7-10 days.
6. Families are encouraged to report head lice to the school health office.
7. Classroom-wide or school-wide head checks will be conducted as needed in order to control the condition at school.

\*Nit removal will be emphasized for effective management of the condition. For more information call the nurse at your child's school.

## **Section 5      Transportation Services**

Transportation to and from school is provided to students in accordance with law and Board policy. Students may also be provided transportation on field trips and when participating in school activities. Students are expected to follow the behavioral expectations for riding school buses.

### **Behavior on School Buses**

- I. General Conduct Rules Apply:** While riding school buses you are expected to follow the same student conduct rules which apply when you are on school property or attending school activities, functions or events. There are also special conduct rules for riding school buses. These rules also apply to riding other school vehicles.

## **II. Special Conduct Rules for Riding School Buses.**

### **A. Rules for Getting On and Off the Bus**

1. Be on time to be picked up. As a general rule, get to your bus stop five (5) minutes before your scheduled pick up time. If you miss the bus, immediately return to your home and tell your parents so they can get you to school.
2. While waiting for the bus, stay at least five (5) feet away from the street, road or highway. Wait until the bus comes to a complete stop before approaching the bus.
3. You may exit the bus only at your approved destination (your school or your approved bus stop). Exit the bus as directed by the driver. Do not run.
4. If you must cross the street after exiting the bus, always cross in front of the bus where the driver can see you. Wait for the driver to signal to you before crossing the street.

### **B. Rules on the Bus**

1. Be respectful of the bus driver. Immediately follow all directions of the driver and any paraeducator or adult on the bus.
2. Sit in your seat facing forward. Use seat belts in vehicles in which they are available.
3. Talk quietly and use appropriate language.
4. Keep all parts of your body inside the bus.
5. Keep your arms, legs and belongings to yourself.
6. No fighting, harassment, bullying, intimidation or horseplay.
7. Do not throw any object.
8. No eating, drinking, use of tobacco, alcohol, drugs or flammables.
9. Do not bring any weapon (real or imitation) or dangerous objects on the school bus.
10. Do not damage the school bus.

**III. Getting the Driver's Assistance:** If you need assistance from the driver, wait until the bus is at a full stop. If you are close enough, tell the driver what you need. If you are too far away for the driver to hear you, ask a student in front of you to get the driver's attention. If necessary, walk up to the driver, while the bus is at a full stop. If you need immediate assistance for an emergency, take all action needed to safely get the help of the driver.

**IV. Consequences for Rule Violations:** Consequences for school bus misconduct may include restriction or suspension of bus privileges and other disciplinary measures, up to and including expulsion from school.

## **Article 7 – Drugs, Alcohol and Tobacco**

### **Section 1 Drug-Free Schools**

The District implements regulations and practices which will ensure compliance with the federal Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act and all regulations and rules promulgated pursuant thereto. The District's safe and drug-free schools program is established in accordance with principles of effectiveness as required by law to respond to such harmful effects. The

consistent message of the program is that the use of illicit drugs and the unlawful possession and use of alcohol is wrong and harmful.

## **Section 2 Education and Prevention**

The District promotes comprehensive, age appropriate, developmentally based drug and alcohol education and prevention programs. The curriculum includes the teaching of both proper and incorrect use of drugs and alcohol for all students in all grades. The District provides in-service orientation and training for staff with regard to drug and alcohol education and prevention programs.

Drug and Alcohol Use and Prevention. Each student of the District is hereby provided a copy of the standards of conduct for student behavior in the District which prohibit the unlawful possession, use, or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol on school premises or as a part of any of the school's activities.

Drug and Alcohol Education and Prevention Program of the District Pursuant to the Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities Laws and Regulations. All students are provided an age appropriate, developmentally based drug and alcohol education and prevention program. The program educates on the adverse effects of the use of illicit drugs and alcohol, with the primary objective being the prevention of illicit drug and alcohol use by students.

Drug and Alcohol Counseling, Rehabilitation and Re-entry Programs. Information concerning available drug and alcohol counseling, rehabilitation, and re-entry programs is available to all of the students upon request of the Counselor. In the event of disciplinary proceedings against a student for any District policy pertaining to the prohibition against the unlawful possession, use, or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol, appropriate school personnel will confer with the student and the student's parents or guardian concerning available drug and alcohol counseling, rehabilitation, and re-entry programs that appropriate school personnel consider to be of benefit.

Safe and Drug-Free Schools—Parental Notice. Pursuant to the provisions of federal law, if upon receipt of information regarding the content of safe and drug free school programs and activities other than classroom instruction a parent objects to the participation of their child in such programs and activities, the parent may notify the District of such objection in writing. Upon the receipt of such notice the student will be withdrawn from the program or activity to which parental objection has been made.

## **Section 3 Standards of Student Conduct Pertaining to Drugs, Alcohol and Tobacco**

These standards are in addition to standards of student conduct elsewhere adopted by board policy or administrative regulation. The District's standards prohibit the possession, use, or distribution of illicit drugs or alcohol (including electronic nicotine delivery systems) on school premises, in school vehicles, or as a part of any of the school's activities on or off school premises. Conduct prohibited at places and activities as hereinabove described shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

1. Possession, use, distribution or being under the influence of any controlled substance, including but not limited to marijuana, any narcotic drug, any hallucinogen, any stimulant, or any depressant.
2. Possession of any prescription drug in an unlawful fashion.
3. Possession, use, distribution or being under the influence of alcohol.

4. Possession, use, distribution, or being under the influence of any abusable glue or aerosol paint or any other chemical substance for inhalation, including but not limited to lighter fluid, whiteout, and reproduction fluid, when such activity constitutes a substantial interference with school purposes.
5. Possession, use, or distribution of any look-alike drug or look-alike controlled substance when such activity constitutes a substantial interference with school purposes.
6. Possession, use or distribution of any tobacco product.

### **Disciplinary Sanctions**

Violation of any of the above prohibited acts will result in disciplinary sanction being taken within the bounds of applicable law, up to and including expulsion and referral to appropriate authorities for criminal prosecution. In particular, students should be aware that:

1. Violation of these standards may result in suspension or expulsion.
2. Prohibited substances will be confiscated and unlawful substances will be turned over to law enforcement authorities.
3. The student may be referred for counseling or treatment.
4. Parents or legal guardian will be notified.
5. Law enforcement will be notified.
6. If it appears there is imminent danger to the student, other students, school personnel, or students involved, emergency medical services will be contacted.

### **Intervention**

The District does not have the authority or responsibility to make medical or health determinations regarding chemical dependency. However, when observed behavior indicates that a problem exists which may affect the student's ability to learn or function in the educational environment, the school has the right and responsibility to refer the student for a formal chemical dependency diagnosis based on behavior observed by school staff.

### **Administration**

The administration is authorized to adopt such administrative rules, regulations or practices necessary to properly implement this policy. Such regulations, rules or practices may vary the procedures set forth herein to the extent necessary to fit the circumstances of an individual situation. Such rules, regulations and practices may include administrative forms, such as checklists to be used by staff to record observed behavior and to determine the proper plan of action.

## **Article 8 – Student Conduct Rules**

### **Section 1 Purpose of Student Conduct Rules**

These student conduct rules are established to maintain a school atmosphere which is conducive to learning, to aid student development, to further school purposes, and to prevent interference with the educational process. Violations of the rules will result in disciplinary action.

### **Section 2 Forms of School Discipline**

- A. Development of Uniform Discipline System. It shall be the responsibility of the Superintendent to develop and maintain a system of uniform discipline. The discipline which may be imposed includes actions which are determined to be reasonably necessary

to aid the student, to further school purposes, or to prevent interference with the educational process, such as (without limitation) counseling and warning students, parent contacts and parent conferences, rearrangement of schedules, requirements that a student remain in school after regular hours to do additional work, restriction of extracurricular activity, or requirements that a student receive counseling upon written consent of the parent or guardian, or in-school suspension. The discipline may also include out-of-school suspension (short-term or long-term) and expulsion.

1. Short-Term Suspension: Students may be excluded by the Principal or the Principal's designee from school or any school function for a period of up to five school days (short-term suspension) on the following grounds:

- a. Conduct that constitutes grounds for expulsion, whether the conduct occurs on or off school grounds; or
- b. Other violations of rules and standards of behavior adopted by the Board of Education or the administrative or teaching staff of the school, which occur on or off school grounds, if such conduct interferes with school purposes or there is a nexus between such conduct and school.

The following process will apply to short-term suspensions:

- a. The Principal or the Principal's designee will make a reasonable investigation of the facts and circumstances. A short-term suspension will be made upon a determination that the suspension is necessary to help any student, to further school purposes, or to prevent an interference with school purposes.
- b. Prior to commencement of the short-term suspension, the student will be given oral or written notice of the charges against the student. The student will be advised of what the student is accused of having done, an explanation of the evidence the authorities have, and be afforded an opportunity to explain the student's version of the facts.
- c. Within 24 hours or such additional time as is reasonably necessary following the suspension, the Principal or administrator will send a written statement to the student and the student's parent or guardian describing the student's conduct, misconduct or violation of the rule or standard and the reasons for the action taken.
- d. An opportunity will be given to the student, and the student's parent or guardian, to have a conference with the Principal or administrator ordering the short-term suspension before or at the time the student returns to school. The Principal or administrator shall determine who in addition to the parent or guardian is to attend the conference.
- e. A student who on a short-term suspension shall not be permitted to be on school grounds without the express permission of the Principal.

2. Long-Term Suspension: A long-term suspension means an exclusion from school and any school functions for a period of more than five school days but less than twenty school days. A student who on a long-term suspension shall not be

permitted to be on school grounds without the express permission of the Principal. A notice will be given to the student and the parents/guardian when the Principal recommends a long-term suspension. The notice will include a description of the procedures for long-term suspension; the procedures will be those set forth in the Student Discipline Act.

3. Expulsion:

- a. Meaning of Expulsion. Expulsion means exclusion from attendance in all schools, grounds and activities of or within the system for a period not to exceed the remainder of the semester in which it took effect unless the misconduct occurred (a) within ten school days prior to the end of the first semester, in which case the expulsion shall remain in effect through the second semester, or (b) within ten school days prior to the end of the second semester, in which case the expulsion shall remain in effect for summer school and the first semester of the following school year, or (c) unless the expulsion is for conduct specified in these rules or in law as permitting or requiring a longer removal, in which case the expulsion shall remain in effect for the period specified therein. Such action may be modified or terminated by the school district at any time during the expulsion period. A student who has been expelled shall not be permitted to be on school grounds without the express permission of the Principal. A notice will be given to the student and the parents/guardian when the Principal recommends an expulsion. The notice will include a description of the procedures for expulsion; the procedures will be those set forth in the Student Discipline Act.
- b. Suspensions Pending Hearing. When a notice of intent to discipline a student by long-term suspension, expulsion, or mandatory reassignment is filed with the superintendent, the student may be suspended by the principal until the date the long-term suspension, expulsion, or mandatory reassignment takes effect if no hearing is requested or, if a hearing is requested, the date the hearing examiner makes the report of his or her findings and a recommendation of the action to be taken to the superintendent, if the principal determines that the student must be suspended immediately to prevent or substantially reduce the risk of (a) interference with an educational function or school purpose or (b) a personal injury to the student himself or herself, other students, school employees, or school volunteers.
- c. Summer Review. Any expulsion that will remain in effect during the first semester of the following school year will be automatically scheduled for review before the beginning of the school year in accordance with law.
- d. Alternative Education: Students who are expelled may be provided an alternative education program that will enable the student to continue academic work for credit toward graduation. In the event an alternative

education program is not provided, a conference will be held with the parent, student, the Principal or another school representative assigned by the Principal, and a representative of a community organization that assists young people or that is involved with juvenile justice to develop a plan for the student in accordance with law.

- e. Suspension of Enforcement of an Expulsion: Enforcement of an expulsion action may be suspended (i.e., “stayed”) for a period of not more than one full semester in addition to the balance of the semester in which the expulsion takes effect. As a condition of such suspended action, the student and parents will be required to sign a discipline agreement.
  
- f. Students Subject to Juvenile or Court Probation. Prior to the readmission to school of any student who is less than nineteen years of age and who is subject to the supervision of a juvenile probation officer or an adult probation officer pursuant to the order of the District Court, County Court, or Juvenile Court, who chooses to meet conditions of probation by attending school, and who has previously been expelled from school, the Principal or the Principal’s designee shall meet with the student’s probation officer and assist in developing conditions of probation that will provide specific guidelines for behavior and consequences for misbehavior at school (including conduct on school grounds and conduct during an educational function or event off school grounds) as well as educational objectives that must be achieved. If the guidelines, consequences, and objectives provided by the Principal or the Principal’s designee are agreed to by the probation officer and the student, and the court permits the student to return to school under the agreed to conditions, the student may be permitted to return to school. The student may with proper consent, upon such return, be evaluated by the school for possible disabilities and may be referred for evaluation for possible placement in a special education program. The student may be expelled or otherwise disciplined for subsequent conduct as provided in Board policy and state statute.

- 4. Emergency Exclusion: A student may be excluded from school in the following circumstances:
  - 1. If the student has a dangerous communicable disease transmissible through normal school contacts and poses an imminent threat to the health or safety of the school community; or
  - 2. If the student’s conduct presents a clear threat to the physical safety of himself, herself, or others, or is so extremely disruptive as to make temporary removal necessary to preserve the rights of other students to pursue an education.

Any emergency exclusion shall be based upon a clear factual situation warranting it and shall last no longer than is necessary to avoid the dangers described above.

If the emergency exclusion will be for five school days or less, the procedures for a short-term suspension shall be followed. If the Superintendent or his or her designee determines that an emergency exclusion shall extend beyond five days, a hearing is to be held and a final determination made within ten school days after the initial date of exclusion. Such procedures shall substantially comply with the procedures set forth in this policy for a long-term suspension or expulsion, and be modified only to the extent necessary to accomplish the hearing and determination within this shorter time period.

5. Other Forms of Student Discipline: Administrative and teaching personnel may also take actions regarding student behavior, other than removal of students from school, which are reasonably necessary to aid the student, further school purposes, or prevent interference with the educational process. Such actions may include, but are not limited to, counseling of students, parent conferences, rearrangement of schedules, requirements that a student remain in school after regular hours to do additional work, restriction of extracurricular activity, or requirements that a student receive counseling, psychological evaluation, or psychiatric evaluation upon the written consent of a parent or guardian to such counseling or evaluation. The actions may also include in-school suspensions. When in-school suspensions, after-school assignments, or other disciplinary measures are assigned, the student is responsible for complying with such disciplinary measures. A failure to serve such assigned discipline as directed will serve as grounds for further discipline, up to expulsion from school.

B. Student Conduct Expectations. Students are not to engage in conduct which causes or which creates a reasonable likelihood that it will cause a substantial disruption in or material interference with any school function, activity or purpose or interfere with the health, safety, well-being or rights of other students, staff or visitors.

C. Grounds for Short-Term Suspension, Long-Term Suspension, Expulsion or Mandatory Reassignment. The following conduct has been determined by the Board of Education to have the potential to seriously affect the health, safety or welfare of students, staff and other persons or to otherwise seriously interfere with the educational process. Such conduct constitutes grounds for long-term suspension, expulsion, or mandatory reassignment, and any other lesser forms of discipline. The conduct is subject to the consequence of long-term suspension, expulsion, or mandatory reassignment where it occurs on school grounds, in a vehicle owned, leased, or contracted by the school and being used for a school purpose or in a vehicle being driven for a school purpose by a school employee or an employee's designee, or at a school-sponsored activity or athletic event.

1. Willfully disobeying any reasonable written or oral request of a school staff member, or the voicing of disrespect to those in authority.
2. Use of violence, force, coercion, threat, intimidation, harassment, or similar conduct in a manner that constitutes a substantial interference with school purposes or making any communication that a reasonable recipient would interpret as a serious expression of an intent to harm or cause injury to another.

3. Willfully causing or attempting to cause substantial damage to property, stealing or attempting to steal property of substantial value, repeated damage or theft involving property, or setting or attempting to set a fire of any magnitude.
4. Causing or attempting to cause personal injury to any person, including any school employee, school volunteer, or student. Personal injury caused by accident, self-defense, or other action undertaken on the reasonable belief that it was necessary to protect some other person shall not constitute a violation of this subdivision.
5. Threatening or intimidating any student for the purpose of or with the intent of obtaining money or anything of value from such student or making a threat which causes or may be expected to cause a disruption to school operations.
6. Knowingly possessing, handling, or transmitting any object or material that is ordinarily or generally considered a weapon or that has the appearance of a weapon or bringing or possessing any explosive device, including fireworks.
7. Engaging in selling, using, possessing or dispensing of alcohol, tobacco, narcotics, drugs, controlled substance, or an inhalant; being under the influence of any of the above; possession of drug paraphernalia, or the selling, using, possessing, or dispensing of an imitation controlled substance as defined in section 28-401 of the Nebraska statutes, or material represented to be alcohol, narcotics, drugs, a controlled substance or inhalant. Tobacco means any tobacco product (including but not limited to cigarettes, cigars, and chewing tobacco), vapor products (such as e-cigarettes), electronic nicotine delivery systems, alternative nicotine products, tobacco product look-alikes, and products intended to replicate tobacco products either by appearance or effect. Use of a controlled substance in the manner prescribed for the student by the student's physician is not a violation. The term "under the influence" has a less strict meaning than it does under criminal law; for school purposes, the term means any level of impairment and includes even the odor of alcohol or illegal substances on the breath or person of a student; also, it includes being impaired by reason of the abuse of any material used as a stimulant.
8. Public indecency or sexual conduct.
9. Engaging in bullying, which includes any ongoing pattern of physical, verbal, or electronic abuse on school grounds, in a vehicle owned, leased, or contracted by a school being used for a school purpose by a school employee or a school employee's designee, or at school-sponsored activities or school-sponsored athletic events.
10. Sexually assaulting or attempting to sexually assault any person. This conduct may result in an expulsion regardless of the time or location of the offense if a complaint alleging such conduct is filed in a court of competent jurisdiction.
11. Engaging in any activity forbidden by law which constitutes a danger to other students or interferes with school purposes. This conduct may result in an expulsion regardless of the time or location of the offense if the conduct creates or had the potential to create a substantial interference with school purposes, such as the use of the telephone or internet off-school grounds to threaten.
12. A repeated violation of any rules established by the school district or school officials if such violations constitute a substantial interference with school purposes.

13. Truancy or failure to attend assigned classes or assigned activities; or tardiness to school, assigned classes or assigned activities.
14. The use of language, written or oral, or conduct, including gestures, which is profane or abusive to students or staff members. Profane or abusive language or conduct includes, but is not limited to, that which is commonly understood and intended to be derogatory toward a group or individual based upon race (including skin color, hair texture and protective hairstyles), gender, disability, national origin, or religion.
15. Dressing or grooming in a manner which is dangerous to the student's health and safety or a danger to the health and safety of others or repeated violations of the student dress and grooming standards; dressing, grooming, or engaging in speech that is lewd or indecent, vulgar or plainly offensive; dressing, grooming, or engaging in speech that school officials reasonably conclude will materially and substantially disrupt the work and discipline of the school; dressing, grooming, or engaging in speech that a reasonable observer would interpret as advocating illegal drug use.
16. Willfully violating the behavioral expectations for riding school buses or vehicles.
17. A student who engages in the following conduct shall be expelled for the remainder of the school year in which it took effect if the misconduct occurs during the first semester, and if the expulsion for such conduct takes place during the second semester, the expulsion shall remain in effect for the first semester of the following school year, with the condition that such action may be modified or terminated by the school district during the expulsion period on such terms as the administration may establish:
  - a. The knowing and intentional use of force in causing or attempting to cause personal injury to a school employee, school volunteer, or student, except if caused by accident, self-defense, or on the reasonable belief that the force used was necessary to protect some other person and the extent of force used was reasonably believed to be necessary, or
  - b. The knowing and intentional possession, use, or transmission of a dangerous weapon other than a firearm. The term "dangerous weapon" includes any personal safety or security device (such as tasers, mace and pepper spray). If a student desires to carry or possess a personal safety or security device, the student must obtain prior approval from the building principal before bringing such device on school grounds. If a student obtains prior approval from the building principal, the student must store the device during the school day in the student's locker, in the main office or in another secure location designated by the building principal. A student shall not carry a personal safety or security device during the school day.
18. Knowingly and intentionally possessing, using, or transmitting a firearm on school grounds, in a school-owned or utilized vehicle, or during an educational function or event off school grounds, or at a school-sponsored activity or athletic event. This conduct shall result in an expulsion for one calendar year. "Firearm" means a firearm as defined in 18 U.S.C. 921, as that statute existed on January 1, 1995.

That statute includes the following statement: “The term ‘firearm’ means (a) any weapon (including a starter gun) which will or is designed to or may readily be converted to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive; (b) the frame or receiver of any such weapon; (c) any firearm muffler or firearm silencer; or (d) any destructive device.” The Superintendent may modify such one year expulsion requirement on a case-by-case basis, provided that such modification is in writing.

Bringing a firearm or other dangerous weapon to school for any reason is discouraged; however, a student will not be subject to disciplinary action if the item is brought or possessed under the following conditions:

- a. Prior written permission to bring the firearm or other dangerous weapon to school is obtained from the student's teacher, building administrator and parent.
- b. The purpose of having the firearm or other dangerous weapon in school is for a legitimate educational function.
- c. A plan for its transportation into and from the school, its storage while in the school building and how it will be displayed must be developed with the prior written approval by the teacher and building administrator. Such plan shall require that such item will be in the possession of an adult staff member at all times except for such limited time as is necessary to fulfill the educational function.
- d. The firearm or other dangerous weapon shall be in an inoperable condition while it is on school grounds.

D. Additional Student Conduct Expectations and Grounds for Discipline. The following additional student conduct expectations are established. Failure to comply with such rules is grounds for disciplinary action. When such conduct occurs on school grounds, in a vehicle owned, leased, or contracted by a school being used for a school purpose or in a vehicle being driven for a school purpose by a school employee or by his or her designee, or at a school-sponsored activity or athletic event, the conduct is grounds for long-term suspension, expulsion or mandatory reassignment.

1. Student Appearance: Students are expected to dress in a way that is appropriate for the school setting. Students should not dress in a manner that is dangerous to the health and safety of anyone or interferes with the learning environment or teaching process in our school. Following is a list of examples of attire that will not be considered appropriate, such list is not exclusive and other forms of attire deemed inappropriate by the administration may be deemed inappropriate for the school setting:
  - a. Clothing that shows an inappropriate amount of bare skin or any underwear (midriffs, spaghetti straps, sagging pants) or clothing that is too tight, revealing or baggy, or tops and bottoms that do not overlap or any material that is sheer or lightweight enough to be seen through, or otherwise of an appropriate size and fit so as to be revealing or drag on the ground.
  - b. Shorts, skirts, or skorts that are not appropriate in length or that are too short and/or revealing.
  - c. Shoes must be worn at all times.

- d. Ripped or frayed pants or jeans with rips or holes above mid-thigh.
- e. Clothing or jewelry that advertises or promotes beer, alcohol, tobacco, or illegal drugs.
- f. Clothing or jewelry that could be used as a weapon (chains, spiked apparel) or that would encourage “horse-play” or that would damage property (e.g. cleats).
- g. Head wear including hats, caps, bandannas, hoods and scarves.
- h. Clothing or jewelry which exhibits nudity, makes sexual references or carries lewd, indecent, or vulgar double meaning.
- i. Clothing or jewelry that is gang related.

Consideration will be made for students who wear special clothing as required by religious beliefs, disability, or to convey a particularized message protected by law. The final decision regarding attire and grooming will be made by the Principal. In the event a student is uncertain as to whether a particular item or method of grooming is consistent with the school’s guidelines, the student should contact the Principal for approval **prior to wearing the clothing in question**, and may also review such additional posting of prohibited items or grooming which may be available in the Principal’s office.

Coaches, sponsors or teachers may have additional requirements for students who are in special lab classes, students who are participants in performing groups or students who are representing the school as part of an extracurricular activity program. These requirements must be in alignment with all other rules for appropriate dress.

On a first offense of the dress code, the student may call home for proper apparel or change into appropriate clothing if available. With parent’s permission, students may be allowed to leave campus to change clothes and any missed time will be made up through detention after school. Continual violations of the dress code will result in more stringent disciplinary actions, up to expulsion. Further, in the event the dress code violation is determined to also violate other student conduct rules (e.g., public indecency, insubordination, expression of profanity, and the like), a first offense of the dress code may result in more stringent discipline, up to expulsion.

2. Academic Integrity.

- a. Policy Statement: Students are expected to abide by the standards of academic integrity established by their teachers and school administration. Standards of academic integrity are established in order for students to learn as much as possible from instruction, for students to be given grades which accurately reflect the student’s level of learning and progress, to provide a level playing field for all students, and to develop appropriate values.

Cheating and plagiarism violate the standards of academic integrity. Sanctions will be imposed against students who engage in such conduct.

b. Definitions: The following definitions provide a guide to the standards of academic integrity:

(1) “Cheating” means intentionally misrepresenting the source, nature, or other conditions of academic work so as to accrue undeserved credit, or to cooperate with someone else in such misrepresentation. Such misrepresentations may, but need not necessarily, involve the work of others. Cheating includes, but is not limited to:

(a) Tests (includes tests, quizzes and other examinations or academic performances):

(i) Advance Information: Obtaining, reviewing or sharing copies of tests or information about a test before these are distributed for student use by the instructor. For example, a student engages in cheating if, after having taken a test, the student informs other students in a later section of the questions that appear on the test.

(ii) Use of Unauthorized Materials: Using notes, textbooks, pre-programmed formula in calculators, or other unauthorized material, devices or information while taking a test except as expressly permitted. For example, except for “open book” tests, a student engages in cheating if the student looks at personal notes or the textbook during the test.

(iii) Use of Other Student Answers: Copying or looking at another student’s answers or work, or sharing answers or work with another student, when taking a test, except as expressly permitted. For example, a student engages in cheating if the student looks at another student’s paper during a test. A student also engages in cheating if the student tells another student answers during a test or while exiting the testing room, or knowingly allows another student to look at the student’s answers on the test paper.

(iv) Use of Other Student to Take Test. Having another person take one’s place for a test, or taking a test for another student, without the specific knowledge and permission of the instructor.

(v) Misrepresenting Need to Delay Test. Presenting false or incomplete information in order to postpone or avoid the taking of a test. For example, a student engages in cheating if the student misses class on the day of a test, claiming to be sick, when the student’s real reason for missing class was because the student

was not prepared for the test.

(b) Papers (includes papers, essays, lab projects, and other similar academic work):

i) Use of Another's Paper: Copying another student's paper, using a paper from an essay writing service, or allowing another student to copy a paper, without the specific knowledge and permission of the instructor.

(ii) Re-use of One's Own Papers: Using a substantial portion of a piece of work previously submitted for another course or program to meet the requirements of the present course or program without notifying the instructor to whom the work is presented.

(iii) Assistance from Others: Having another person assist with the paper to such an extent that the work does not truly reflect the student's work. For example, a student engages in cheating if the student has a draft essay reviewed by the student's parent or sibling, and the essay is substantially re-written by the student's parent or sibling. Assistance from home is encouraged, but the work must remain the student's.

(iv) Assistance from Electronic or Artificial intelligence programs: Having any software or artificial intelligence software assist with the paper to such an extent that the work does not truly reflect the student's work. For example, a student engages in cheating if the student uses ChatGPT or any other artificial intelligence software to create a draft or final essay, and the essay is substantially re-written by the student. Assistance from digital sources is encouraged, but the work must remain the student's and the student must fully participate in the writing and review process.

(v) Failure to Contribute to Group Projects. Accepting credit for a group project in which the student failed to contribute a fair share of the work.

(vi) Misrepresenting Need to Delay Paper. Presenting false or incomplete information in order to postpone or avoid turning in a paper when due. For example, a student engages in cheating if the student misses class on the day a paper is due, claiming to be sick, when the student's real reason

for missing class was because the student had not finished the paper.

- (c) Alteration of Assigned Grades. Any unauthorized alteration of assigned grades by a student in the teacher's grade book or the school records is a serious form of cheating.
  - (2) "Plagiarism" means to take and present as one's own a material portion of the ideas or words of another or to present as one's own an idea or work derived from an existing source without full and proper credit to the source of the ideas, words, or works. Plagiarism includes, but is not limited to:
    - (a) Failure to Credit Sources: Copying work (words, sentences, and paragraphs or illustrations or models) directly from the work of another without proper credit. Academic work frequently involves use of outside sources. To avoid plagiarism, the student must either place the work in quotations or give a citation to the outside source.
    - (b) Falsely Presenting Work as One's Own: Presenting work prepared by another in final or draft form as one's own without citing the source, such as the use of purchased research papers or use of another student's paper. (Also see point b(iv) above regarding use of artificial intelligence software.)
  - (3) "Contributing" to academic integrity violations means to participate in or assist another in cheating or plagiarism. It includes but is not limited to allowing another student to look at your test answers, to copy your papers or lab projects, and to fail to report a known act of cheating or plagiarism to the instructor or administration.
- c. Sanctions: The following sanctions will occur when a student engages in cheating, plagiarism, or contributing to an academic integrity offense:
- (1) Academic Sanction. The instructor will refuse to accept the student's work in which the academic integrity offense took place, assign a grade of "F" or zero for the work, and require the student to complete a test or project in place of the work within such time and under such conditions as the instructor may determine appropriate. In the event the student completes the replacement test or project at a level meeting minimum performance standards, the instructor will assign a grade which the instructor determines to be appropriate for the work.
  - (2) Report to Parents and Administration. The instructor will notify the Principal of the offense and the instructor or Principal will notify the student's parents or guardian.
  - (3) Student Discipline Sanctions. Academic integrity offenses are a violation of school rules. The Principal may recommend

sanctions in addition to those assigned by the instructor, up to and including suspension or expulsion. Such additional sanctions will be given strong consideration where a student has engaged in serious or repeated academic integrity offense or other rule violations, and where the academic sanction is otherwise not a sufficient remedy, such as for offenses involving altering assigned grades or contributing to academic integrity violations.

3. Electronic Devices

a. Philosophy and Purpose. The District strongly discourages students from bringing and/or using **personal** electronic devices at school. The use of electronic devices can be disruptive to the educational process and are items that are frequently lost or stolen. In order to maintain a secure and orderly learning environment, and to promote respect and courtesy regarding the use of electronic devices, the District hereby establishes the following rules and regulations governing student use of electronic devices, and procedures to address student misuse of electronic devices.

b. Definitions.

- (1) Personal “Electronic devices” include, but are not limited to, cell phones, Mp3 players, iPods, “earbuds”, personal digital assistants (PDAs), compact disc players, portable game consoles, cameras, digital scanners, laptop computers, and other electronic or battery powered instruments which transmit voice, text, or data from one person to another and are not owned or distributed by the school for instructional purposes.
- (2) “Sexting” means generating, sending or receiving, encouraging others to send or receive, or showing others, through an electronic device, a text message, photograph, video or other medium that:
  - (i) Displays sexual content, including erotic nudity, any display of genitalia, unclothed female breasts, or unclothed buttocks, or any sexually explicit conduct as defined at Neb. Rev. Stat. § 28-1463.02; or
  - (ii) Sexually exploits a person, whether or not such person has given consent to creation or distribution of the message, photograph or video by permitting, allowing, encouraging, disseminating, distributing, or forcing such student or other person to engage in sexually explicit, obscene or pornographic photography, films, or depictions; or,
  - (iii) Displays a sexually explicit message for sexual gratification, flirtation or provocation, or to request or arrange a sexual encounter.

c. Possession and Use of Electronic Devices.

- (1) Students are not permitted to possess or use any electronic

devices during class time except as otherwise provided by this policy. Cell phone usage is strictly prohibited during any class period; including voice usage, digital imaging, or text messaging.

(2) Students are permitted to possess and use electronic devices (with the exception of personal headphones or “ear buds”) before school hours, at lunch time, during passing periods and after school hours, provided that the student does not commit any abusive use of the device (see paragraph (d)(1). Administrators have the discretion to prohibit student possession or use of electronic devices on school grounds during these times in the event the administration determines such further restrictions are appropriate; an announcement will be given in the event of such a change in permitted use.

(3) School owned and issued electronic devices may be used during class time when specifically approved by the teacher or a school administrator in conjunction with appropriate and authorized class or school activities or events (i.e., student use of a camera during a photography class; student use of a laptop computer for a class presentation).

(4) Students may use electronic devices during class time when authorized pursuant to an Individual Education Plan (IEP), a Section 504 Accommodation Plan, or a Health Care Plan, or pursuant to a plan developed with the student’s parent when the student has a compelling need to have the device (e.g., a student whose parent is in the hospital could be allowed limited use of the cell phone for family contacts, so the family can give the student updates on the parent’s condition).

d. Violations

(1) Prohibited Use of Electronic Devices: Students shall not use any electronic devices for: (a) activities which disrupt the educational environment; (b) illegal activities in violation of state or federal laws or regulations; (c) unethical activities, such as cheating on assignments or tests; (d) immoral or pornographic activities; (e) activities in violation of Board or school policies and procedures relating to student conduct and harassment; (f) recording others (photographs, videotaping, sound recording, etc.) or otherwise transmitting images and/or sounds of another person or persons without direct administrative approval and consent of the person(s) being recorded, other than recording of persons participating in school activities that are open to the public; (g) “sexting;” or (h) activities which invade the privacy of others. Such student misuses will be dealt with as serious school violations, and immediate and appropriate disciplinary action will be imposed, including, but not limited to, suspension and expulsion from school.

(2) Disposition of Confiscated Electronic Devices: Electronic devices possessed or used in violation of this policy may be

confiscated by school personnel and returned to the student or parent/guardian at an appropriate time. If an electronic device is confiscated, the electronic device shall be taken to the school's main office to be identified, placed in a secure area, and returned to the student and/or the student's parent/guardian in a consistent and orderly way.

(i) First Violation: Depending upon the nature of the violation and the imposition of other appropriate disciplinary action, consequences at a minimum may include a relinquishment of the electronic device to the school administration and a conference between the student and school principal or assistant principal. The electronic device shall remain in the possession of the school administration until such time as the student personally comes to the school's main office and retrieves the electronic device.

(ii) Second Violation: Depending upon the nature of the violation and the imposition of other appropriate disciplinary action, consequences at a minimum may include a relinquishment of the electronic device to the school administration and a conference between the student and his/her parent/guardian and the school principal or assistant principal. The electronic device shall remain in the possession of the school administration until such time as the student's parent/guardian personally comes to the school's main office and retrieves the electronic device.

(iii) Third Violation: Depending upon the nature of the violation and the imposition of other appropriate disciplinary action, consequences at a minimum may include a relinquishment of the electronic device to the school administration, a conference between the student and his/her parent/guardian and the school principal or assistant principal, and suspension of the student from school. The electronic device shall remain in the possession of the school administration until such time as the student's parent/guardian personally comes to the school's main office and retrieves the electronic device.

(3) Penalties for Prohibited Use of Electronic Devices: Students who receive a "sexting" message are to report the matter to a school administrator and then delete such message from their electronic device. Students shall not participate in sexting or have any "sexting" message on their electronic devices regardless of when the message was received while on school grounds or at a school activity. Students who violate the prohibitions of this policy shall be subject to the imposition of appropriate disciplinary action, up to and including expulsion, provided that at a minimum the

following penalties shall be imposed:

(i) Students found in possession of a “sexting” message shall be subject to a one (1) day suspension from school.

(ii) Students who send or encourage another to send a “sexting” message shall be subject to a five (5) day suspension from school.

(4) Reporting to Law Enforcement: Violations of this policy regarding the prohibited use of electronic devices that may constitute a violation of federal or state laws and regulations, including, but not limited to, the Nebraska Child Protection Act or the Nebraska Child Pornography Prevention Act shall be reported to appropriate legal authorities and law enforcement.

e. Responsibility for Electronic Devices. Students or their parents/guardians are expected to claim a confiscated electronic device within ten (10) days of the date it was relinquished. The school shall not be responsible, financially or otherwise, for any unclaimed electronic devices. By bringing such devices to school, students and parents authorize the school to dispose of unclaimed devices at the end of each semester. The District is not responsible for the security and safekeeping of students’ electronic devices and is not financially responsible for any damage, destruction, or loss of electronic devices.

E. Inappropriate Public Displays of Affection (IPDA): Students are not to engage in inappropriate public displays of affection on school property or at school activities. Such conduct includes kissing, touching, fondling or other displays of affection that would be reasonably considered to be embarrassing or a distraction to others. Students will face the following consequences for IPDA:

a. 1st Offense: Students will be confronted and directed to cease.

b. 2nd Offense: Students will be confronted, directed to cease, and parents will be notified.

c. 3rd Offense: Students will be suspended from school for a minimum of 1 day, and parents and students will need to meet with Administrator(s) and/or counselor.

If this type of behavior continues, or if the IPDA is lewd or constitutes sexual conduct, the student could face long-term suspension or expulsion.

F. Specific Rule Items: The following conduct may result in disciplinary action which, in the repeated violations, may result in discipline up to expulsion:

1. Students are not given locker passes, restroom passes or telephone passes to leave a classroom or study hall unless special circumstances arise.

2. Students in the hallway during class time must have a pass with them.

3. The pop machine is closed until after school and pop is to be drunk outside the school building.

4. Students are expected to bring all books and necessary materials to class.

5. Assignments for all classes are due as assigned by the teacher. Teachers will be responsible for working with students to gather late assignments in the most timely manner as possible.

6. Students are not to operate the mini-blinds or the windows.
7. Classes are ended by the teacher. Students are not to begin to pack up or leave the class until the dismissal bell has rung or the teacher has dismissed the class. Students should not line up at the door prior to the end of the class period.
8. Students are to be in their seats and ready for class on the tardy bell.
9. Special classes such as Industrial Technology, Art, P.E., and computer courses will have other safety or clean-up rules that will be explained to students by that teacher which must be followed.
10. Students are not to bring “nuisance items” to school. A nuisance item is something that is not required for educational purposes and which would cause a distraction to the student or others.
11. Students are to stand back from the entry steps and doors in the mornings before school and at noon before the bell so that others may pass in and out of the entry doors.
12. Snow handling is prohibited.

G. Law Violations

1. Any act of a student which is a basis for expulsion and which the principal or designee knows or suspects is a violation of the Nebraska Criminal Code will be reported to law enforcement as soon as possible. Conduct to be reported for law enforcement referral includes conduct that may constitute a felony, conduct which may constitute a threat to the safety or well-being of students or others in school programs and activities, and conduct that the legal system is better equipped to address than school officials. Conduct that does not need to be reported for law enforcement referral includes typical adolescent behavior that can be addressed by school administrators without the involvement of law enforcement. In making the decision of whether to report, consideration should be given to the student’s maturity, mental capacity, and behavioral disorders, where applicable. When appropriate, it shall be the responsibility of the referring administrator to contact the student’s parent of the fact that the referral to legal authorities has been or will be made.  

The foregoing reporting standards shall be reviewed annually by the school board on or before August 1 of each year, be annually reviewed in collaboration with the County Attorney each year, be distributed to each student and his or her parent or guardian at the beginning of each school year, or at the time of enrollment if during the school year, and shall be posted in conspicuous places in each school during the school year.
2. When a principal or other school official releases a minor student to a peace officer (e.g., police officer, sheriff, and all other persons with similar authority to make arrests) for the purpose of removing the minor from the school premises, the principal or other school official shall take immediate steps to notify the parent, guardian, or responsible relative of the minor regarding the release of the minor to the officer and regarding the place to which the minor is reportedly being taken, except when a minor has been taken into custody as a victim of suspected child abuse, in which case the principal or other school official shall provide the peace officer with the address and telephone number of the minor's parents or guardian.

## H. Anti-Bullying Policy:

One of the missions of the District is to provide safe and secure environments for all students and staff.

The administration and staff are to implement strategies and practices to reinforce and encourage positive behaviors by students. Positive behaviors include non-violence, cooperation, teamwork, understanding, and acceptance of others.

The administration and staff are to implement strategies and practices to identify and prevent inappropriate behaviors by all students, including anti-bullying education for all students. Inappropriate behaviors include bullying, intimidation, and harassment. Bullying means any ongoing pattern of physical, verbal, or electronic abuse on school grounds, in a vehicle owned, leased, or contracted by the school being used for a school purpose by a school employee or designee, or at school-sponsored activities or school-sponsored athletic events.

The school district shall review the anti-bullying policy annually.

Positive behaviors (non-violence, cooperation, teamwork, understanding, and acceptance of others) are encouraged in the educational program and required of all students and staff. Inappropriate behaviors (bullying, intimidation and harassment) are to be identified and corrected. Students and staff are to avoid such behaviors. Strategies and practices are implemented to reinforce positive behaviors and to discourage and protect others from inappropriate behaviors.

“Bullying” is behavior where one person or group engages in harmful action towards another person or group acting on a real or perceived imbalance of power or view of superiority. The behavior typically includes verbal (e.g. teasing or name-calling) and physical aggression (e.g., hitting, pushing), threatening, excluding or ignoring, spreading rumors, or taking, defacing or destroying the others’ property. “Harassment” includes the same actions, though not necessarily from a standpoint of perceived power. Harassment is prohibited. Bullying and harassment are a violation of student conduct rules and appropriate disciplinary measures, up to expulsion, will be enforced. When bullying or harassment is done on the basis of gender, disability, race (including skin color, hair texture and protective hairstyles), or other protected status, it is considered a very serious offense for which expulsion may be a likely consequence depending on the severity of the conduct.

Students who are the victim of bullying or harassment or who observe such occurrences are to promptly report the problem to their teacher or to the Principal so the problem can be addressed. Students who make reports of bullying activity will not be retaliated against for making the report.

### (4) Initiations, Hazing, Secret Clubs and Outside Organizations (Policy No. 6284)

- (a) 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.

- (b) 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.
  - (c) 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.
  - (d) 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.
- (7) Network, E-Mail, Internet and Other Computer Use Rules:
- (a) General Rules:
    - (i) The network is provided to staff and students to conduct research and communicate with others. Access to network services is given to staff and students who have agreed to act in a responsible manner. Parental permission is required for student use. Access for all staff and students is a privilege and not a right. Students may not attempt to access servers or network information that is not open to the public.

- (ii) Individual users of the district network are responsible for their behavior, actions, problems, and communications involving and over the network. Users will comply with district rules.
  - (iii) Network storage areas shall be treated like school lockers for students. Network administrators may review files, information, equipment, messages and communications of staff and students to maintain system integrity and ensure that users are using the network system responsibly. Users should not expect that files or any information stored or otherwise used or retained on the network, district servers, or in computers, will be private. No reasonable expectation of privacy shall exist in relation to network use.
  - (iv) Users should not expect, and the district does not warrant, any information or products obtained from the network, that files or information stored, obtained or used on the network will be private, and use of the network waives and relinquishes all such privacy rights, interests or claims to confidentiality the user may have under state or federal law.
  - (v) The district will not be liable for, and does not warrant in any way, purchases made by any user over the network. Users shall not make purchases of goods and/or services via the district's network.
- (b) Policy and Rules for Acceptable Use of Computers and the Network: The following policy and rules for acceptable use of computers and the network, including Internet, shall apply to all district administrators, faculty, staff and students. The term "Users", as contained herein, shall apply to all such individuals. The Superintendent, or the Superintendent's designee, is hereby delegated all authority and is the ultimate person in charge of the district network and technology resources or equipment, and the same shall also be under the direct supervision of the site or building administrator where located, sometimes herein called "network administrators."
- (i) Users shall not erase, remake, or make unusable anyone else's computer, information, files, programs or disks. In addition to any other disciplinary action or legal action that may occur, any user violating this rule shall be liable for any and all damages to the computer, information, files, programs or disks.
  - (ii) Users shall not let other persons use their name, account, log-on password, or files for any reason (except for authorized staff members).
  - (iii) Users shall not use or try to discover another user's account or password.
  - (iv) Users shall not use the computers or network for non-instructional or non-administrative purposes (e.g., games or activities for personal profit).
  - (v) Users shall not use the computer for unlawful purposes, such as illegal copying or installation of unauthorized software.
  - (vi) Users shall not copy, change, or transfer any software or documentation provided by teachers, or other students without permission from the network administrators.
  - (vii) Users shall not write, produce, generate, copy, propagate, or attempt to introduce any computer code, software or information designed to

self-replicate, damage, or otherwise hinder the performance of the network or any computer's memory, file system, or software. Such software is often called a bug, virus, worm, Trojan horse, or similar name.

- (viii) Users shall not use the computer to annoy or harass others with language, images, or threats. Users shall not access, accept, create or send any obscene, vulgar, lewd, tasteless, or objectionable messages, information, language, or images.
- (ix) Users shall not damage the network or equipment, damage information belonging to others, misuse network resources, or allow others to misuse network resources. In addition to any other disciplinary action or legal action that may occur, any user violating this or any other rule shall be liable for any and all damages to the computer, network, information, files, programs or disks.
- (x) Users shall not tamper with computers, networks, printers, or other associated equipment except as directed by the teacher or network administrator.
- (xi) Users shall not take technology equipment (hardware or software) from the school grounds or remove such from computer work areas without written permission of the network administrator.

(c) Etiquette and Rules for Use of Computers and the Network: All users of computers and the network are expected to abide by the generally accepted rules of network etiquette. Informal rules of behavior have evolved for the use of and communication on the network, Internet and other on-line services. Breaches can result in harsh criticism by others. These rules of behavior include (but are not limited to) the following:

- (i) Be polite. Do not become abusive in your messages to others.
- (ii) Use appropriate language. Do not swear, use vulgarities or any other inappropriate language, message, information or images.
- (iii) Do not reveal your personal account, address or phone numbers, or that of other students or colleagues.
- (iv) Note that electronic mail (e-mail) is specifically not guaranteed to be private. People who operate the system do have access to mail. Messages relating to or in support of illegal activities may be reported to the authorities. Messages which violate the rules will result in disciplinary action.
- (v) All communications and information accessible via the network should be assumed to be private property of others.
- (vi) Do not place unlawful information on any network system.
- (vii) Keep paragraphs and messages short and to the point. Focus on one subject per message.
- (viii) Include your signature at the bottom of e-mail messages. Your signature footer should include your name, position, affiliation, and network or Internet address.
- (ix) Other rules may be established by the network administrators or teachers from time to time.

(d) Penalties for Violation of Rules: All of the policies, rules, and procedures for acceptable use of computers and the network are intended to make the computers and the network more reliable for users. They are also intended to minimize the burden of administrating the networks so that more time can be spent on education and enhancing services. Use of the computer and access to telecommunications resources is a privilege and not a right. Violation of the policies, rules, and procedures concerning the use of computers and the network may result in disciplinary action up to, and including, loss of access, suspension and/or expulsion of students from school and loss of access, suspension, termination, non-renewal or cancellation of the contract of administrators, teachers, or other school employees.

<b>Violation</b>	<b>1st Offense</b>	<b>2nd Offense</b>	<b>3rd Offense</b>
Email, chat, or other electronic communication for purposes unrelated to education	14 days Laptop & Internet Suspension	45 days Laptop & Internet Suspension	90 days Laptop & Internet Suspension
Noncompliance with supervisor instructions for use of computer during school	14 days Laptop & Internet Suspension	45 days Laptop & internet Suspension	90 days Laptop & Internet Suspension
Leaving laptop unattended in non-secure area	14 days Laptop Suspension	45 days Laptop Suspension	90 days Laptop Suspension
Allowing someone else to use your computer or use your login	14 days Laptop Suspension	45 days Laptop Suspension	90 Days Laptop Suspension
Marking or altering the labels on the computer and case	14 days Laptop Suspension	45 days Laptop Suspension	90 days Laptop Suspension
Attempting to erase user online history on the laptop	14 days Laptop Suspension	45 days Laptop Suspension	90 days Laptop Suspension
Attempting to alter or add software to the laptop	45 days Laptop Suspension	90 Days Laptop Suspension	Permanent Laptop Suspension
Any attempt to access or distribute any obscene or pornographic material	90 Days Internet and Laptop Suspension	Permanent Internet and Laptop Suspension	

Harassing, making threats, using obscenities, or defamation using the laptop	45 Days Internet and Laptop Suspension	90 Days Internet and Laptop Suspension	Permanent Internet and Laptop Suspension
Any illegal activities on the laptop	Permanent Internet & Laptop Suspension		
Hacking or any attempt to compromise any computer or network system's security (including the use of a VPN on the school network)	Permanent Internet & Laptop Suspension		

Note: These are examples of what consequences may be incurred for any violations of the policies. Actual consequences may vary depending on the severity of the infraction and the circumstances under which it occurs. Days are listed as SCHOOL days. All possible violations cannot be listed and will be dealt with accordingly.

- (e) Student and Parent Agreements: Students and parents may be required to sign a computer and network use agreement as a condition of the student being permitted to use such equipment.
- (a) Google's G Suite for Education (GSFE)
  - 1). Our Middle and High school students and all staff will be using a suite of free productivity tools for classroom collaboration called "G Suite for Education (GSFE)." This is a closed system that is only open to Ainsworth Middle & High School students and staff. GSFE includes several applications that enable students to create class projects, collaborate with the classmates, and send email to classmates and teachers.
    - (a) Students cannot send or receive email on the account from or to anyone outside of the school system.
    - (b) The classroom teacher will moderate this collaborative network where students can share ideas, publish their work, and learn how to communicate safely and effectively online.
    - (c) Students are responsible for their accounts and must not give access or reveal passwords to anyone.
  - (2) Student Expectations for G Suite for Education (GSFE):
    - (a) GSFE is intended for educationally enriching purposes only. Any inappropriate content will be deleted.
    - (b) Assignments can be posted by the teacher and students have the ability to submit work to the teacher through G Suite for Education (GSFE).
    - (c) The guidelines set by the district-wide acceptable use policy regarding educational technology will be expected to be followed by the students.

(d) Inappropriate use may result in cancellation of the student's technology use privileges and/or disciplinary action.

(8) Risks of Facebook and Similar Social Networking:

The purpose of this message is to give our students information about the risks of using Facebook and similar social networking sites.

These sites are public sources of information. The information may be seen by your school administrators, your parents, and law enforcement. It is also accessible to people who you don't even know now, but may later want to impress—such as university admissions and scholarship officials and prospective employers. In fact, many large companies now search the internet as a means of conducting background checks on job applicants. What you say now on Facebook and similar social networking sites may affect you years later.

What you say now on Facebook and similar social networking sites may also affect you right now. Pictures or writings that show that you have violated student conduct rules may result in school discipline. A picture of a student drinking a beer may very well lead to a suspension from activities if the school learns about it. Criminal charges may be filed against you based on information posted on Facebook and similar social networking sites.

Here are some common sense guidelines that you should follow when using Facebook and similar social networking sites and the Internet in general:

- Don't forget that your profile and Facebook and similar social networking sites forums are public spaces. Don't post anything you wouldn't want the world to know (e.g., your phone number, address, IM screens name, or specific whereabouts).
- Avoid posting anything that would make it easy for a stranger to find you, such as where you hang out every day after school.
- People aren't always who they say they are. Be careful about adding strangers to your friends list. It's fun to connect with new Facebook and similar social networking sites friends from all over the world, but avoid meeting people in person whom you do not fully know. If you must meet someone, do it in a public place and bring a friend or trusted adult.
- Harassment, hate speech and inappropriate content should be reported. If you feel someone's behavior is inappropriate, react. Talk with a trusted adult, or report it to Facebook and similar social networking sites or the authorities.
- Don't post anything that would embarrass you later. Think twice before posting a photo or info you wouldn't want your parents or boss to see!
- Don't mislead people into thinking that you're older or younger. If you lie about your age, Facebook and similar social networking sites will delete your profile.

We urge all students to follow these common sense guidelines.

## **Article 9 – Extra-Curricular Activities - Rights, Conduct, Rules and Regulations**

### **Section 1 Extracurricular Activity Philosophy**

Extracurricular activity programs enrich the curriculum of the school by making available a wide variety of activities in which a student can participate. Extracurricular activity programs are considered an integral part of the school's program of education that provide experiences that will help students physically, mentally and emotionally.

The element of competition and winning, though it exists, is controlled to the point it does not determine the nature or success of the program. This is considered to be educationally and psychologically sound because of the training it offers for living in a competitive society. Students are stimulated to want to win and excel, but the principles of good sportsmanship prevail at all times to enhance the educational values of contests. Participation in activities, both as a competitor and as a student spectator, is an integral part of the students' educational experiences. Such participation is a privilege that carries with it responsibilities to the school, team, student body, community and the students themselves. In their play and their conduct, students are representing all of these groups. Such experiences contribute to the knowledge, skill and emotional patterns that they possess, thereby making them better individuals and citizens.

#### Safety

The District's philosophy is to maintain an activities program which recognizes the importance of the safety of the participants. To ensure safety, participants are required to become fully familiar with the dangers and safety measures established for the activity in which they participate, to adhere to all safety instructions for the activity in which they participate, to inform their coach or sponsor when they are injured or have health problems that require their activities be restricted, and to exercise common-sense.

#### Warning for Participants and Parents

The purpose of this warning is to bring your attention to the existence of potential dangers associated with athletic injuries. Participation in any intramural or athletic activity may involve injury of some type. The severity of such injury can range from minor cuts, bruises, sprains and muscle strains to more serious injuries to the body's bones, joints, ligaments, tendons, or muscles, to catastrophic injuries to the head, neck and spinal cord. On rare occasions, injuries can be so severe as to result in total disability, paralysis or death. Even with appropriate coaching, appropriate safety instruction, appropriate protective equipment and strict observance of the rules, injuries are still a possibility.

### **Section 2 Extracurricular Activity Code of Conduct**

**Purpose of the Code of Conduct.** Participation in extracurricular activities is a privilege. The privilege carries with it responsibilities to the school, team, student body, and the community. Participants are not only representing themselves, but also their school and community in all of their actions. Others judge our school on the student participants' conduct and attitudes, and how they contribute to our school spirit and community image.

The student participants' performance and devotion to high ideals and values make their school and community proud. Consequently, participation is dependent upon adherence to this Code of Conduct and the school district's policies, procedures and rules.

### **Scope of the Code of Conduct.**

Activities Subject to the Code of Conduct: The Code of Conduct applies to all extracurricular activities. Extracurricular activities means student activities or organizations which are supervised or administered by the school district which do not count toward graduation or grade advancement and in which participation is not otherwise required by the school.

Extracurricular activities include but are not limited to: all sports, cheerleading, dance team, vocal music, instrumental music, speech, play production, A-Club, FFA, FBLA, FCCLA, Spanish Club, Art Club, Destination Imagination, Student Council, National Honor Society, Quiz Bowl, Mock Trial, Thespians, and other school sponsored organizations and activities. The Code of Conduct also applies to participation in school sponsored activities such as school dances and royalty for such activities.

A participant means a student who participates in, has participated in, or will participate in an extracurricular activity.

When: The Code of Conduct rules apply to conduct which occurs at any time during the school year, and also includes the time frame which begins on the first day of NSAA determined fall practice for incoming freshmen or newly enrolled students and continues until the end of the last day of athletic competition for that student's high school career, even if that date extends past the last day of school. All freshmen and new students will begin with a clean record. This Code of Conduct applies to student conduct at all times and places, including conduct away from school grounds and away from school activities.

Where: The Code of Conduct rules apply regardless of whether the conduct occurs on or off school grounds. If the conduct occurs on school grounds, at a school function or event, or in a school vehicle, the student may also be subject to further discipline under the general student code of conduct. A student who is suspended or expelled from school shall not be permitted to participate in activities during the period of the suspension or expulsion, and may also receive an extended activity suspension.

**Grounds for Extracurricular Activity Discipline.** Students who participate in extracurricular activities are expected to demonstrate cooperation, patience, pride, character, self respect, self-discipline, teamwork, sportsmanship, and respect for authority. The following conduct rules have been determined by the Board of Education to be reasonably necessary to aid students, further school purposes, and prevent interference with the educational process. Such conduct constitutes grounds for suspension from participation in extracurricular activities and grounds for other restrictions or disciplinary measures related to extracurricular activity participation:

1. Willfully disobeying any reasonable written or oral request of a school staff member, or the voicing of disrespect to those in authority.

2. Use of violence, force, coercion, threat, intimidation, harassment or similar conduct in a manner that constitutes a substantial interference with school or extracurricular activity purposes or making any communication that a reasonable person would interpret as a serious expression of an intent to harm or cause injury to another.
3. Willfully causing or attempting to cause substantial damage to property, stealing or attempting to steal property, repeated damage or theft involving property or setting or attempting to set a fire of any magnitude.
4. Causing or attempting to cause personal injury to any person, including a school employee, school volunteer, or student. Personal injury caused by accident, self-defense, or other action undertaken on the reasonable belief that it was necessary to protect another person shall not constitute a violation.
5. Threatening or intimidating any student for the purpose of, or with the intent of, obtaining money or anything of value from a student or making a threat which causes or may be expected to cause a disruption to school operations.
6. Knowingly possessing, handling, or transmitting any object or material that is ordinarily or generally considered a weapon or that has the appearance of a weapon, or bringing or possessing any explosive device, including fireworks, on school grounds or at a school function or event, or in a manner that is unlawful or contrary to school activity rules.
7. Selling, using, possessing or dispensing alcohol, tobacco, narcotics, drugs, a controlled substance, or an inhalant; being under the influence of any of the above; possession of drug paraphernalia, or the selling, using, possessing, or dispensing of an imitation controlled substance as defined in section 28-401 of the Nebraska statutes, or material represented to be alcohol, narcotics, drugs, a controlled substance or inhalant. Use of a controlled substance in the manner prescribed for the student by the student's physician is not a violation. (Note: Refer to "Drug and Alcohol Violations" for further information).
8. Public indecency.
9. Sexual assault or attempting to sexually assault any person. Engaging in sexual conduct, even if consensual, on school grounds or at a school function or event.
10. Engaging in bullying, which includes any ongoing pattern of physical, verbal, or electronic abuse on school grounds, in a vehicle owned, leased, or contracted by a school being used for a school purpose by a school employee or a school employee's designee, or at school-sponsored activities or school-sponsored athletic events;
11. Engaging in any activity forbidden by law which constitutes a danger to other students, interferes with school purposes or an extracurricular activity, or reflects a lack of high ideals.
12. Repeated violation of any of the school rules.
13. Truancy or failure to attend assigned classes or assigned activities; or tardiness to school, assigned classes or assigned activities.
14. The use of language, written or oral, or conduct, including gestures, which is profane or abusive to a school employee, school volunteer, or student. Profane or abusive language or conduct includes, but is not limited to, that which is commonly understood and intended to be derogatory toward a group or individual

- based upon race (including skin color, hair texture and protective hairstyles), gender, national origin, or religion.
15. Using social media sites to engage in conduct or speech that constitutes bullying, harassment, threats, advocates or depicts illegal activity (e.g., illegal drug use, alcohol use, or nudity), or causes a substantial disruption to school activities (or reasonably forecasts a substantial disruption).
  16. Dressing or grooming in a manner which is dangerous to the student's health and safety or a danger to the health and safety of others or repeated violations of dress and grooming standards; dressing, grooming, or engaging in speech that is lewd or indecent, vulgar or plainly offensive; dressing, grooming, or engaging in speech that school officials reasonably conclude will materially and substantially disrupt the work and discipline of the school or of an extracurricular activity; dressing, grooming, or engaging in speech that a reasonable observer would interpret as advocating illegal drug use.
  17. Willfully violating the behavioral expectations for those students riding Ainsworth Public School buses or vehicles used for activity purposes.
  18. Failure to report for the activity at the beginning of the season. Reporting for one activity may count as reporting on time if there is a change in activity within the season approved by the coach or the supervisor.
  19. Failure to participate in regularly scheduled classes on the day of an extracurricular activity or event.
  20. Failure to attend scheduled practices and meetings. If circumstances arise to prevent the participant's attendance, the validity of the reason will be determined by the coach or sponsor. Every reasonable effort should be made to notify the coach or sponsor prior to any missed practice or meeting.
  21. All other reasonable rules or regulations adopted by the coach or sponsor of an extracurricular activity shall be followed, provided that participants shall be advised by the coach or sponsor of such rules and regulations by written handouts or posting on bulletin boards prior to the violation of the rule or regulation.
  22. Failure to comply with any rule established by the Nebraska School Activities Association, including, but not limited to, the rules relating to eligibility.

All terms used in the Code of Conduct have a less strict meaning than under criminal law and are subject to reasonable interpretation by school officials.

### **Drug and Alcohol Violations.**

#### **Meaning of Terms.**

Use or consume includes any level of consumption or use. Use of a controlled substance in the manner prescribed for the student by the student's physician is not a violation.

Under the influence means any level of impairment and includes even the odor of alcohol on the breath or person of a student, or the odor of an illicit drug on the student. Also, it includes being impaired by reason of the abuse of any material used as a stimulant.

Possession includes having control of the substance (alcohol, tobacco, narcotics, drugs, a controlled substance, an inhalant, or other substance deemed to be illegal for the student's

age) and also includes being in the same area where the substance is present and no responsible adult is present and responsible for the substance. Possession includes situations where, for example:

- (1) The substance is in a vehicle in which the student is present. The student is considered to be in possession if the student is aware that the substance is in the vehicle, even though the student has not touched or consumed the substance; and
- (2) The substance is present at a party/gathering attended by the student. The student is considered to be in possession if the student is aware that the substance is at the party/gathering and fails to immediately leave the party/gathering, even though the student has not touched or consumed the substance.

In these situations, a violation would not exist if the substance is in the control of a parent or guardian or other responsible adult (age 21 or older) such that students are not allowed to access the substance. A violation would also not exist if the student did not know or have a reasonable basis to know that the substance would be present, and the student leaves the location where the substance is present as soon as the student could safely do so. (Students are expected to leave immediately, but are not to do so in a manner that would endanger them. For example, you are not to leave in a car being driven by a person who is under the influence just to get away from the substance immediately when there is no other way to get home. Instead, you should call for a safe ride home and, while waiting, clearly distance yourself from the substance).

### **Consequences.**

Students may be suspended from practices or participation in interscholastic competition or participation in co-curricular activities for violations of the Code of Conduct. The period of suspension or other discipline for such offenses shall be determined by the school administration.

The disciplinary consequence will be determined based on consideration of the seriousness of the offense, any prior violations, the student's compliance with the self-reporting obligations, the student's level of cooperation and willingness to resolve the matter, and the student's demonstration of a commitment to not commit future violations.

Because of the significance of drug and alcohol violations on the student participants, other students and the school, the following consequences are established for such violations:

The following procedures regarding substance abuse and activity suspension are supported by board policies 504.03, 504.15, and 506.01.

This prohibition begins on the first day of NSAA determined fall practice for incoming freshmen or newly enrolled students and continues until the end of the last day of athletic competition for that student's high school career, even if that date extends past the last day of school. All freshmen and new students will begin with a clean record. This prohibition applies to student conduct at all times and places, including conduct away from school grounds and away from school activities.

Substance Abuse Violations (violations will be cumulative throughout a student's high school career):

First Offense: Suspension of 30 school days from the date the violation is reported or discovered. This penalty may be reduced to 15 school days upon completion of the school approved education program.

Second Offense: Suspension of 60 school days from the date violation is reported or discovered.

Third Offense: Offender is suspended from all activities for the remainder of his/her high school career. a. After one calendar year of suspension the student may appeal for reinstatement. i. An appeals committee will evaluate the student for reinstatement. This committee will be composed at the discretion of the Superintendent and may include coaches, teachers, activities director, and principal.

Subsequent Violations: Any violation beyond three will terminate the student's eligibility for all activities at Ainsworth Community Schools, with no appeals process.

Summertime Violations:

Summertime violations before the freshman year do not count toward the total violations. Summertime violations following a student's freshman, sophomore, and junior year will be counted toward the total violations.

Self-Reporting:

During the school year: A student has until noon of the first school day following the violation to report the violation to the Activities Director or his/her designee.

During the summer: A student has until noon of the first day of NSAA determined fall practice to report any summertime violation to the Activities Director or his/her designee

Diversion and Substance Education Classes:

If the student agrees to participate in the school approved evaluation and substance abuse awareness program, the student will have a further reduction of days from the suspension time from activities of FIFTY (50%) upon completion through the school. This option is available only on a student's first offense upon entering high school.

Failure to Self-Report:

In circumstances where a student chooses not to self-report a violation of this policy, the consequence shall be as follows:

First Offense: Suspension of 60 school days from the date the violation is discovered. This penalty may be reduced to 30 school days upon completion of the school approved education program.

Second Offense: The offender is suspended from all activities for one calendar year from the date the violation is discovered.

Activities/Athletic Program is defined in AR-5300. The "rule of thumb" as to what students may and may not participate in is linked to whether the student is representing the school or representing themselves in the activity. The list of activities are not limited to the those listed below and administration will make the final decision as to whether the student will be allowed to participate.

Students on suspension may do the following:

1. Attend games, meetings, etc., but may not be an active participant (i.e. may attend FBLA meetings but not be actively involved in an assigned or elected position). Sports team members can attend games and may sit behind the team's bench.
2. Attend dances, including homecoming and Prom.
3. Attend awards banquet and programs.
4. Attend a classroom field trip.
5. Perform in a regularly scheduled band and/or chorus concert.
6. Take part in activities related to the yearbook and journalism class (i.e. taking pictures at a basketball game for the yearbook).

Students on suspension may not do the following:

1. Be a royalty candidate for homecoming, prom, or other similar school functions.
2. Perform the duties of an organizational officer at any meeting of a student organization or function.
3. Participate in the homecoming parade.
4. Receive any non-academic award or recognition for any award at an awards banquet or program.
- ~~5. Participate in Parent's night activities.~~
6. Participate in the grand march at Prom.

**Carry Over:** Consequences for violations that occur when there are fewer days in the school year than the consequences call for will "carry over" to the next school year. For example, if the suspension is for 28 days but there are only 12 days left in the school year, the suspension will carry over for 16 days into the next school year. The count will resume with the first school day of the new school year.

More Serious Violations: In the event of more serious drug, alcohol or steroid/illegal performance enhancing drugs (PEDs) violations, such as students engaging in use of especially serious drug offenses (cocaine, meth, etc.) or procuring alcohol for minors, the consequence of the violation is not restricted by the foregoing, and may be established in the good discretion of the administration.

**Self-Reporting.** A student who violates the Code of Conduct must self-report. A failure to self-report will lead to a longer suspension or other discipline. The self-report must be made to: the principal, athletic director, or the head coach or sponsor of an activity in which the student participates. The student's parent or guardian may initiate the self-reporting process, but the student will be later required to give a written statement of the self-report. The self-report must be made the earlier of: (1) before the end of the next school day after the conduct occurred and (2) before participation in an extracurricular or co-curricular activity.

In making a self-report, the student must identify the events that took place, what conduct the student engaged in, and any witnesses to the student's conduct, and will be required to put this information in a written statement. In the event the student has received a criminal citation, charge, or ticket, and proclaims innocence of a violation, the student will be required to self-report such offense and provide information as to why they should be found innocent, not as it relates to the criminal offense, but as it relates to the Code of Conduct.

All students are expected to be honest and forthright with school officials. In the event the coach or activity sponsor or any school administrator asks a student participant for information pertaining to compliance (or lack of compliance) by the student or other student participants with the Code of Conduct or eligibility conditions for participation in activities, the student is expected to fully, completely, and honestly provide the information. Students may be disciplined for a failure to be honest and forthright.

**Determining a Violation Has Occurred.** A violation of the Code of Conduct will be determined to have occurred based on any of the following criteria:

1. When a student is cited by law enforcement and school officials have a reasonable basis for determining that grounds for the issuance of the citation exist.
2. When a student is convicted of a criminal offense. Conviction includes, without limitation, a conviction, a plea of no contest and an adjudication of delinquency by a juvenile court.
3. When a student admits to violating one of the standards of the Code of Conduct.
4. When a student is accused by another person of violating one of the standards of the Code of Conduct and school officials determine that such information is reliable.
5. When school officials otherwise find sufficient evidence to support a determination that a violation has occurred.

**Procedures for Extracurricular Discipline.** The following procedures are established for suspensions from participation in extracurricular activities:

1. Investigation. The school official(s) considering the suspension will conduct a reasonable investigation of the facts and circumstances and determine whether the suspension will help the student or other students, further school purposes, or prevent an interference with a school purpose.
2. Meeting. Prior to commencement of the suspension, the school official considering the suspension or their designee will provide the student an opportunity to give the student's side of the story. The meeting for this purpose may be held in person or via a telephone conference.
  - a. The student will be given oral or written notice of what the student is accused of having done, an explanation of the evidence the school has, and the opportunity to explain the student's version. Detail is not required where the activity participant has made a self-report or otherwise admits the conduct. Names of informants may be kept confidential where determined to be appropriate.
  - b. The suspension may be imposed prior to the meeting if the meeting can not reasonably be held before the suspension is to begin. In that case the meeting will occur as soon as reasonably practicable. The student is responsible for cooperating in the scheduling of the meeting.
3. Notice Letter. Within three (3) school days (three (3) business days if school is not in session), or such additional time as is reasonably necessary following the suspension, the Activities Director or the Activities Director's designee will send

- a written statement to the student and the student's parents or guardian. The statement will describe the student's conduct violation and the discipline imposed. The student and parents or guardian will be informed of the opportunity to request a hearing.
4. Informal Hearing Before Superintendent. The student or student's parent/guardian may request an informal hearing before the Superintendent. The Superintendent may designate the Activities Director or another administrator not responsible for the suspension decision as the Superintendent's designee to conduct the hearing and make a decision.
    - a. The parent or guardian may request a hearing by contacting the Principal's office in order to make the request. At that time, the Principal will advise the parent or guardian regarding the process to request a hearing in writing.
    - b. The request for a hearing must be received by the Superintendent's office within five (5) days of receipt of the notice letter.
    - c. If a hearing is requested:
      - i. The hearing will be held within ten (10) calendar days of receipt of the request; subject to extension for good cause as determined by the Superintendent or the Superintendent's designee.
      - ii. The Superintendent or the Superintendent's designee will notify the participants of the time and place of the hearing a reasonable time in advance to allow preparation for the hearing.
      - iii. Upon conclusion of the hearing, a written decision will be rendered within five (5) school days (ten (10) calendar days if school is not in session). The written decision will be mailed or otherwise delivered to the participant, parents or guardian.
      - iv. A record of the hearing (copies of documents provided at the hearing and a tape recording or other recordation of the informal hearing) will be kept by the school if requested sufficiently in advance of the hearing by the parent/guardian.
  5. No Stay of Penalty. There will be no stay of the penalty imposed pending completion of the due process procedures.
  6. Opportunity for Informal Resolution. These due process procedures do not prevent the student or parent/guardian from discussing and settling the matter with the appropriate school officials at any stage.

### **Section 3                      Attendance**

Student participants are expected to meet the following attendance expectations:

1. Attend school regularly.
2. Be on time for all scheduled practices, contests and departure for contests. In the event a participant is unable to attend a practice or contests the participant should contact the coach or sponsor in advance.
3. On the day of a contest, performance or other activity, be in attendance for the full day. A student who is not in attendance the full day is ineligible for the contest, performance, or activity.

Exceptions may be made for extenuating circumstances, such as doctor/dentist

appointments or family emergencies. The exception must be approved by the Activities Director or Principal.

Every attempt should be made to be in attendance the day of a contest. Sleeping in to rest for a contest will not be considered an extenuating circumstance, nor will going home ill and then returning to play in the contest later that day.

#### **Section 4 Academic Standards**

Participation in extracurricular school activities is encouraged and desirable for all students. At the same time, the primary mission and responsibility for each student is to establish a firm academic foundation. Any student (7-12) participating in extracurricular school activities show evidence of sincere effort towards scholastic achievement. To be eligible for participation in extracurricular activities students must:

1. Full time AMS/HS students must be enrolled in at least 20 credit hours at Ainsworth Community Schools in the semester of participation. (Current minimum NSAA guideline). Part time students must be enrolled in 20 credit hours with a minimum of 5 credit hours at Ainsworth MS/HS. To be eligible during the 1<sup>st</sup> semester, students shall have had passing grades in a minimum of 20 credits the preceding semester. To be eligible during the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester, students shall have had passing grades in a minimum of 20 credits for the 1<sup>st</sup> semester.
2. MS and HS students who have failing grades for two consecutive weeks in two or more subjects will be ineligible for all interschool competitive activities the next week.  
The ineligibility list will be compiled every Monday and go in effect the next day (Tuesday) through the next Monday night. Students and Parents that are on the Ineligibility list will be notified by the administration. This list will be first compiled after two full weeks of school and will take place on the third Monday of the new semester/quarter.
3. The MS/HS student must be in school for all scheduled periods, the day of an activity/event in order to participate. The only exception is by parent request approved by the Principal /Activities Director prior to absence.
4. Academic requirements do not apply to:
  - (A) Instructional field trips which are a part of the scheduled course learning experience; or
  - (B) Activities or events which are considered in determining the student's grade.
  - (C) A student who is academically ineligible is not allowed to leave school early or miss class time to attend a contest.

#### **Section 5 “Team Selection” and “Playing Time”**

“Team selection” and “playing time” decisions are the responsibility of the individual coach or sponsor of the activity. Consistent, however, with the purposes of the activities program, the coaches and sponsors shall follow the following established guidelines for team selection and

playing time decisions, along with such other guidelines as each individual coach and sponsor may develop which are not inconsistent with these established guidelines:

1. School Representative. Student participants must demonstrate that they can and will represent themselves and their school in a manner which reflects the development of high ideals and appropriate values, which shall include good citizenship in the school and in the community.
2. Success. Student participants must demonstrate that they can make the activity program more successful, both from a standpoint of competitive success and success in promoting a positive school spirit. Characteristics for purposes of these criteria include the student's: (1) talent or skill, (2) desire to improve the student's own skills or talents as well as those of others in the activity, and (3) attitude of respect towards teammates, the coach, the school, and the community.
3. No Cut Policy. There will not be a pre-season cut policy for any program. Any student who chooses to participate in an activity program sponsored by the district will be allowed to do so as long as they are in good standing according to this handbook and the guidelines established by the coach/sponsor of the program.

## **Section 6 Pre-Practice Regulations**

All students must meet the following requirements and have on file in the activities director's office before they start practice.

1. Physician Clearance (Physical)
2. Parent/Guardian Consent Release
3. NSAA Student/Parent Consent
4. Substance Abuse Policy Abuse Check-out
5. Baseline Concussion Testing\*

\*It is recommended that all athletes receive baseline concussion assessments prior to the beginning of practice. Testing dates will be scheduled by the Activities Director's office and will be updated for each athlete every two years or has been recommended by health professionals.

## **Section 7 Practice Regulations**

The coaches will designate all starting times of practice with no practice beginning before school is dismissed. There shall be no organized or unorganized practices without a coach or sponsor present. This includes the weight room. Any student using school facilities must be supervised.

Students may not drive to the football field/track for football, cross-country, or track practices.

School activities for the purpose of meetings, performances, practices, rehearsals, etc., are not to be scheduled on Sundays. All practices are to be organized so that athletes are in the locker room by 6:00 p.m. on Wednesdays. Special events may be scheduled when necessary and essential by prior approval of the Superintendent of Schools.

## **Section 8      Equipment**

All equipment will be checked out to individuals at the beginning of the season by the head coach in charge. The student will be responsible for this equipment and should be prepared to pay for the cost of replacement if it is not checked in at the end of the season in reasonable condition.

It is the responsibility of the student to check in the equipment at the end of the season or immediately, should he or she quit a sport/activity. If a student fails to check in his or her equipment, he or she will pay for the cost of replacement.

At no time should a student wear equipment checked out to him or her except for practice or contests. Any student found to be wearing school equipment can expect to be treated as possessing property not belonging to him or her.

## **Section 9      Team Travel**

Ainsworth athletic teams, activities groups, and staff members travel to and from athletic events and activities by the school bus or school vehicles. All members of a team or group will return from a contest or activity by the same school transportation provided for taking them to the contest or activity. EXCEPTION: A student may continue on a trip with his or her parents or return home with them by using an Activities Travel Release Form. This form must be completed and personally handed to the Coach/Sponsor after the event is completed and upon departure with the student. Failure to do so will result in the student riding school-provided transportation from the activity. This does not in any way permit a friend of the student to ride home with parents.

Coaches/Sponsors will file this release with the Activities Director upon return to Ainsworth. These forms will be provided to students/parents at each competition and also in the main secondary office. The respective coaches and sponsors will determine traveling squads.

## **Section 10     School Dances**

A school sponsored dance is a school activity subject to all provisions of the Student Activity Code, and is a privilege available to students meeting all requirements for participation.

**General Rules of Student Conduct at Dances.** In addition to all rules of student conduct in the Student handbook, students attending dances shall adhere to the following rules of conduct:

1. Who Can Attend: Only students of Ainsworth Community Schools and their approved dates may attend. The purpose of these activities is to allow students to attend with a date and ACS students in a formal setting, not to invite friends or family relatives from other schools.
  - a. Students currently attending Ainsworth High School or another Nebraska high school who have not been restricted from attending extracurricular activities at Ainsworth High School or their own school are generally considered appropriate dates or invited guests.

- b. Persons who are older than 20 years of age and not attending high school are generally considered to not be appropriate dates or invited guests for our school dances.
  - c. Some school dances may be restricted to students attending specified grades levels at Ainsworth Community Schools. For any dances at the middle school level, only students attending Ainsworth Community Schools in the grade(s) for which the dance is being held may attend.
  - d. Students who are currently suspended from school or from extracurricular activities may not attend.
  - e. The school reserves the right to exclude persons who may or do cause a disruption or detract from the event. Dates or invited guests not attending our school are expected to follow the same rules of conduct which apply to our students.
  - f. Rules for dances may restrict students and their guests from leaving the dance until the dance ends without written parental permission on a form provided.
  - g. Students or their guests who engage in inappropriate behavior, whether on or off of the dance floor, may be asked to leave.
  - h. Guest Permission Forms for non-Ainsworth Community Schools students may be required for dances.
2. Prohibited Substances: Alcoholic beverages, illegal drugs, and tobacco are prohibited. Anyone using prohibited substances or showing the affects of use will not be allowed admission or, if discovered after admission, be removed from the dance and law enforcement will be contacted.

Students and their dates may be required to submit to a breathalyzer prior to gaining entrance. Those who choose not to submit to a breathalyzer will not gain entrance. Law enforcement will be contacted if there is reasonable suspicion that the student or a student's date is under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

3. Appropriate Attire: Students and their guests must meet the dress code requirements established for each dance. Teachers or administrators will make the final decision as to whether or not a student's attire is appropriate. Students will be asked to change unacceptable items, which may mean that the student may have to return home to change the inappropriate clothing. It is advisable to check in advance of the dance with the Principal or staff sponsor for the event if you are uncertain about your attire.

**Eligibility for Selection as Royalty.** Nomination and selection as royalty for school sponsored dances is an honor awarded by students to those of their peers that exemplify the highest standards of integrity and achievement. Students nominated for dance royalty must have demonstrated through their conduct, academic achievement and activities that they have represented, and will represent, themselves, their classmates, and their school in a manner which reflects outstanding effort, commitment to their school and fellow students, and integrity and good citizenship in the school and in the community. The students selected to be the "royalty" for the Homecoming and Prom or any other school sponsored dance or activity shall meet that

general standard as determined by the administration and, in addition, meet the following specific academic, activity and conduct standards:

1. Achievement, Citizenship and Conduct Qualifications:
  - a. The student may not, starting with their first day of school their junior year, including summer/vacation time for Homecoming and Prom Royalty Candidates, first day of school their sophomore year for prom servers, have violated the Substance Abuse/Activity Suspension Policy 5555.
  - b. Students who have received more than one out of school suspension during the school year in which they are eligible to be a Homecoming and Prom Candidate or Prom Server will not be eligible to be a Homecoming or Prom Candidate or Prom Server.
  - c. Students who move into the district will be held to the requirements beginning their first day of school at Ainsworth Community Schools in which the Qualifications would apply to them.
  - d. The student must be enrolled as a full time student at Ainsworth Community Schools.
  
2. Pre-Qualification of and Acceptance by Student: All students nominated for dance royalty shall meet with the Principal. At the meeting the Principal will review the eligibility requirements for the honor of dance royalty. The student will be required to confirm that the student meets all eligibility requirements. The student will be required to confirm his or her acceptance of the nomination for dance royalty and the responsibilities of such an all school honor. The Principal or designee may contact local, county and/or state law enforcement and judicial authorities to confirm a student's eligibility for the honor of being nominated for or awarded dance royalty.
  
3. Specific Dance Eligibility and Selection Requirements:
  - a. Homecoming Royalty (Queen, King, Princess, Prince):
    - Only a senior girl shall be eligible to be Queen/Princess and only a Senior boy shall be eligible to be King/Prince.
    - To be eligible, a candidate must agree to attend the entire Homecoming Dance and represent the school properly.
    - The royalty will be chosen from the qualified nominees by secret vote of the student body during Homecoming week. Crowning will be held at the fall sports event deemed to have the largest attendance.
  
  - b. Prom Royalty (Queen, King, Princess, Prince):
    - Only a Senior girl shall be eligible to be Queen/Princess and a Senior boy shall be eligible to be King/Prince. The candidates may not have been previously selected as royalty at another school sponsored dance.
    - To be eligible, a candidate must agree to attend the entire Prom Dance and represent the school properly.
    - The royalty will be chosen from the qualified nominees by secret vote of the student body.

- Only sophomore students will be chosen to be Prom Servers.

## **Section 11 Relationships Between Parents and Coaches/Sponsors**

Both parenting and coaching are very difficult vocations. By establishing an understanding between coaches and parents, both are better able to accept the actions of the other and provide a more positive experience for everyone.

Parents have the right to know the expectations placed on them and their children. Coaches and sponsors have the right to know that if parents have a concern, they will discuss it with the coach at the appropriate time and place.

### Parents' Role in Interscholastic Athletics and Other Extracurricular Activities

#### Communicating with your children

- Make sure that your children know that win or lose, scared or heroic, you love them, appreciate their efforts and are not disappointed in them. This will allow them to do their best without fear of failure. Be the person in their life they can look to for constant positive reinforcement.
- Try your best to be completely honest about your child's athletic ability, competitive attitude, sportsmanship and actual skill level.
- Be helpful but don't coach them. It's tough not to, but it is a lot tougher for the child to be flooded with advice and critical instruction.
- Teach them to enjoy the thrill of competition, to be "out there trying," to be working to improve their skills and attitudes. Help them develop the feeling for competing, for trying hard, for having fun.
- Try not to relive your athletic life through your child in a way that creates pressure. If they are comfortable with you win or lose, then they are on their way to maximum enjoyment.
- Don't compete with the coach. If your child is receiving mixed messages from two (2) different authority figures, he or she will likely become disenchanted.
- Don't compare the skill, courage, or attitude of your child with other members of the team.
- Get to know the coach(es). Then you can be assured that his or her philosophy, attitudes, ethics, and knowledge are such that you are happy to have your child under his or her leadership.
- Always remember that children tend to exaggerate, both when praised and when criticized. Temper your reaction and investigate before overreacting.

#### Communicating with the Coach

- Communication you should expect from your child's coach includes:
  - Philosophy of the coach
  - Expectations the coach has for your child
  - Locations and times of all practices and contests
  - Team requirements
  - Procedure should your child be injured
  - Discipline that results in the denial of your child's participation

- Communication coaches expect from parents
  - Concerns expressed directly to the coach
  - Notification of any schedule conflicts well in advance
  - Specific concerns in regard to a coach's philosophy and/or expectations
  
- Appropriate concerns to discuss with coaches:
  - The treatment of your child, mentally and physically
  - Ways to help your child improve
  - Concerns about your child's behavior
  
  - Injuries or health concerns. Report injuries to the coach immediately!! Tell the coach about any health concerns that may make it necessary to limit your child's participation or require assistance of trainers. Students are sometimes unwilling to tell coaches when they are injured, so please make sure the coach is told.
  
- Issues not appropriate to discuss with coaches:
  - Playing time
  - Team strategy
  - Play calling
  - Other student-athletes (except for reporting activity code violations)
  
- Appropriate procedures for discussing concerns with the coaches:
  - Call to set up an appointment with the coach
  - Do not confront a coach before or after a contest or practice (these can be emotional times for all parties involved and do not promote resolution)
  
- What should a parent do if the meeting with the coach did not provide satisfactory resolution?
  - Call the athletic director to set up a meeting with the athletic director, coach, and parent present.
  - At this meeting, an appropriate next step can be determined, if necessary.

## **Section 12 Good Sportsmanship—Behavior Expectations of Spectators**

Good sportsmanship is expected to be exhibited by all coaches, sponsors, students, parents and other spectators. The school can be punished by NSAA for a lack of good sportsmanship at NSAA sanctioned events. More importantly, activities are more enjoyable for the students when good sportsmanship is displayed.

### Responsibilities of Spectators Attending Interscholastic Athletics and Other Extracurricular Activities

1. Show interest in the contest by enthusiastically cheering and applauding the performance of both teams.
2. Show proper respect for opening ceremonies by standing at attention and remaining silent when the National Anthem is played.

3. Understand that a ticket is a privilege to observe the contest, not a license to verbally attack others, or to be obnoxious. Maintain self-control.
4. Do not “boo,” stamp feet or make disrespectful remarks toward players or officials.
5. Learn the rules of the game, so that you may understand and appreciate why certain situations take place.
6. Know that noise makers of any kind are not proper for indoor events.
7. Obey and respect officials and faculty supervisors who are responsible for keeping order. Respect the integrity and judgment of game officials.
8. Stay off the playing area at all times.
9. Do not disturb others by throwing material onto the playing area.
10. Show respect for officials, coaches, cheerleaders and student-athletes.
11. Pay attention to the half-time program and do not disturb those who are watching.
12. Respect public property by not damaging the equipment or the facility.
13. Know that the school officials reserve the right to refuse attendance of individuals whose conduct is not proper.
14. Refrain from the use of alcohol and drugs on the site of the contest.

### **Section 13 Student Fees Policy**

The Board of Education of Ainsworth Community Schools has adopted this student fees policy in accordance with the Public Elementary and Secondary Student Fee Authorization Act.

The District’s general policy is to provide for the free instruction in school in accordance with the Nebraska Constitution and state and federal law. This generally means that the District’s policy is to provide free instruction for courses which are required by state law or regulation and to provide the staff, facility, equipment, and materials necessary for such instruction, without charge or fee to the students.

The District does provide activities, programs, and services to children which extend beyond the minimum level of constitutionally required free instruction. Students and their parents have historically contributed to the District’s efforts to provide such activities, programs, and services. The District’s general policy is to continue to encourage and, to the extent permitted by law, to require such student and parent contributions to enhance the educational program provided by the District.

Under the Public Elementary and Secondary Student Fee Authorization Act, the District is required to set forth in a policy its guidelines or policies for specific categories of student fees. The District does so by setting forth the following guidelines and policies. This policy is subject to further interpretation or guidance by administrative or Board regulations which may be adopted from time to time. The Policy includes Appendix “1,” which provides further specifics of student fees and materials required of students for the current school year. Parents, guardians, and students are encouraged to contact their building administration or their teachers or activity coaches and sponsors for further specifics.

(1) Guidelines for non-specialized attire required for specified courses and activities. Students have the responsibility to furnish and wear non-specialized attire meeting general District grooming and attire guidelines, as well as grooming and attire guidelines established for the building or programs attended by the students or in which the students participate. Students

also have the responsibility to furnish and wear non-specialized attire reasonably related to the programs, courses and activities in which the students participate where the required attire is specified in writing by the administrator or teacher responsible for the program, course or activity.

The District will provide or make available to students such safety equipment and attire as may be required by law, specifically including appropriate industrial-quality eye protective devices for courses of instruction in vocational, technical, industrial arts, chemical or chemical-physical classes which involve exposure to hot molten metals or other molten materials, milling, sawing, turning, shaping, cutting, grinding, or stamping of any solid materials, heat treatment, tempering, or kiln firing of any metal or other materials, gas or electric arc welding or other forms of welding processes, repair or servicing of any vehicle, or caustic or explosive materials, or for laboratory classes involving caustic or explosive materials, hot liquids or solids, injurious radiations, or other similar hazards. Building administrators are directed to assure that such equipment is available in the appropriate classes and areas of the school buildings, teachers are directed to instruct students in the usage of such devices and to assure that students use the devices as required, and students have the responsibility to follow such instructions and use the devices as instructed.

(2) Personal or consumable items & miscellaneous

(a) Extracurricular Activities. Students have the responsibility to furnish any personal or consumable items for participation in extracurricular activities.

(b) Courses

(i) General Course Materials. Items necessary for students to benefit from courses will be made available by the District for the use of students during the school day. Students may be encouraged, but not required, to bring items needed to benefit from courses including, but not limited to, pencils, paper, pens, erasers, notebooks, trappers, protractors and math calculators. A specific class supply list will be published annually in a Board-approved student handbook or supplement or other notice. The list may include refundable damage or loss deposits required for usage of certain District property.

(ii) Damaged or Lost Items. Students are responsible for the careful and appropriate use of school property. Students and their parents or guardian will be held responsible for damages to school property where such damage is caused or aided by the student and will also be held responsible for the reasonable replacement cost of school property which is placed in the care of and lost by the student.

(iii) Materials Required for Course Projects. Students are permitted to and may be encouraged to supply materials for course projects. Some course projects (such as projects in art and shop classes) may be kept by the student upon completion. In the event the completed project has more than minimal value, the student may be required, as a condition of the student keeping the completed project, to reimburse the District for the reasonable value of the materials used in the project. Standard project materials will be made available by the District. If a student wants to create a project other than the standard course project, or to use

materials other than standard project materials, the student will be responsible for furnishing or paying the reasonable cost of any such materials for the project.

(iv) Music Course Materials. Students will be required to furnish musical instruments for participation in optional music courses. Use of a musical instrument without charge is available under the District's fee waiver policy. The District is not required to provide for the use of a particular type of musical instrument for any student.

(v) Parking. Students may be required to pay for parking on school grounds or at school-sponsored activities, and may be subject to payment of fines or damages for damages caused with or to vehicles or for failure to comply with school parking rules.

(3) Extracurricular Activities–Specialized equipment or attire. Extracurricular activities means student activities or organizations which are supervised or administered by the District, which do not count toward graduation or advancement between grades, and in which participation is not otherwise required by the District. The District will generally furnish students with specialized equipment and attire for participation in extracurricular activities. The District is not required to provide for the use of any particular type of equipment or attire. Equipment or attire fitted for the student and which the student generally wears exclusively, such as dance squad, cheerleading, and music/dance activity (e.g. choir or show choir) uniforms and outfits, along with T-shirts for teams or band members, will be required to be provided by the participating student. The cost of maintaining any equipment or attire, including uniforms, which the student purchases or uses exclusively, shall be the responsibility of the participating student. Equipment which is ordinarily exclusively used by an individual student participant throughout the year, such as golf clubs, softball gloves, and the like, are required to be provided by the student participant. Items for the personal medical use or enhancement of the student (braces, mouth pieces, and the like) are the responsibility of the student participant. Students have the responsibility to furnish personal or consumable equipment or attire for participation in extra curricular activities or for paying a reasonable usage cost for such equipment or attire. For musical extracurricular activities, students may be required to provide specialized equipment, such as musical instruments, or specialized attire, or for paying a reasonable usage cost for such equipment or attire.

(4) Extracurricular Activities–Fees for participation. Any fees for participation in extra-curricular activities for the current school year are further specified in Appendix "1." Admission fees are charged for extracurricular activities and events.

(5) Postsecondary education costs. Students are responsible for postsecondary education costs. The phrase "postsecondary education costs" means tuition and other fees only associated with obtaining credit from a postsecondary educational institution. For a course in which students receive high school credit and for which the student may also receive postsecondary education credit, the course shall be offered without charge for tuition, transportation, books, or other fees, except tuition and other fees associated with obtaining credits from a postsecondary educational institution.

(6) Transportation costs. Students are responsible for fees established for transportation services provided by the District as and to the extent permitted by federal and state laws and regulations.

(7) Copies of student files or records. The Superintendent or the Superintendent's designee shall establish a schedule of fees representing a reasonable cost of reproduction for copies of a student's files or records for the parents or guardians of such student. A parent, guardian or student who requests copies of files or records shall be responsible for the cost of copies reproduced in accordance with such fee schedule. The imposition of a fee shall not be used to prevent parents of students from exercising their right to inspect and review the students' files or records and no fee shall be charged to search for or retrieve any student's files or records. The fee schedule shall permit one (1) copy of the requested records be provided for or on behalf of the student without charge and shall allow duplicate copies to be provided without charge to the extent required by federal or state laws or regulations.

(8) Participation in before-and-after-school or prekindergarten services. Students are responsible for fees required for participation in before-and-after-school or prekindergarten services offered by the District, except to the extent such services are required to be provided without cost.

(9) Participation in summer school or night school. Students are responsible for fees required for participation in summer school or night school. Students are also responsible for correspondence courses.

(10) Breakfast and lunch programs. Students shall be responsible for items which students purchase from the District's breakfast and lunch programs. The cost of items to be sold to students shall be consistent with applicable federal and state laws and regulations. Students are also responsible for the cost of food, beverages, and personal or consumable items which the students purchase from the District or at school, whether from a "school store," a vending machine, a booster club or parent group sale, a book order club, or the like. Students may be required to bring money or food for field trip lunches and similar activities.

(11) Waiver Policy. The District's policy is to provide fee waivers in accordance with the Public Elementary and Secondary Student Fee Authorization Act. Students who qualify for free or reduced-price lunches under United States Department of Agriculture child nutrition programs shall be provided a fee waiver or be provided the necessary materials or equipment without charge for: (1) participation in extracurricular activities and (2) use of a musical instrument in optional music courses that are not extracurricular activities. Participation in a free-lunch program or reduced-price lunch program is not required to qualify for free or reduced-price lunches for purposes of this section. Students or their parents must request a fee waiver prior to participating in or attending the activity, and prior to purchase of the materials.

(12) Distribution of Policy. The Superintendent or the Superintendent's designee shall publish the District's student fee policy in the Student Handbook or within the School Board Policies. The Handbook and policy shall be provided to the public via the school district website. Parents may request a hard copy of the handbook by contacting their student's respective office.

(13) Student Fee Fund. The School Board hereby establishes a fund where student fees are accounted for under guidance and direction of district audit professionals. The Student Fee Fund shall be a separate school district fund not funded by tax revenue, into which all money collected from students and subject to the Student Fee Fund shall be deposited and from which money shall be expended for the purposes for which it was collected from students. Funds subject to the Student Fee Fund consist of money collected from students for: (1) participation in extracurricular activities, (2) postsecondary education costs, and (3) summer school or night school.

**\*Parents or Guardians who have questions regarding the student fee policy, fees and eligibility, and assistance with the waiver process are encouraged to contact the District Office by calling 402-387-2333.**

**Article 10 – State and Federal Programs**

**Section 1 Notice of Nondiscrimination**

The Ainsworth Community Schools does not discriminate on the basis of sex, disability, race (including skin color, hair texture and protective hairstyles), color, religion, veteran status, national or ethnic origin, age, marital status, pregnancy, childbirth or related medical condition, sexual orientation or gender identity, or other protected status in the admission, access to its facilities or programs or activities, treatment, or employment.

**Section 2 Designation of Coordinators**

Any person having concerns or needing information about the District’s compliance with anti-discrimination laws or policies should contact the District’s designated Coordinator for the applicable anti-discrimination law.

Law, Policy or Program	Issue or Concern	Coordinator
Title VI	Discrimination or harassment based on race (including skin color, hair texture and protective hairstyles), color, or national origin; harassment	Superintendent
Title IX	Discrimination or harassment based on sex; gender equity	Elementary Principal
Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and the Americans with Disability Act (ADA)	Discrimination, harassment or reasonable accommodations of persons with disabilities	Superintendent
Homeless student laws	Children who are homeless	Superintendent
Safe and Drug Free Schools and Communities	Safe and drug free schools	Superintendent

The Coordinator may be contacted at: [Address], [Name], Nebraska [Zip Code], telephone number ([Area Code]) [Telephone Number].

### **Section 3      Anti-discrimination & Harassment Policy**

Elimination of Discrimination. The Ainsworth Community Schools hereby gives this statement of compliance and intent to comply with all state and federal laws prohibiting discrimination or harassment and requiring accommodations. This school district intends to take necessary measures to assure compliance with such laws against any prohibited form of discrimination or harassment or which require accommodations.

#### Preventing Harassment and Discrimination of Students.

Purpose: Ainsworth Community Schools is committed to offering employment and educational opportunities to its employees and students in a climate free of discrimination. Accordingly, unlawful discrimination or harassment of any kind by administrators, teachers, co-workers, students or other persons is prohibited. In addition, Ainsworth Community Schools will try to protect employees and students from reported discrimination or harassment by non-employees or others in the work place and educational environment.

For purposes of this policy, discrimination or harassment based on a person's sex, disability, race (including skin color, hair texture and protective hairstyles), color, religion, veteran status, national or ethnic origin, age, marital status, pregnancy, childbirth or related medical condition, sexual orientation or gender identity, or other protected status, is prohibited. The following are general definitions of what might constitute prohibited harassment.

In general, ethnic or racial slurs or other verbal or physical conduct relating to a person's sex, disability, race (including skin color, hair texture and protective hairstyles), color, religion, veteran status, national or ethnic origin, age, marital status, pregnancy, childbirth or related medical condition, sexual orientation or gender identity, or other protected status constitute harassment when they unreasonably interfere with the person's work performance or create an intimidating work, instructional or educational environment.

Age harassment (40 years of age and higher) has been defined by federal regulations as a form of age discrimination. It can consist of demeaning jokes, insults or intimidation based on a person's age.

Sexual harassment is defined by federal and state regulations as a form of sex discrimination. It can consist of unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, or physical or verbal conduct of a sexual nature by supervisors or others in the work place, classroom or educational environment.

Sexual harassment may exist when:

Submission to such conduct is either an explicit or implicit term and condition of employment or of participation and enjoyment of the school's programs and activities;

Submission to or rejection of such conduct is used or threatened as a basis for employment related decisions, such as promotion, performance, evaluation, pay adjustment, discipline, work assignment, etc., or school program or activity decisions, such as admission, credits, grades, school assignments or playing time.

The conduct has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with an individual's work or educational performance or creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive working, class room or educational environment.

Sexual harassment may include explicit sexual propositions, sexual innuendo, suggestive comments, sexually oriented "kidding" or "teasing", "practical jokes", jokes about gender-specific traits, foul or obscene language or gestures, displays of foul or obscene printed or visual material, and physical contact, such as patting, pinching or brushing against another's body.

#### Complaint and Grievance Procedures:

Employees or students should initially report all instances of discrimination or harassment to their immediate supervisor or classroom teacher. However, if the employee or student is uncomfortable in presenting the problem to the supervisor or teacher, or if the supervisor or teacher is the problem, the employee or student is encouraged to go to the next level of supervision. In the case of a student, the Principal would be the next or alternative person to contact.

If the employee or student's complaint is not resolved to his or her satisfaction within five (5) to ten (10) calendar days, or if the discrimination or harassment continues, or if as a student you feel you need immediate help for any reason, please report your complaint to the Superintendent of Ainsworth Community Schools. If a satisfactory arrangement cannot be obtained through the Superintendent, the complaint may be processed to the Board of Education.

The supervisor, teacher or the Superintendent will promptly and thoroughly investigate all complaints. These situations will be treated with the utmost confidence, consistent with resolution of the problem. Based on the results of the investigation, appropriate corrective action, up to and including discharge of offending employees, and disciplinary action up to expulsion against a harassing student, may be taken. Under no circumstances will any threats or retaliation be permitted to be made against an employee or student for alleging in good faith a violation of this policy.

#### **Section 4      Multicultural Policy**

The philosophy of the District's multicultural education program is that students will have improved ability to function as productive members of society when provided with: (a) an understanding of diverse cultures and races, the manner in which the existence of diverse cultures and races have affected the history of our Nation and the world, and of the contributions made by diverse cultures and races (including but not be limited to African Americans, Hispanic Americans, Native Americans, Asian Americans and European Americans) and (b) with the ability and skills to be sensitive toward and to study, work and live successively with persons of diverse cultures and races. The mission shall also include preparing students to eliminate stereotypes and discrimination or harassment of others based on ethnicity, religion, gender, socioeconomic status, age, or disability.

## **Section 5 Notice to Parents of Rights Afforded by Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973**

The following is a description of the rights granted to qualifying students with disabilities under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act. The intent of the law is to keep you fully informed concerning the decisions about your child and to inform you of your rights if you disagree with any of these decisions. You have the right to:

1. Have your child take part in, and receive benefits from, public education programs without discrimination because of his/her disability.
2. Have the school district advise you of your rights under federal law.
3. Receive notice with respect to identification, evaluation or placement of your child.
4. Have your child receive a free appropriate public education.
5. Have your child receive services and be educated in facilities which are comparable to those provided to every student.
6. Have evaluation, educational and placement decisions made based on a variety of information sources and by persons who know the student and who are knowledgeable about the evaluation data and placement options.
7. Have transportation provided to and from an alternative placement setting (if the setting is a program not operated by the district) at no greater cost to you than would be incurred if the student were placed in a program operated by the district.
8. Have your child be given an equal opportunity to participate in nonacademic and extracurricular activities offered by the district.
9. Examine all relevant records relating to decisions regarding your child's identification, evaluation and placement.
10. Request mediation or an impartial due process hearing related to decisions or actions regarding your child's identification, evaluation, educational program or placement. (You and your child may take part in the hearing. Hearing requests are to be made to the Superintendent.)
11. File a local grievance.

## **Section 6 Notification of Rights Under FERPA**

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

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

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

2. The right to request the amendment of the student's education records that the parent or eligible student believes are inaccurate or misleading.

Parents or eligible students may ask the School District to amend a record that they believe is inaccurate or misleading. They should write the school principal, clearly identify the part of the record they want changed, and specify why it is inaccurate or misleading. If the District decides not to amend the record as requested by the parent or eligible student, the District will notify the parent or eligible student of the decision and advise them of their right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment. Additional information regarding the hearing procedures will be provided to the parent or eligible student when notified of the right to a hearing.

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

One exception which permits disclosure without consent is disclosure to school officials with legitimate educational interests. A school official is a person employed by the District as an administrator, supervisor, instructor or support staff member (including health or medical staff and law enforcement unit personnel); a person serving on the School Board; a person or company with whom the District has contracted to perform a special task (such as an attorney, auditor, medical consultant or therapist); or a parent or student serving on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee or assisting another school official in performing his or her tasks.

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

Upon request, the District discloses education records without consent to officials of another School District in which a student seeks or intends to enroll.

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

Family Policy Compliance Office  
U.S. Department of Education  
400 Maryland Avenue, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20202-4605

#### **Notice Concerning Directory Information**

The District may disclose directory information. The types of personally identifiable information that the District has designated as directory information are as follows:

1. Student's Name, address, telephone listing, and the name, address, telephone listings (if not unlisted), e-mail address and work or other contact information of the student's parent/guardian or other adult acting in loco parentis or with authority to act as parent or guardian in educational matters for the student;

2. School and dates of attendance;
3. Student's current grade;
4. Student's enrollment status (e.g. full-time or part-time);
5. Student's date of birth and place of birth;
6. Student's extra-curricular participation;
7. Student's achievement awards or honors;
8. Student's weight and height if a member of an athletic team;
9. Student's photograph; and
10. School or school district the student attended before he or she enrolled in Ainsworth Community Schools.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, the District does not designate as directory information personally identifiable information from students' education records where the District determines that the disclosure to the potential recipient poses a risk to student safety or well-being, including but not limited to circumstances where the potential recipient is a registered sex offender and the personally identifiable information would permit the potential recipient to communicate with or otherwise contact the student.

A parent or eligible student has the right to refuse to let the District designate information about the student as directory information. The period of time within which a parent or eligible student has to notify the District in writing that he or she does not want information about the student designated as directory information is as follows: two (2) weeks from the time this information is first received. Please contact the Superintendent's office to indicate your refusal to have your child's information designated as directory information.

The District may disclose information about former students without meeting the conditions in this section.

The District's policy is for education records to be kept confidential except as permitted by the FERPA law, and the District does not approve any practice which involves an unauthorized disclosure of education records. In some courses student work may be displayed or made available to others. Also, some teachers may have persons other than the teacher or school staff, such as volunteers or fellow students, assist with the task of grading student work and returning graded work to students. The District does not either approve or disapprove such teaching practices, and designates such student work as directory information and/or as non-education records. Each parent and eligible student shall be presumed to have accepted this designation in the absence of the parent or eligible student giving notification to the District in writing in the manner set forth above pertaining to the designation of directory information. Consent will be presumed to have been given in the absence of such a notification from the parent or eligible student.

Notice Concerning Designation of Law Enforcement Unit:

The District designates the [Name] Police Department as the District's "law enforcement unit" for purposes of (1) enforcing any and all federal, state or local law, (2) maintaining the physical security and safety of the schools in the District, and (3) maintaining safe and drug free schools.

## **Section 7 Military Recruiters**

The District will provide military recruiters with access to routine directory information of each high school student, unless the student's parent or guardian requests in writing that their student's information not be shared with a military recruiter. Parents and guardians who do not want their student's information to be shared with a military recruiter must notify the high school principal in writing. If a parent or guardian does not notify the high school principal in writing, the District will provide a military recruiter with the student's routine directory information.

## **Section 8 Combined District and School Title I Parent and Family Involvement (Policy No. )1005.03 and 1005.12)**

Ainsworth Community School District intends to follow the Title I Parent and Family Engagement Policy guidelines in accordance with federal law, Section 1116(a-f) ESSA (Every Student Succeeds Act) of 2015.

### In General

The written District parent and family engagement policy has been developed jointly with, updated periodically and distributed to parents and family members of participating children and the local community in an understandable and uniform format. This policy agreed on by such parents describes the means for carrying out the requirements as listed below.

- Parents and family members of all students are welcomed and encouraged to become involved with their child's school and education; this includes parents and family members that have limited English proficiency, limited literacy, are economically disadvantaged, have disabilities, racial or ethnic minority background or are migratory children. Information related to school and parent programs, meetings, school reports and other activities are sent to the parents of participating children in a format, and to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand.
- Parents are involved in the planning, review, evaluation and improvement of the Title I program, Parent and Family Engagement Policy and the School-Parent Compact at an annual parent meeting scheduled at a convenient time. This would include the planning and implementation of effective parent and family involvement activities.
- Conduct, with meaningful parent and family involvement, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the Parent and Family Engagement Policy. Use the evaluation findings to design evidence-based strategies for more effective parental involvement, and to revise the Parent and Family Engagement Policy.
- Opportunities are provided for parents and family members to participate in decisions related to the education of their child/children. The school and local educational agency shall provide other reasonable support for parental involvement activities.
- Parents of participating children will be provided timely information about programs under this part, a description and explanation of the curriculum in use, the forms of academic assessment used to measure student progress and the achievement levels of the

challenging State academic standards. The school will provide assistance, opportunities, and/or materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve their children's academic achievement in a format, and when feasible, in a language the parents and family members can understand.

- Educate teachers, specialized instructional support personnel, principals, and other school leaders, with the assistance of parents in the value and utility of contributions of parents, how to reach out to, communicate with and work with parents as equal partners.
- Coordinate and integrate parental involvement programs and activities with other Federal, State and local programs, including preschool programs that encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children.

### **Section 9 Student Privacy Protection Policy**

It is the policy of Ainsworth Community Schools to develop and implement policies which protect the privacy of students in accordance with applicable laws. The District's policies in this regard include the following:

Right of Parents to Inspect Surveys Funded or Administered by the United States Department of Education or Third Parties: Parents shall have the right to inspect, upon the parent's request, a survey created by and administered by either the United States Department of Education or a third party (a group or person other than the District) before the survey is administered or distributed by the school to the parent's child.

Protection of Student Privacy in Regard to Surveys of Matters Deemed to be Sensitive: The District will require, for any survey of students which contain one or more matters deemed to be sensitive (see section headed "Definition of Surveys of Matters Deemed to be Sensitive"), that suitable arrangements be made to protect student privacy (that is, the name or other identifying information about a particular student). For such surveys, the District will also follow the procedures set forth in the section entitled: "Notification of and Right to Opt-Out of Specific Events."

Right of Parents to Inspect Instructional Materials: Parents have the right to inspect, upon reasonable request, any instructional material used as part of the educational curriculum for their child. Reasonable requests for inspection of instructional materials shall be granted within a reasonable period of time after the request is received. Parents shall not have the right to access academic tests or academic assessments, as such are not within the meaning of the term "instructional materials" for purposes of this policy. The procedures for making and granting a request to inspect instructional materials are as follows: the parent shall make the request, with reasonable specificity, directly to the building principal. The building principal, within five (5) school days, shall consult with the teacher or other educator responsible for the curriculum materials. In the event the request can be accommodated, the building principal shall make the materials available for inspection or review by the parent, at such reasonable times and place as will not interfere with the educator's intended use of the materials. In the event there is a question as to the nature of the curriculum materials requested or as to whether the materials are required to be provided, the building principal shall notify the parent of such concern, and assist

the parent with forming a request which can reasonably be accommodated. If the parent does not formulate such a request, and continues to desire certain curriculum materials, the parent shall be asked to make their request to the Superintendent.

Rights of Parents to be Notified of and to Opt-Out of Certain Physical Examinations or Screenings. The general policy and practice of the District is to not administer physical examinations or screenings of students which require advance notice or parental opt-out rights under the applicable federal laws, for the reason that the physical examinations or screenings to be conducted by the District will usually fit into one of the following exceptions: (1) hearing, vision, or scoliosis screenings; (2) physical examinations or screenings that are permitted or required by an applicable State law; and (3) surveys administered to students in accordance with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. For physical examinations or screenings which do not fit into the applicable exceptions, the District will follow the procedures set forth in the section entitled: “Notification of and Right to Opt-Out of Specific Events.”

Protection of Student Privacy in Regard to Personal Information Collected from Students: The general policy and practice of the District is to not engage in the collection, disclosure, or use of personal information collected from students for the purpose of marketing or for selling that information. The District will make reasonable arrangements to protect student privacy to the extent possible in the event of any such collection, disclosure, or use of personal information. “Personal information” for purposes of this policy means individually identifiable information about a student including: a student or parent’s first and last name, home address, telephone number, and social security number. The term “personal information,” for purposes of this policy, does not include information collected from students for the exclusive purpose of developing, evaluating, or providing educational products or services for, or to, students or educational institutions. This exception includes the following examples: (i) college or postsecondary education recruitment, or military recruitment; (ii) book clubs, magazines, and programs providing access to low-cost literary products; (iii) curriculum and instructional materials used by elementary schools and secondary schools; (iv) tests and assessments used by elementary schools and secondary schools to provide cognitive, evaluative, diagnostic, clinical, aptitude, or achievement information about student, or to generate other statistically useful data for the purpose of securing such tests and assessments, and the subsequent analysis and public release of the aggregate data from such tests and assessments; (v) the sale by student of products or services to raise funds for school-related or education-related activities; (vi) student recognition programs.

Parental Access to Instruments used in the Collection of Personal Information: While the general practice of the District is to not engage in the collection, disclosure, or use of personal information collected from students for the purpose of marketing or for selling that information, parents shall have the right to inspect, upon reasonable request, any instrument which may be administered or distributed to a student for such purposes. Reasonable requests for inspection shall be granted within a reasonable period of time after the request is received. The procedures for making and granting such a request are as follows: the parent shall make the request, with reasonable specificity, directly to the building principal and shall identify the specific act and the school staff member or program responsible for the collection, disclosure, or use of personal information from students for the purpose of marketing that information. The building principal,

within five (5) school days, shall consult with the school staff member or person responsible for the program which has been reported by the parent to be responsible for the collection, disclosure, or use of personal information from students. In the event such collection, disclosure, or use of personal information is occurring or there is a plan for such to occur, the building principal shall consult with the Superintendent for determination of whether the action shall be allowed to continue. If not, the instrument for the collection of personal information shall not be given to any students. If it is to be allowed, such instrument shall be provided to the requesting parent as soon as such instrument can be reasonably obtained.

Annual Parental Notification of Student Privacy Protection Policy: The District provides parents with reasonable notice of the adoption or continued use of this policy and other policies related to student privacy. Such notice shall be given to parents of students enrolled in the District at least annually, at the beginning of the school year, and within a reasonable period of time after any substantive change in such policies.

Notification to Parents of Dates of and Right to Opt-Out of Specific Events: The District will directly notify the parents of the affected children, at least annually at the beginning of the school year, of the specific or approximate dates during the school year when any of the following activities are scheduled, or are expected to be scheduled:

The collection, disclosure, or use of personal information collected from students for the purpose of marketing or for selling that information. (Note: the general practice of the District is to not engage in the collection, disclosure, or use of personal information collected from students for the purpose of marketing or for selling that information).

Surveys of students involving one or more matters deemed to be sensitive in accordance with the law and this policy; and,

Any non-emergency, invasive physical examination or screening that is required as a condition of attendance; administered by the school and scheduled by the school in advance; and not necessary to protect the immediate health and safety of the student or of other students. (Note: the general practice of the District is to not engage in physical examinations or screenings which require advance notice, for the reason that the physical examinations or screenings to be conducted by the District will usually fit into one of the following exceptions to the advance notice requirement and parental opt-out right: (1) hearing, vision, or scoliosis screenings; (2) physical examinations or screenings that are permitted or required by an applicable State law, and (3) surveys administered to students in accordance with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act ).

Parents shall be offered an opportunity in advance to opt their child out of participation in any of the above listed activities.

In the case of a student of an appropriate age (that is, a student who has reached the age of 18, or a legally emancipated student), the notice and opt-out right shall belong to the student.

Definition of Surveys of Matters Deemed to be Sensitive: Any survey containing one or more of the following matters shall be deemed to be “sensitive” for purposes of this policy:

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

## **Section 10 Parental Involvement**

### **A. General - Parental/Community Involvement in Schools:**

Ainsworth Community Schools welcomes parental involvement in the education of their children. We recognize that parental involvement increases student success. It is the District’s policy to foster and facilitate, to the extent appropriate and in their primary language, parental information about, and involvement in, the education of their children. Policies and regulations are established to protect the emotional, physical and social well-being of all students.

1. Parental involvement is a part of the ongoing and timely planning, review and improvement of district and building programs.
2. Parents are encouraged to support the implementation of district policies and regulations.
3. Parents are encouraged to monitor their student’s progress by reviewing quarterly report cards and attending parent-teacher conferences.
4. Textbooks, tests and other curriculum materials used in the district are available for review by parents upon request.
5. Parents are provided access to records of students according to law and school policy.
6. Parents are encouraged to attend courses, assemblies, counseling sessions and other instructional activities with prior approval of the proper teacher or counselor and administrator. Parents’ continued attendance at such activities will be based on the students’ well-being.
7. Testing occurs in this school district as determined to be appropriate by district staff to assure proper measurement of educational progress and achievement.
8. Parents submitting written requests to have their student excused from testing, classroom instruction and other school experiences will be granted that request when possible and educationally appropriate. Requests should be submitted to the proper teacher or administrator within a reasonable time prior to the testing, classroom instruction or other school experience and should be accompanied by a written explanation for the request. A plan for an acceptable alternative shall be

approved by the proper teacher and administrator prior to, or as a part of, the granting of any parent request.

9. Participation in surveys of students occurs in this district when determined appropriate by district staff for educational purposes. Parents will be notified prior to the administration of surveys in accordance with district policy. Timely written parental requests to remove students from such surveys will be granted in accordance with district policy and law. In some cases, parental permission must be given before the survey is administered.
10. Parents are invited to express their concerns, share their ideas and advocate for their children's education with board members, administrators and staff.
11. School district staff and parents will participate in an annual evaluation and revision, if needed, of the content and effectiveness of the parental involvement policy.

## **Section 11 Homeless Students**

### **A. General Policy Statement**

The District shall ensure that homeless children and youths shall have equal access to the same free, appropriate public education, including public preschool education, as provided to other children and youths.

### **B. Definitions**

“School of Origin” shall mean the school that a child or youth attended when permanently housed or the school in which the child or youth was last enrolled, including preschool. School of origin shall also include any designated receiving school for the next grade level for all feeder schools when a student completes the final grade level served by the school of origin.

“Homeless children and youths” shall mean any individuals who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence; and includes:

1. Children and youths who are sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason; are living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or camping grounds due to the lack of alternative adequate accommodations; are living in emergency or transitional shelters; or are abandoned in hospitals;
2. Children and youths who have a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings;
3. Children and youths who are living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations, or similar settings; and

4. Migratory children who qualify as homeless because they are living in circumstances described in (1-3).

“Unaccompanied youth” shall mean a homeless child or youth not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian.

C. School Stability

1. School Selection: Each school shall presume that keeping a homeless child or youth enrolled in the child’s or youth’s school of origin is in the child’s or youth’s best interest, except when doing so is contrary to the request of the child’s or youth’s parent or guardian or, in the case of an unaccompanied youth, the youth.

To overcome the presumption that a child or youth should remain in his/her school of origin, the school shall consider student-centered factors including: the impact of mobility on achievement, education, health, and safety of homeless children and youth, giving priority to the request of the child’s or youth’s parent or guardian or, in the case of an unaccompanied youth, the youth.

2. Enrollment: Once the school is selected in accordance with the child’s or youth’s best interest, that child or youth shall be immediately enrolled even if the child or youth is unable to produce records normally required for enrollment including, but not limited to, previous academic records, immunization or other health records, proof of residency or has missed any application or enrollment deadlines during any period of homelessness.
3. Transportation: If the child or youth continues to attend his or her school of origin, transportation shall be provided promptly even if there is a dispute pending regarding which school is in the child’s or youth’s best interest to attend. Transportation will continue to be provided to and from the school of origin for the remainder of any academic year during which the child or youth becomes permanently housed.

D. Records

Any record ordinarily kept by the school, including immunization or medical records, academic records, birth certificates, guardianship records, and evaluations for special services or programs, regarding each homeless child or youth shall be maintained:

1. Such that all records are available, in a timely fashion, when a child or youth enrolls in a new school or school district;
2. Any information about a homeless child’s or youth’s living situation shall be treated as a confidential student education record, and shall not be deemed to be directory information; and

3. In a manner consistent with the Federal Education Rights and Privacy Act.

E. Services

The Local Education Agency Liaison shall identify an appropriate staff person to be the Local Educational Liaison (LEL) for all homeless children and youth attending school in the District. The LEL responsibilities shall include, but are not limited to:

1. Ensure homeless children and youth are identified through outreach and coordination activities including coordination with the Nebraska Department of Education Homeless Education Liaison, community, and school personnel responsible for education and related services to homeless children and youths;
2. Receive appropriate time and training in order to carry out the duties required by law and this policy;
3. Ensure homeless families and homeless children and youths are referred to health care, dental, mental health, substance abuse, housing and any other appropriate services;
4. Ensure that homeless children and youths:
  - a. Are enrolled in school which includes attending classes and participating fully in school activities;
  - b. Have a full and equal opportunity to meet the same challenging State academic standards as other children and youths;
  - c. Receive individualized counseling from counselors to prepare and improve their readiness for college, including college selection, application, financial aid, and on-campus supports.
  - d. Unaccompanied youths are informed of their status as independent students under the Higher Education Act of 1965 and may obtain assistance from the LEL to receive verification of such status for purposes of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid.
5. Ensure that public notice of the educational rights and available transportation services of the homeless children and youths is disseminated in locations frequented by parents or guardians of such youths and unaccompanied homeless youths, including schools, shelters, public libraries, and soup kitchens, in a manner and form that is easily understandable.
6. Ensure the dispute resolution process identified below is carried out in accordance with the law and district policy.

F. Dispute Resolution

1. The dispute procedure must be available for disputes over eligibility, as well as school selection or enrollment.
2. In the event of a dispute regarding where a child or youth should enroll, the child or youth shall be immediately enrolled in the school in which enrollment is sought pending final resolution of the dispute, including all available appeals. The district shall immediately provide the child's parent or guardian or, in the case of an unaccompanied youth, the youth a written explanation of the decision made regarding the school selection including the right to appeal such decision. Said writing shall be provided in a manner and form understandable to such parent, guardian, or unaccompanied youth and also include the LEL contact information. The LEL shall carry out the dispute resolution process within 30 calendar days from the date of said writing pursuant to 92 Nebraska Administrative Code 19-005.02.
3. Appeals: Any parent, guardian or other person having legal or actual charge of a homeless child or youth that is dissatisfied with the decision of a school district after the dispute resolution process may file an appeal with the Commissioner within thirty calendar days of receipt of the decision by following the process in 92 Nebraska Administrative Code 19-005.03 and 19-005.03C.

No Stigmatization or Segregation of Homeless Students: It is the District's policy and practice to ensure that homeless children are not stigmatized or segregated by the District on the basis of their status as homeless.

Homeless Coordinator: The Homeless Coordinator shall serve as the school liaison for homeless children and youth and shall ensure that: (1) homeless children are identified by school personnel; (2) homeless children enroll in, and have a full and equal opportunity to succeed in, school; (3) homeless children and their families receive educational service for which they are eligible and referrals to health, dental, and mental health services and other appropriate services; (4) the parents or guardians of homeless children are informed of the educational and related opportunities available to their children and provided with meaningful opportunities to participate in the education of their children; (5) public notice of the educational rights of homeless children is disseminated where such children receive services under the federal homeless children laws, such as schools, family shelters, and soup kitchens; (6) enrollment disputes are mediated in accordance with law; and (7) the parents or guardians of homeless children, and any unaccompanied youth, are fully informed of transportation services available under law. The Homeless Coordinator shall coordinate with the Nebraska Commissioner of Education and community and school personnel responsible for the provisions of education and related services to homeless children. The Homeless Coordinator may designate duties hereunder as the Homeless Coordinator determines to be appropriate.

Enrollment of and Services to Homeless Children: A homeless child shall be enrolled in compliance with law and be provided services comparable to services offered to other students in

the school in which the homeless child has been placed. Placement of a homeless child is determined based on the child's "school of origin" and the "best interests" of the child. The "school of origin" means the school that the child attended when permanently housed or the school in which the child was last enrolled. Placement decisions shall be made according to the District's determination of the child's best interests, and shall be at either: (1) the child's school of origin for the duration of the child's homelessness (or, if the child becomes permanently housed during the school year, for the remainder of that school year) or (2) the school of the attendance area where the child is actually living. To the extent feasible, the placement shall be in the school of origin, except when such is contrary to the wishes of the homeless child's parent or legal guardian. If the placement is not in the school of origin or a school requested by the homeless child's parent or legal guardian, the District shall provide a written explanation of the placement decision and a statement of appeal rights to the parent or guardian as provided in Nebraska Rule 19.

If the homeless child is an unaccompanied youth, the Homeless Coordinator shall assist in the placement decision, consider the views of the unaccompanied youth, and provide the unaccompanied youth with notice of the right to appeal. The process to resolve disputes concerning the enrollment or placement of a homeless child or youth is as follows:

1. The district shall provide a written response and explanation of a decision regarding any complaint or dispute of a parent, guardian or other person having legal or actual charge or control of a homeless child or youth within thirty (30) calendar days of the time such complaint or dispute is brought;
2. The enrollment of the homeless child or youth in the school where enrollment is sought during the time such dispute is being considered;
3. And notice of the right to appeal as provided in Nebraska Rule 19.

Any parent, guardian or other person having legal or actual charge or control of a homeless child or youth that is dissatisfied with the decision of a school district after the dispute resolution process may file an appeal with the Commissioner of the Nebraska Department of Education within thirty (30) calendar days of receipt of the decision. Such appeals are informal and shall be submitted to the Commissioner in writing, as outlined in Nebraska Department of Education Rule 19, Section 005.03. The District shall immediately contact the school last attended by the homeless child to obtain relevant academic and other records. If the homeless child needs to obtain immunizations or medical records, the District shall immediately refer the parent or guardian of the homeless child to the Homeless Coordinator, who shall assist in obtaining necessary immunizations or medical records. The District may nonetheless require the parent or guardian of the homeless child to submit contact information.

Transportation will be provided to homeless students, to the extent required by law and comparable to that provided to students who are not homeless, upon request of the parent or guardian of the homeless child, or by the Homeless Coordinator in the case of an unaccompanied youth, as follows: (1) if the homeless child's school of origin is in the District, and the homeless child continues to live in the District, transportation to and from the school of origin shall be provided by the District; and (2) if the homeless child lives in a school other than the District, but continues to attend the Ainsworth Community Schools based on it being the school of origin, the

new school and Ainsworth Community Schools shall agree upon a method to apportion the responsibility and costs for providing the child with transportation to and from the school of origin and, if they are unable to agree, the responsibility and cost for transportation shall be shared equally.

## **Section 12 Pregnant and Parenting Students**

Ainsworth Community Schools recognizes that pregnant and parenting students have the right and responsibility to attend school. This attendance right and responsibility applies to students regardless of their marital or parental status. Further, the district will educate pregnant and parenting students and will provide reasonable accommodations to support and encourage all pregnant and parenting students to obtain their high school diploma. No student will be excluded from, denied the benefit of, or discriminated against under any educational program or activity because of pregnancy or parenting responsibilities.

### Attendance and Leave of Absences

Pregnant and parenting students will be permitted to attend to their own health care, their child's medical care, or other pregnancy- or parenting- related appointments with the benefit of having any such absences or tardiness excused. A student will be permitted to take a leave of absence for pregnancy, childbirth, and any other pre- and post-natal related medical needs, along with recovery therefrom for the duration that is deemed medically necessary by the student's licensed health care provider. At the conclusion of the leave of absence, a student will be immediately enrolled in the district at the same grade and status as when the leave began. Pregnant and parenting students shall be allowed to participate in all activities including extracurricular activities throughout the student's pregnancy and thereafter unless the district deems such participation poses a substantial risk of injury to the student or to others. A pregnant and parenting student may be asked to obtain certification from the student's licensed healthcare provider regarding the student's safe participation in an extracurricular activity when such certification is required of students for other conditions which require the attention of a licensed healthcare provider.

Any absences accumulated due to pregnancy or pregnancy-related conditions, or care for an ill child, should not count towards any district policies in effect under compulsory attendance requirements. Pregnant and parenting students with excused absences or tardiness shall be treated like all other students with excused absences or tardiness for any other medical reasons.

Pregnant and parenting students will be provided with assignments, classwork and any additional support needed to ensure that the student can keep up with class requirements when absent for pregnancy or parenting-related absences.

### Alternative Means to Complete Course Work

The district will provide at least one alternate method, in addition to traditional classroom instruction, to keep pregnant and parenting students in school. Such accommodation(s) may include accessing coursework online, home-based independent study, or at-home tutoring. Alternative methods of instruction or other alternative program for pregnant and parenting students are voluntary for the student who may elect whether to engage in an alternative method of instruction or the traditional methods of instruction available to their peers. Pregnant and

parenting students shall be allowed to attend their regular classrooms and complete regular coursework.

### Lactation

The district will provide reasonable time and space to accommodate lactating students to express breast milk or breastfeed during the school day. Such accommodations will be in a location, other than a bathroom or closet, that is private, clean, has an electrical outlet, a chair and is reasonably accessible. Students shall also be provided a food safe refrigerator to store breast milk safely.

### Child Care

If in-school child care is not provided, a list of qualified licensed child care providers will be provided upon request to pregnant or parenting students. Such list will be updated annually and include providers that participate in the quality rating and improvement system and meet all of the quality rating criteria for at least a stepthree rating pursuant to the Step Up to Quality Child Care Act. Nothing in this policy is intended to prohibit or limit any referral for a student or a student's child to an early head start program or any other available community resources.

### Privacy and Confidentiality

Pregnant and parenting students have the right to have their health and personal information kept confidential in accordance with law. School staff will make every effort to keep personal information and health records confidential and in compliance with Nebraska and federal law.

Information about students' pregnancies and related conditions will not appear in their cumulative records and will not be used when they are being considered for educational or job opportunities, awards or scholarships.

### Other Accommodations

Pregnant and parenting students may request additional reasonable accommodations to ensure continued participation and enrollment in school. Accommodation requests will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis. Such accommodations may include but are not limited to: additional frequency allowed for bathroom breaks, additional time allowed in between class periods, a larger desk or additional work space, and adjustments to requirements for physical education as needed. Students seeking additional reasonable accommodation should make such requests to the building principal.

### Bullying and Harassment

Pregnant and parenting students have the same rights as other students to be free from discrimination, bullying, and harassment. Such school policies are incorporated herein and apply to all students.

### Policy Dissemination

This policy will be available at the beginning of each school year on the district's website and will be incorporated into the student handbook.

**Section 13 Married Students**

Married students shall have the same educational opportunities in this school system as unmarried students. There shall be no discrimination on the basis of sex, marital status of any person, or the condition of being a parent. To enforce this prohibition, aggrieved persons shall use the District's anti-discrimination policies.

## AVAILABILITY OF HANDBOOKS

The 2023-2024 Student-Parent Handbook of Ainsworth Community Schools is available on the internet at [www.ainsworthschools.org](http://www.ainsworthschools.org). This allows the public continuous access to the handbooks and policies of the district by linking them to the district website.

If you would prefer a paper copy of this handbook, please contact the high school office at 402-387-2082 and we would be happy to provide each family with a copy.

## RECEIPT OF 2023-2024 STUDENT-PARENT HANDBOOK

This receipt below is available for digital signature on Powerschool and acknowledges receipt of the 2023-2024 Student-Parent Handbook of Ainsworth Community Schools. It is understood that the handbook contains student conduct and discipline rules and information about Safe and Drug-Free Schools and students agree to follow such conduct and discipline rules. This receipt also serves to acknowledge that it is understood that the District's policies of non-discrimination and equity, and that specific complaint and grievance procedures exist in the handbook which should be used to respond to harassment or discrimination.

"THIS RECEIPT SHALL SERVE TO DEMONSTRATE THAT YOU AS PARENT OR GUARDIAN OF A STUDENT ATTENDING THIS SCHOOL DISTRICT HAVE RECEIVED NOTICE OF THE STANDARDS OF CONDUCT OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT EXACTED OF STUDENTS CONCERNING THE ABSOLUTE PROHIBITION AGAINST THE UNLAWFUL POSSESSION, USE, OR DISTRIBUTION OF ILLICIT DRUGS OR ALCOHOL ON SCHOOL PREMISES OR AS A PART OF ANY OF THE SCHOOL'S ACTIVITIES AS DESCRIBED IN SCHOOL BOARD POLICY OR ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATION. THIS NOTICE IS BEING PROVIDED TO YOU PURSUANT TO P.L. 101226 AND 34 C.F.R. PART 86, BOTH FEDERAL LEGAL REQUIREMENTS FOR THE SCHOOL DISTRICT TO OBTAIN ANY FEDERAL FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE. YOUR SIGNATURE ON THIS RECEIPT ACKNOWLEDGES THAT YOU AND YOUR CHILD OR CHILDREN WHO ARE STUDENTS ATTENDING THIS SCHOOL DISTRICT FULLY UNDERSTAND THE SCHOOL DISTRICT'S POSITION ABSOLUTELY PROHIBITING THE UNLAWFUL POSSESSION, USE, OR DISTRIBUTION OF ILLICIT DRUGS OR ALCOHOL ON SCHOOL PREMISES OR AS A PART OF THE SCHOOL'S ACTIVITIES AS HEREINABOVE DESCRIBED AND THAT COMPLIANCE WITH THESE STANDARDS IS MANDATORY. ANY NONCOMPLIANCE WITH THESE STANDARDS CAN AND WILL RESULT IN PUNITIVE MEASURES BEING TAKEN AGAINST ANY STUDENT FAILING TO COMPLY WITH THESE STANDARDS."

Student First Name

Student Last Name

Grade Level

**(Parent/Guardian) I consent to an electronic signature. \***

Parent/Guardian must be logged into their parent/guardian account to complete this portion of the form.

Yes

**Parent/Guardian Signature \***

I hereby acknowledge having reviewed a copy of the Ainsworth Community Schools Handbook for 2022-2023 school year available at [www.ainsworthschools.org](http://www.ainsworthschools.org). I understand that I may request a hardcopy of the handbook at the Secondary Office. I understand that I will be responsible for knowing and following procedures and regulations.

Date

{{today}}

**(Student) I consent to an electronic signature. \***

Student must be logged into their student powerschool account to complete this portion of the form.

Yes

**Student Signature \***

I hereby acknowledge having reviewed a copy of the Ainsworth Community Schools Handbook for 2022-2023 school year available at [www.ainsworthschools.org](http://www.ainsworthschools.org). I understand that I may request a hardcopy of the handbook at the Secondary Office. I understand that I will be responsible for knowing and following procedures and regulations.

Date

{{today}}

If you would prefer a paper copy of this signature form or have any difficulty accessing this form on power school, please contact the high school office at 402-387-2082.

# **McAndrew Elementary**

**Ainsworth Community Schools**

**Grades K-6**

**2024-25**



# **Student-Parent Handbook**

## **McANDREW ELEMENTARY STUDENT AND PARENT HANDBOOK**

This handbook is intended to be used by students, parents, and staff as a guide to the rules, regulations, and general information about McAndrew Elementary School. Each student is responsible for becoming familiar with the handbook and knowing the information contained in it. Parents are encouraged to use this handbook as a resource and to assist their child in following the rules contained in this handbook.

Although the information found in this handbook is detailed and specific on many topics, the handbook is not intended to be all-encompassing to cover every situation and circumstance that may arise during any school day, or school year. This handbook does not create a “contract.” The administration reserves the right to make decisions and make rule revisions at any time to implement the educational program and to ensure the well-being of all students. The administration will be responsible for interpreting the rules contained in the handbook. Should a situation or circumstance arise that is not specifically covered in this handbook, the administration will decide based upon all applicable school district policies, and state and federal statutes and regulations.

### **SCHOOL MISSION**

ACS CARES: We are Committed to Achieving Results for Everyone’s Success

### **MUTUAL RESPECT**

The Ainsworth Community Schools expects every staff member and student to be treated with respect and dignity. A show of disrespect toward a staff member or insubordination on the part of students will not be tolerated.

## Notice of Nondiscrimination

The Ainsworth Community School district does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age in its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the nondiscrimination policies and will serve as the coordinator for Title IX purposes:

Name: Ben Wright

Title: Elementary Principal

Address: 520 E 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, Ainsworth, NE 69210

Telephone: 402-387-2083

E-mail: bwright@ainsworthschools.org

For further information on notice of nondiscrimination, visit <http://wdcrobcolp01.ed.gov/CFAPPS/OCR/contactus.cfm> for the address and phone number of the office that serves your area or call 1-800-421-3481.

For additional prohibited discrimination and related information, please contact the office of the Superintendent for information regarding district policy and procedure to prevent discrimination.

## 2024-25 K-6 FACULTY & STAFF

**ADMINISTRATION** Dale Hafer Superintendent District Office Benjamin Wright PK-6 Principal Elementary Office

**BOARD OF EDUCATION** Brad Wilkins President

Mark Johnson Vice President

Scott Erthum Secretary / Treasurer

Jessica Pozehl Member

Bryan Doke Member

Frank Beel Member

**FACULTY & STAFF** DeAnn Nilson K-6 Office Assistant Elementary Office

Lori Clapper School Nurse Elementary Office

Kelsey Reisen K-6 Guidance Counselor Room 20

Lori Pollock Kindergarten Room 13

Liz Arens Kindergarten Room 14

Brenda Konkoleski Grade One Room 10

Stacey Alberts Grade One Room 11

Britley Beck Grade Two Room 15

Neiley Arens Grade Two Room 16

Sarah Carpenter Grade Three Room 18

Reagan Fairhead Grade Three Room 19

Alisha Strelow Grade Four Room 21

Julie Micheel Grade Four Room 17

Jennifer Beel Grade Five/Art Room 109

Mandy Evans Grade Five Room 108

Heather Lutter Grade Six Room 110

Nichole Flynn Grade Six Room 107

Amanda Ganser Computers Room 9

Kayla Nilson Vocal Music Room 138

Jessica Kempke Physical Education Gym

Kara Welch Library / Media Room 9

Erin Rathe 5-6 Band HS

Joyce Eurit K-6 Resource Room 12

Bobbie Jo Robinson K-6 Resource Room 20

Scott Steinhauser School Psychologist Room 130

Christina Buckles Speech Therapy Room 6

Sandi Nelson Reading Coach / Title I Room 5

Lauren Osborne ELL Teacher

Mindy Vansickle Paraprofessional

Stephen Pierce Paraprofessional

Connie Jackson Paraprofessional

Roni Daniels Paraprofessional

Karen Kackmeister Paraprofessional

Janet Painter Paraprofessional / ELL

Laurie Goodloe IT Tech / Library

## Regular Schedule

7:30 Breakfast is served.

Students eating breakfast enter through high school doors.

7:45 Teachers are on duty.

7:45 Students enter the building.

K-2 enters by the east doors and goes into the gym.

3-4 enters by the **West** doors and goes into the gym.

5-6 enters by the **Big A** doors and goes into the gym.

8:00 Class begins.

11:00-12:45 Lunch and recess

Grade Lunch Recess	
K	11:00-11:25 11:25-11:45
1	11:00-11:25 11:25-11:45
2	11:00-11:25 11:25-11:45
3	12:00-12:25 12:25-12:45
4	12:00-12:25 12:25-12:45
5	11:35-12:00 12:00-12:20
6	11:35-12:00 12:00-12:20

3:27 School is dismissed.

K-2 dismissed through the **East** doors.

3-4 dismissed through the **West** doors.

3:34 5-6 dismissed through the **Big A** doors.

## ABSENCES, TARDIES AND SICKNESS

Except for those students exempted by law, this school district expects all children living within the boundaries of the school district and who are between the ages of six by January 1<sup>st</sup> and sixteen to be in attendance every day that school is in session unless they have been excused by school authorities. Regular attendance is necessary to provide the student with the best possible education.

1. Prior to a planned absence, please provide the **elementary office** a written excuse, email, personal contact, or telephone call, stating the reason for the student's absence. In the case of an unplanned absence, please notify the elementary office immediately the morning of the absence. If by 9:15 a.m. the office has received no notification, a phone call will be made to all numbers provided, beginning with the parents / guardians, until an explanation of the student's absence is received. School officials reserve the right to request a statement from the attending physician in the case of an extended absence due to the health of a student.
2. If you would like to let the teachers know about the student being gone you may, but you must let the office know first to make sure we are aware of the absence.
3. All students must have office permission and must sign out to leave the school grounds. When a student returns, they must report to the school office and sign in.
4. Students who have been absent due to a communicable disease must have written permission from a doctor before they will be allowed to return to school.
5. Tardiness is rarely excusable. A student will be marked tardy when he or she arrives after 8:00 am and must report to the school office to sign in. Penalties for excessive tardiness will be dealt with on an individual basis.
6. Students who become ill during school will not be sent home until the school has determined that there will be someone with the student. If both parents work, please let the school know where you can be reached. Ill students must sign out before they leave.

Procedures for excessive absences:

1. As per Ainsworth Community Schools policy, all questions of absences will be referred to the respective principal.
2. The principal will review the attendance records of any student missing five days of unexcused absences per semester. After 7 days per semester the child shall be deemed to have "excessive absences." When the principal determines that a child is unlawfully absent from school, the principal will arrange a conference with the parent or guardian, the child, and any other school personnel to solve the truancy problem.
3. The school may report to the county attorney of the county in which the person presides when the school has documented the efforts to address excessive absences, the collaborative plan to reduce barriers identified to improve regular attendance has not been successful, and the student has

accumulated more than twenty (20) absences per year. The school shall notify the student's family in writing prior to referring the student to the county attorney. Illness that makes attendance impossible or impracticable shall not be the basis for referral to the county attorney.

### **ARRIVAL TO SCHOOL**

School begins promptly at 8:00 a.m. Students will be counted tardy after 8:00 a.m. Arrangements must be made for child care/supervision in the morning before school. Students will enter through the doors assigned to grade levels at 7:45 a.m., and enter the gym to wait prior to 8:00 a.m. No students will be admitted to the building prior to 7:45 a.m., unless they are eating breakfast at 7:30 a.m.

### **ATHLETIC AND EXTRACURRICULAR EVENTS**

Elementary students enjoy the athletics and extracurricular events that are provided here by Ainsworth Community Schools. Students are expected to attend activities with supervision. We expect them to sit with or near their parents or supervisors. They should remain in their seats and leave only at quarter and half breaks. At wrestling matches, students may leave the bleachers only between matches. Students who are disruptive at activities will be sent home and may lose the privilege of attending activities. During activities held in the gym, the students will be required to sit in the designated area or with their parents or supervisors. A student must be in school one-half day in order to participate in an activity or attend an activity that evening. This refers to a practice, also.

### **BICYCLES AND SCOOTERS**

Children who ride bikes or scooters to school must walk their bikes and scooters across the intersection and then walk their bikes or scooters on school property. There is no riding during the school day (recesses) as this will interfere with the safety of others. We encourage students to use bike locks. Children may also fold scooters and store them under their coat rack during the school day. Scooters that do not fold should not be stored under the coat racks. The school is not responsible for lost, stolen, or damaged scooters or bicycles.

### **WATER BOTTLES**

All students may carry a water bottle in class. Teachers have designated spots for students to place their water bottles during the day. K-4 students can use water bottles approved by teachers and administration. 5th and 6th Grade students will be using clear water bottles while in the building.

### **BIRTHDAY TREATS / BIRTHDAY OR PARTY INVITATIONS**

Due to increasing allergies and health stipulations, any treats brought to school need to be prepackaged and have a list of ingredients on them. Homemade treats will no longer be distributed to students during school hours.

The school will allow party invitations to be distributed only if the entire class is invited. If only a few members of the class are to be invited, please use some other method of distribution.

### **BULLYING AND HARASSMENT**

McAndrew Elementary School is committed to offering an educational opportunity to its students in a climate free of discrimination, bullying and harassment. Accordingly, unlawful discrimination or harassment of any kind by administrators, teachers, co-workers, students or other persons is prohibited.

**Bullying** means any ongoing pattern of physical, verbal, or electronic abuse on school grounds, in a vehicle owned, leased, or contracted by a school being used for a school purpose by a school employee or his or her designee, or at school-sponsored activities or school-sponsored athletic events. Disciplinary action for each event is under direct decision from the building principal and other district administrators.

For purposes of this handbook, discrimination or harassment based on a person's race, color, religion, national origin, sex, disability or age is prohibited. The following are general definitions of what might constitute prohibited harassment.

In general, ethnic or racial slurs or other verbal or physical conduct relating to a person's race, color, religion, disability or national origin constitute harassment when they unreasonably create an intimidating instructional or educational environment.

Sexual harassment is defined by federal and state regulations as a form of sex discrimination. It can consist of unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, or physical or verbal conduct of a sexual nature by supervisors or others in the classroom or educational environment.

Sexual harassment may exist when the conduct has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with an individual's educational performance or creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive classroom or educational environment.

Sexual harassment may include explicit sexual propositions, sexual innuendo, suggestive comments, sexually oriented "kidding" or "teasing", "practical jokes", jokes about gender-specific traits, foul or obscene language or gestures, displays of foul or obscene printed or visual material, and physical contact, such as patting, pinching or brushing against another's body.

## **BUS REGULATIONS**

Regular Routes: Students shall be on time at the approved bus stop. Do not cross the road until the bus has stopped completely and the driver has extended the stop arm. Students are to board the bus one step at a time. Rigid standards of discipline must always be maintained in order to ensure the safety of riders and the driver. Students can be told to sit in an assigned seat by discretion of the Bus Driver, Bus Monitor, or Building level Principal.

While Riding the Bus: The riding of the bus is a privilege and may be revoked for violation of the rules or for conduct, which is detrimental to the safe operation of the bus. The driver and bus monitor are in full charge of the bus and the students under the direction of the building Principal. Students are to comply promptly with all requests of the driver and/or bus monitor. The driver may assign seats. Students shall go directly to their seats and remain seated there until they arrive at their destination. Students shall not leave the bus from the emergency door unless an emergency exists. Students shall not run or push while leaving or entering the bus. Students that live on the opposite side of the road are to go approximately twelve (12) feet in front of the bus before crossing.

The school bus driver has the authority and the responsibility to discipline students on the bus under the guidance and direction of the administration.

### **Route Bus Discipline Procedure:**

For any conduct deemed inappropriate by the bus driver and/or bus monitor, the following procedure will be used. The bus driver or monitor will fill out a discipline referral describing the incident and will be responsible for turning the referral in to the administration. Upon reviewing the referral, administration will determine whether disciplinary action is needed in the matter. If disciplinary action is required, the district administration has the discretion to do what they believe is best to ensure the safety of all drivers and riders, as well as remove students from bus routes for determined lengths of time based on the

severity of the incident(s). Below is a possible sequence of events. However, based on the severity of the incident, a student may be removed immediately. This will be at the discretion of the administration.

- A. The first incident of inappropriate behavior will result in a verbal warning from the bus driver and/or bus monitor. The driver or monitor will submit a written discipline referral to the appropriate principal. The Principal will have a conference with the student.
- B. The second incident involving the same student will result in a second report submitted to the principal. The Principal will arrange a parent/guardian conference or contact to discuss the incident and inform parents/guardians of possible consequences.
- C. Upon the third incident by the same student, a third report will be submitted. The third incident will result in a short-term suspension from riding the school bus.
- D. Upon receiving a fourth incident on the same student, the consequence will be suspension from riding the school bus for the remainder of the school year.

### **COMPUTER USAGE**

The use of computers/internet is a privilege, not a right. Inappropriate behavior may lead to penalties including revoking permission to use the computers (long term or short term), disciplinary action, and/or legal action. Ainsworth Community Schools policy explains the terms and conditions for use of computers. No students shall be permitted to use the computers until the office receives a signed copy of the current year's Handbook Acknowledgement Form.

### **CONCERNS AND QUESTIONS**

When a problem arises over a school situation, parents/guardians should first attempt to resolve the issue or complaint by holding a conference with the teacher or employee.

If the problem is not resolved after meeting with the teacher or employee, a meeting should be arranged with the principal. Prior written or verbal notice must be given by the parents/guardians in order to arrange a meeting.

### **DETENTION AND STAYING IN FOR RECESS**

On occasion it may be necessary to keep a student after school. If a child is staying more than 15 minutes after school, the teacher will require that she/he make an attempt to call home to inform the parents.

STAYING IN: Students who are to stay inside during recess or the noon hour due to illness should bring a note signed by the parents. Students who must stay in during recess or noon hour longer than one week must bring a note from the doctor stating the reason.

## **DISMISSAL**

Students must leave school premises immediately after school unless under the direct supervision of a teacher or an adult. K-2<sup>nd</sup> grade students will be dismissed from the east side of the elementary building, and 3<sup>rd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> grades will be dismissed from the west side. 5th-6th grade students will be dismissed from the Big A doors at 3:34 p.m. Students riding the bus will be led to the south side of the school by the bus monitors to load the buses.

Students may remain on the playground area after dismissal if they are accompanied by their parent/guardian. If not accompanied by their parent/guardian, students need to leave school grounds until after 4:00 p.m. No students will be allowed to play on the south, west, or north sides of the school due to safety concerns.

## **DRESS CODE**

The home and school need to cooperate in the matter of student dress for school.

Students at McAndrew Elementary are expected to dress in a way that is appropriate for a school setting. Students should not dress in a manner that is dangerous to the health and safety of anyone or interferes with the learning environment or teaching process.

Following is a list of examples of attire that is not appropriate for school. This list is not exclusive and other forms of attire deemed inappropriate by the administration may be deemed inappropriate for the school setting.

1. No apparel containing references to drugs, tobacco, or alcohol.
2. No apparel containing vulgarity, obscenity, or profanity.
3. No undergarments are to be visible at any time.
4. No mesh shirts will be allowed, unless a full shirt is worn underneath.
5. No apparel that exposes the midriff area will be allowed.
6. Shoes must be worn at all times.
7. No hats or caps may be worn inside the school building.
8. Shorts and skirts should be appropriate in length.
9. Any apparel, jewelry, accessory, notebook, chains, or manner of grooming that is disruptive to the learning environment or identified as a potential safety risk will not be allowed.
10. Halter tops and low-cut necklines will not be allowed. Sleeveless shirts and tank tops are allowed, however, there must be straps over both shoulders of at least 1" in width.

This is not an all-encompassing list. The administration reserves the right to require a student, who is not in proper school dress, to change clothing or to ask the parent to bring an appropriate change of clothing for the student.

During the late fall, winter and early spring our weather can be quite unpredictable and quite harsh. We do expect the students to be dressed for the weather. Depending upon weather factors, it is generally expected that the student will have proper winter clothes, such as a winter coat, snow boots or overshoes, stocking caps, gloves or mittens, etc. The students *will* go outside for recess unless it is dangerously cold. A student must be wearing snow boots to play in the snow. If the student is not

wearing boots when snow is on the ground, the student will have to remain on cleared areas of the cement.

### **COSTUMES AND DRESS UP WEEKS**

During these events you may dress up based on the instructions from your teachers. With any costume used during celebrations or Parties **No Accessories** are allowed. Any costume is up to the discretion of the Principal for appropriateness or Dress code violations. Please understand that if a student arrives with an accessory we will keep it in the office for the student to pick up after school.

### **ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNER PROGRAM (ELL)**

Ainsworth Community Schools meets the needs of all learners. Students with a home language other than English shall be tested for English language proficiency and instructed in reading, writing, speaking and listening of English language and content areas. The program shall be governed by Every Student Succeeds Act, the Office of Civil Rights, and The Equal Opportunity Act. Use of native language may be limited by classroom teachers to aid in the learning of the English language.

### **ELL IDENTIFICATION AND ASSESSMENT**

The Home Language Survey (HLS) will be completed upon registration to identify a Primary Home Language Other than English. (PHLOTE).

PHLOTE students will be tested using the ELPA 21 Screener within the first 30 days of the school year, or within 15 days of enrollment in the district. PHLOTE students will be testing according to NDE guidelines, during a specified testing window using the ELPA 21 Summative assessment. Students who receive scores or Level 4 (Early Advanced) and/or Level 5 (Advanced) in the areas of Reading, Writing, Speaking and Listening, will be considered proficient and dismissed from the ELL Program. Students arriving with previous test information will be placed appropriately in the ELL programs. Records will be kept at Ainsworth Community Schools.

### **FIRE DRILLS AND SEVERE WEATHER DRILLS**

Fire drills will be conducted monthly and severe weather safety drills will be reviewed and practiced twice during the school year.

## **GRADING SCALE AND CODE**

A+ 99-100

A Excellent 95-98

A- 93-94

B+ 91-92

B Above Average-Very Good 88-90

B- 86-87

C+ 84-85

C Average-Good 80-83

C- 78-79

D+ 76-77

D Below Average-Needs Improvement 72-75

D- 70-71

F Failing-Not Acceptable 69 or below

S+ Above Satisfactory

S Satisfactory

S- Below Satisfactory

U Unsatisfactory

## GUIDANCE SERVICES

A school counselor is assigned to the Elementary School as well as the Middle School and High School. The goal of the elementary guidance and counseling program is to facilitate the personal development and academic success of every student. The elementary counseling program provides individual and group counseling, developmental guidance activities, and support guidance based upon individual and school need. Referrals to the school counselor may be made directly by parents or through the child's classroom teacher or building principal. The student may also request to speak with the counselor.

## HEALTH SERVICES

Student illnesses:

If a student becomes ill during the school day, the parent or guardian will be contacted. Please make sure the office knows how to reach a parent or guardian during the day. Also, please provide emergency contact information in the case that the parent or guardian cannot be reached. See attached policy AR-5405 for more information regarding student illnesses.

Health related information:

Please notify the school nurse concerning any special health needs of a student.

*Attack on Asthma* Emergency Protocol:

This protocol is the result of a state-mandated regulation, which requires our schools be prepared to implement an emergency treatment plan, called a protocol, anytime any student or staff member experiences a life-threatening asthma attack or systemic allergic reaction.

The protocol requires that 911 be called first. Next, an EpiPen injection will be given by the school nurse or another trained school staff member. Then, Albuterol is provided through a nebulizer machine. If you know your student has asthma or a severe allergy, it is critically important that you communicate this information to our school staff. If you have questions or concerns about the protocol or your student's health issues, please contact the school nurse.

Medications:

All medications, with few exceptions, must be stored in the office and given by trained personnel or the school nurse. Written permission from a parent is required. **Medicines must be in the original container, regardless if the drug is a prescription drug or an over-the-counter drug.** Medicines, such as inhalers, can be kept with the student but the parent is required to fill out a self-administration permit form. Permission forms are in the office.

School health screenings:

Yearly health screenings will be provided for all students. Results will be given to the parents, with concerns identified. Referrals will be recommended at that time, if applicable.

Immunization requirements:

State law requires that children entering school be immunized. Students entering school for the first time must have:

- 3 doses of DTP vaccine
- 3 doses of Polio vaccine
- 2 doses of MMR vaccine
- 3 doses of Hepatitis B vaccine

- 2 dose of Varicella or proof of having disease

A medical exemption from a physician or an affidavit of refusal for religious reasons may be substituted for the immunization requirements.

Physical Exam and Vision Exam requirements:

All out-of-state transfers and all students entering kindergarten must have both a physical and a thorough vision exam within 6 months prior to admission, unless the parent/guardian signs a waiver.

Head lice procedures:

- When live lice are found on a student, the family is notified and the student may go home at the end of the day. Parents/guardians have the option of picking their child up earlier to begin treatment.
- When returning to school, the parent/guardian should accompany the student to the nurse's office to check the student's head. If no live lice are found, the student is also checked again in 7-10 days. It is recommended that the parent/guardian continue to check the student's head in the days after treatment and frequently for several weeks.
- Three repeat cases of live lice at school may lead to exclusion from school until lice free. ● Families are encouraged to report head lice to the school nurse, who is available to answer questions regarding treatment.

## **HOMEWORK**

Homework is necessary at times due to requirements in a particular subject, the need to enhance student achievement, or a student's absence from school.

## **LIBRARY**

The elementary library is available for student use during school hours. In order to reduce expenses due to loss of books or vandalism, each student should have only two books checked out. The book may be kept for up to two weeks.

## Notice of Non-discrimination

In accordance with federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture policy, this institution is prohibited from discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA. To file a program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, (AD-3027) found online at: [http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint\\_filing\\_cust.html](http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html), and at any USDA office, or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by:

- (1) Mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture  
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights  
1400 Independence Avenue, SW  
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410
- (2) Fax: (202) 690-7442; or
- (3) Email: [program.intake@usda.gov](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov)

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g. Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.), should contact the school district. Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

## LUNCH, BREAKFAST, AND SNACK MILK PROGRAMS

Under special federal programs, hot lunch is served to students who wish to participate. Applications for free or reduced participation in this program will be mailed home during the summer. Parents who wish to be included under these guidelines must complete the forms and return them to the District Office **before participation is effective. These forms must be completed each year and will not carry over to the next school year.**

The U.S. Department of Agriculture prohibits discrimination against its customers, employees, and applicants for employment on the bases of race, color, national origin, age, disability, sex, gender identity, religion, reprisal, and where applicable, political beliefs, marital status, familial or parental status, sexual orientation, or all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program, or protected genetic information in employment or in any program or activity conducted or funded by the Department. (Not all prohibited bases will apply to all programs and/or employment activities.)

If you wish to file a Civil Rights program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, found online at [http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint\\_filing\\_cust.html](http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html), or at any USDA office, or call (866) 632-9992 to request the form. You may also write a letter containing all of the information requested in the form. Send your completed complaint form or letter by mail at U.S. S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, by fax (202) 690-7442 or email at [program.intake@usda.gov](mailto:program.intake@usda.gov).

Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing, or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339; or (800) 845-6136 (Spanish).

USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

PLEASE NOTE: As stated above, all protected bases do not apply to all programs. *The first six protected bases of race, color, national origin, age, disability and sex are the six protected bases for applicants and recipients of the Child Nutrition Programs.*

## **BREAKFAST & LUNCH PRICES**

### **ITEM PAID REDUCED FREE**

**K-12 Breakfast- \$2.00 FREE**

**K-4 Lunch \$3.45- \$0.40 FREE**

**5-12 Lunch \$3.65- \$0.40 FREE**

**Extra Lunch Entrée \$2.25**

**Extra Pizza Hut Pizza \$2.25**

**Extra Milk \$0.50 \$0.50**

**Extra Fruit & Veggie Bar FREE-FREE-FREE**

**Adult Guest Breakfast \$2.65**

**Adult Guest Lunch \$4.35**

**Adult ONLY Fruit & Veggie Bar \$3.00**

**Child Guest Breakfast \$ 2.65**

**Child Guest Lunch \$ 4.35**

Students in Kindergarten and 1<sup>st</sup> grades have the opportunity to drink snack milk during the school day. **This must be paid for by semester or for the entire year. Students will not be allowed to drink snack milk until payment has been received. Notices will be sent home before the start of each semester.** 1st semester: \$47.30 2nd semester: \$47.30 All Year: \$94.60

Breakfast will be offered to students Kindergarten through High School. If your student wishes to eat breakfast, he or she should be at the school cafeteria at 7:30 am. The menu will be published in the elementary newsletter, on the school website and on the radio.

\*Students may not bring pop, juice or other beverages to drink with their hot lunch, unless they have a medical reason not to drink milk.

## **MYSCHOOLBUCKS.COM**

MySchoolBucks is a convenient tool for parents / guardians to use to manage meal accounts at Ainsworth Community Schools. With MySchoolBucks, you can add money to your child's meal account, view account balances and recent purchases, and set up notifications for upcoming payments - from the convenience of your home, office, or on-the-go with the mobile app. Visit [myschoolbucks.com](http://myschoolbucks.com) to set up an account—all you need is your child's lunch number! At this time snack milk cannot be paid through this service.

## **PARENT INVOLVEMENT**

McAndrew Elementary welcomes parental involvement in the education of their children. We hope to foster and facilitate, to the extent appropriate and in their primary language, parental information about, and involvement in, the education of their children. Policies and regulations are established to protect the emotional, physical and social well-being of all students.

1. Parental involvement is a part of the ongoing and timely planning, review and improvement of district and building programs.
2. Parents are encouraged to monitor their student's progress by reviewing quarterly report cards and attending parent-teacher conferences.
3. Textbooks and other curriculum materials used in the district are available for review by parents upon request.
4. Parents are provided access to records of students according to law and school policy.
5. Testing occurs in this school district as determined to be appropriate by district staff to assure proper measurement of educational progress and achievement.
6. Parents submitting written requests to have their student excused from testing, classroom instruction and other school experiences will be granted that request when possible and educationally appropriate. Requests should be submitted to the proper teacher or administrator within a reasonable time prior to the testing, classroom instruction or other school experience and should be accompanied by a written explanation for the request. A plan for an acceptable alternative shall be approved by the proper teacher and administrator prior to, or as a part of, the granting of any parent request.
7. Participation in surveys of students occurs in this district when determined appropriate by district staff for educational purposes. Parents will be notified prior to the administration of surveys.
8. Parents are more than welcome to come to school for Lunch or classroom activities but it must be approved by the office and the teacher. For lunch please try and be cognizant of how often you will join for lunch due to letting these students grow in social aspects of school. When it comes to the classroom you must clear it with the office and the teacher before joining activities.

### **Title I Parent and Family Engagement Policy (combined district and school):**

Ainsworth Community Schools intends to follow the Title I Parent and Family Engagement Policy guidelines in accordance with federal law, Section 1116(a -f) ESSA, (Every Student Succeeds Act) of 2015. The written District parent and family engagement policy has been developed jointly with, updated periodically and distributed to parents and family members of participating children and the local community in an understandable and uniform format. This policy agreed on by such parents describes the means for carrying out the requirements as listed below.

- Parents and family members of all students are welcomed and encouraged to become involved with their child's school and education; this includes parents and family members that have limited English proficiency, limited literacy, are economically disadvantaged, have disabilities, racial or ethnic minority background or are migratory children. Information related to school and parent programs, meetings, school reports and other activities are sent to the parents of participating children in a format, and to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand.
- Parents are involved in the planning, review, evaluation and improvement of the Title I program, Parent and

Family Engagement Policy and the School-Parent Compact at an annual parent meeting 2024-2025 16 scheduled at a convenient time. This would include the planning and implementation of effective parent and family involvement activities.

- Conduct, with meaningful parent and family involvement, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the Parent and Family Engagement Policy. Use the evaluation findings to design evidence-based strategies for more effective parental involvement, and to revise the Parent and Family Engagement Policy.
- Opportunities are provided for parents and family members to participate in decisions related to the education of their child/children. The school and local educational agency shall provide other reasonable support for parental involvement activities.
- Parents of participating children will be provided timely information about programs under this part, a description and explanation of the curriculum in use, the forms of academic assessment used to measure student progress and the achievement levels of the challenging State academic standards. The school will provide assistance, opportunities, and/or materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve their children's academic achievement in a format, and when feasible, in a language the parents and family members can understand.
- Educate teachers, specialized instructional support personnel, principals, and other school leaders, with the assistance of parents in the value and utility of contributions of parents, how to reach out to, communicate with and work with parents as equal partners.
- Coordinate and integrate parental involvement programs and activities with other Federal, State and local programs, including preschool programs that encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children.

#### **PARENTS' RIGHTS UNDER FERPA**

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) affords parents and students over 18 years of age ("eligible students") certain rights with respect to the student's education records. Ainsworth Community Schools will comply with the requirements of FERPA.

#### **NOTICE CONCERNING DIRECTORY INFORMATION**

The district may disclose directory information. The types of personally identifiable information that the district has designated as directory information are as follows: student's name, address, home phone number, grade in school, name of parents or guardian, and date of birth. A parent or eligible student has the right to refuse to let the district designate any or all of those types of information about the student as directory information. The period of time within which a parent or eligible student has to notify the district in writing that he or she does not want any or all of those types of information about the student designated as directory information is as follows: **two weeks from the time this information is first received**. The district may disclose information about former students without meeting the conditions in this section.

#### **PETS**

Pets will not be allowed at school without prior permission from the classroom teacher and the school principal. If permission is given to bring a pet, the parent or guardian must bring the pet, show it for a

short period of time, and then take it home.

### **PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

Students will need a pair of tennis shoes specifically for PE. These shoes are to be worn only in the gym in order to protect the gym floor. These shoes should not be worn outside. If your child wears sandals to school on a day he or she would have PE, send a pair of socks in his or her backpack.

### **PROMOTION AND RETENTION**

The professional staff at McAndrew Elementary will place students at the grade level best suited to them academically, socially and emotionally. Students will typically progress annually from grade to grade. A student may be retained at a grade level when such is determined in the judgment of the professional staff to be appropriate for the educational interests of the student and the educational program. Parents will be consulted and included in discussions concerning retention.

### **REPORT TO PARENTS**

Report cards are sent home every quarter. In addition, during the first quarter, parents will be scheduled for a Parent-Teacher Conference. At this conference, the progress and recommendations from parents and teachers will be exchanged. Parents may call and make special conference arrangements outside of these arranged dates if they need to. We will also offer Parent-Teacher Conferences in February.

Progress reports may be requested by parents/guardians at any time during the school year. Also, parents may obtain a password to their child's PowerSchool account, which is the electronic database used by the school. To obtain the password to your child's account, contact the elementary school office at 402-387-2083. Please note that 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grades have lunch account balances, attendance, *and* grades posted on PowerSchool. Kindergarten, 1<sup>st</sup>, and 2<sup>nd</sup> grades only have lunch account balances and attendance posted.

Along with the end of the year report card there will be a section added about the classroom placement for the upcoming school year. This section will not be 100% final and is subject to change based on teachers availability and student numbers.

### **SCHOOL CLOSING NOTIFICATION**

Should it become necessary, in the judgment of school officials, to close school because of bad weather, an announcement will be given through the School Messenger notification program, the local radio station KBRB (FM 92 or AM 1400) and Channels 10/11 TV. If the elementary school is closed, it will be closed to all grades. If it becomes advisable because of an impending storm or other reason to close school during the school day, this information will be given out over the above listed methods, giving the time school will be dismissed. PLEASE DO NOT CALL THE SCHOOL unnecessarily under these circumstances as it ties up the line.

### **SCHOOL WEB PAGE & FACEBOOK PAGE**

In an effort to improve student learning and to help students realize they are part of a bigger world, we would like to demonstrate their projects on our school's website and Facebook page. We take pictures of classes, groups, as well as students working on projects. With the exception of the Spelling Bee results and the end of the year Achievement Awards, we will not be publishing full names.

The school's website is found at <http://www.ainsworthschools.org>. We also maintain a Facebook page – search for Ainsworth Community Schools.

We encourage you to sign up for the News Update feature to stay up-to-date with the happenings at Ainsworth Community Schools. Forms are available in the office if you wish to NOT have your child's/children's picture displayed on the school's web page or Facebook page.

### **SMOKE-FREE ENVIRONMENT**

McAndrew Elementary is a smoke-free environment. We would appreciate your help in meeting the goal of a smoke-free and tobacco-free environment for our children. When you attend school events please remember that our grounds are smoke-free and tobacco-free.

### **SPECIAL EDUCATION**

Special education services are available to all students who meet qualifying criteria established by the Nebraska Department of Education. Handicapping conditions may include hearing impaired, visually handicapped, mentally handicapped (mild, moderate, and severe/profound), behaviorally disordered, specific learning disabled, orthopedically impaired, other health impaired, and speech/language impaired. Identified children are served from birth to age 21 at no cost to resident parents. Referrals for special education services or diagnostic testing may be made by parents to the building principal or by discussing with the classroom teacher. Classroom teachers also may refer students. A Student Assistance Team (SAT) and a Multidisciplinary Team (MDT) will process student referrals.

Ainsworth Community Schools requests help in locating handicapped children. The schools implement the Federal Handicapped Children's Act (PL 94-142) which guarantees a free appropriate public educational program for all children between the ages of 0 and 21 years of age. If you have a student or know of any young person with special needs between 0-21 years of age that is not enrolled in an appropriate public education program, please call 402-387-2333 or write to:

Scott Steinhauser, Special Ed. Director  
Ainsworth Community School  
P.O. Box 65  
Ainsworth, NE 69210

### **STAFF QUALIFICATIONS**

The No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 gives parents the right to acquire information about the professional qualifications of their child's classroom teachers. Upon request, Ainsworth Community Schools will give parents the following information about their child's classroom teacher:

1. Whether the teacher has met State qualifications and licensing criteria for the grade levels and subject areas in which the teacher provides instruction.
2. Whether the teacher is teaching under an emergency or provisional teaching certificate.
3. The baccalaureate degree major of the teacher. You may also get information about other graduate certification or degrees held by the teacher, and the field of discipline of the certification or degree.

## RECORDING OF OTHERS

We will also, upon request, tell parents whether their child is being provided services by a paraprofessional and, if so, the qualifications of the paraprofessional. The request for information should be made to an administrator in your child's school building. The information will be provided to you in a timely manner. Finally, Ainsworth Community Schools will give timely notice to you if your child has been assigned, or has been taught for four or more consecutive weeks, by a teacher who does not meet the requirements of the Act.

To ensure the privacy and confidentiality of student information, no person is authorized to record or transmit any sound or image of any person (including themselves) without the prior consent or authorization of either (1) the person or persons being recorded or whose image or sound is being transmitted, (2) by authorized staff for purposes of child welfare (for example, to record images of injuries to students caused or believed to be caused by another person), or (3) the Superintendent or Superintendent's designee. This prohibition applies to all persons, including staff, students and community members, regardless of the content or context of the image or sound; however, this provision shall not apply to District-sponsored athletic or activity events where the focus of the recording or transmission is on the student performances or activity. Nothing in this provision shall prohibit the recording of an Individualized Education Program meeting if the recording is necessary to ensure that the parent understands the IEP or the IEP process or to implement other parental rights guaranteed by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.

## STUDENTS' PRIVACY

It is the intent of McAndrew Elementary to protect the privacy of students in accordance with applicable laws.

Parents shall have the right to inspect, upon reasonable request, any instructional material used as part of the educational curriculum for their child. Reasonable requests for inspection of instructional materials shall be granted within a reasonable period of time after the request is received. Parents shall not have the right to access academic tests or academic assessments, as such are not within the meaning of the term "instructional materials".

## STUDENTS' PROPERTY

Students may bring personal items to show or demonstrate during class time. However, personal items such as toys, trading cards, balls, bats, radios, CD and DVD players, DS Games, iPods, hand-held video games, walkie-talkies, cell phones, etc. should not be brought to school. Toy guns or related war toys should not be brought to school. Personal items should be left in the classroom or on the coat rack during recesses. **Backpacks brought to school by any student should contain a nametag or other information, which identifies the owner with his or her address.** Also, it is a good idea to label your child's coat. The school is not responsible for lost, stolen, or damaged personal items. Children should not bring money to school. Except for special projects, lunch, or when students are required to bring money to school, parents should follow this guideline. The school will not assume the responsibility of the loss.

Student desks, computer equipment, and other such property are owned by the school. The school exercises exclusive control over school property. School officials may conduct a search if there is a reasonable basis to believe that the search will uncover evidence of a crime or a school rule violation. The search must be conducted in a reasonable manner under the circumstances. Items reasonably determined to be a threat to the safety of others or a threat to educational purposes may be taken and

kept by school officials. Any firearm or other weapon shall be confiscated and delivered to law enforcement officials as soon as practicable. "Nuisance items" may be removed from student possession.

### **TELEPHONE/SMART WATCHES**

Kindergarten through 6th Grade students will not be allowed to carry a phone during the school day. It must be off and put in their backpacks. Please do not call your child at school unless it is absolutely necessary. Messages will be relayed to your child or she or he may return the call during free time if necessary. In cases of family crisis or emergency, more immediacy will be shown. The telephone is for emergency use only. **Students may not use it to arrange after school play dates.** These arrangements must be made at home before school.

Smart watches must be only used for the time. If students are caught using or utilizing the smart features of the watch throughout the school day it will be taken by the office and will need a parent or guardian to come pick it up. Also, if the issue persists the student will be asked to not bring the watch to school for the remainder of the year.

### **TESTING**

Students in grades K through 6<sup>th</sup> will take a nationally normed, standardized test. Parents will be notified of exact dates of testing prior to administering the exams. In addition, all students, including Kindergarten, may be assessed against the Nebraska Curriculum Standards in Reading, Writing, Speaking, Listening, Math, and Science. These assessments will take place throughout the school year.

### **TITLE I**

McAndrew Elementary school operates a school-wide Title I program, which means we have the flexibility to use our Title I funds to help all students in the building. All Title I activities help us reach school wide goals.

### **VIDEO SURVEILLANCE**

The Board of Education has authorized the use of video cameras on School District property to ensure the health, welfare and safety of all staff, students and visitors to District property, and to safeguard District facilities and equipment. In the event a video surveillance recording captures a student or other building user violating school policies or rules or local, state or federal laws, the video surveillance recording may be used in appropriate disciplinary proceedings against the student or other building user and may also be provided to law enforcement agencies.

### **VISITS TO SCHOOL**

All entrances are locked. Visitors must request permission to enter the building and then check in with the elementary office. Parents and guardians are invited to visit their child's classes. Please contact your child's teacher ahead of time before making a visit. Children will not be allowed to visit school unless they are accompanied by an adult or by special permission from the principal. Visits should usually be for an hour or less. Lunch room visitors are allowed but should be limited to once or twice a week. If you need any clarification or expect more visits please contact the school Principal.

## **WITHDRAWAL PROCEDURE FROM AINSWORTH ELEMENTARY**

Students moving away from the school district are expected to check out at the office. Parents/guardians should notify the teacher and office at least two days in advance if planning to move. A copy of the child's permanent record will be sent to the school if requested by the receiving school.

## **GENERAL SCHOOL RULES**

### **THE STUDENT SHALL BE EXPECTED TO:**

- Using drinking fountains, play equipment, and lavatories with safety and cleanliness in mind
- Keeping objects, hands and feet to oneself so as not to injure others
- Following directions, the first time
- Accepting the authority of teachers, the principal, and other staff members
- Cooperating with teachers and other students
- Practicing and developing good citizenship, character, and safety for themselves and others
- Completing assigned work
- Doing work consistent with ability
- Being regular and punctual in attendance
- Walking in hallways and on the sidewalks

### **THE PARENTS SHALL BE EXPECTED TO:**

- See that the pupil arrives at school at the appropriate time in a proper state of health and cleanliness
- Encourage the proper attitudes toward learning and respect for school authority
- Make available to the school system any information essential to developing a program beneficial for the student
- Confer with officials regarding the pupils progress in school
- Cooperate with school personnel in efforts to improve the student's attitude and behavior
- Assume full responsibility for willful misbehavior or damage to school property by the child

## **PURPOSE OF STUDENT CONDUCT RULES**

These student conduct rules are established to maintain a school atmosphere which is conducive to learning, to aid student development, to further school purposes, and to prevent interference with the educational process. Violations of the rules will result in disciplinary action.

## **Parent/Guardian Signature**

- We require an online signature to our handbook via PowerSchool. If you have any questions or concerns about the online signature please contact the Elementary office.

Thanks

### **Notice of Nondiscrimination**

The Ainsworth Community School District does not discriminate on the basis of sex, disability, race, color, religion, veteran status, national or ethnic origin, marital status, pregnancy, childbirth or related medical condition, or other protected status in its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. Complaints or concerns involving discrimination or needs for accommodation or access should be addressed to the Superintendent.

Dale Hafer, Superintendent, 520 E. 2<sup>nd</sup> St., Ainsworth, NE 69210, 402-387-2333, [dhafer@ainsworthschools.org](mailto:dhafer@ainsworthschools.org) The Superintendent shall be the Coordinator for anti-discrimination laws (including Title VI, Title IX; the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (Section 504)) and complaints or concerns involving discrimination or compliance with those laws should be addressed to the Superintendent. For further information about anti-discrimination laws and regulations, or to file a complaint of discrimination with the Office for Civil Rights in the U.S. Department of Education (OCR), please contact the OCR at 601 East 12<sup>th</sup> Street, Room 353, Kansas City, MO 64106, (800) 368-1019 (voice), Fax (816) 426-3686, (800) 537-7697 (telecommunications device for the deaf), or [ocr.kansascity@ed.gov](mailto:ocr.kansascity@ed.gov).

Parent/Guardian Signature

- We require an online signature to our handbook via PowerSchool. If you have any questions or concerns about the online signature please contact the Elementary office.

Thanks



# Middle and High School

## Faculty Handbook



## Ainsworth Community Schools

### 2024-2025

## ACS CARES

Committed to **A**chieving **R**esults **E**veryone's **S**uccess

[www.ainsworthschools.org](http://www.ainsworthschools.org)

# Ainsworth Middle/High School Directory

## Administration

Dale Hafer – Superintendent	387-2333 (Office)
Steven Dike – 7-12 Principal	387-2082 (Office)
Ben Wright – PreK-6 Principal	387-2083 (Office)
Luke Wroblewski - Activities Director	387-0535 (Office)

## Sports

MS/HS Football	MS/HS Cross Country
HS Volleyball	MS Volleyball
Boys' & Girls' Golf	MS Girls' & Boys' BB
MS/HS Wrestling	HS Girls' & Boys' BB
MS Football	MS/HS Track

## Activities

Speech	Mock Trial
F Clubs	Music
Play Production	Quiz Bowl
Cheerleading	Art
Pom	Destination Imagination
	A-Club

### Office

Zoe Shankland	387-2082 ext 4002
Angie Welke	387-2082 ext 4001

## AMS/HS Faculty

Wade Alberts	Roberta Denny	Jessica Kempcke	Kayla Nilson	Scott Steinhauser
Bethany Alder	Brandy Dowdy	Amanda Kroeger	Lauren Osborne	Kara Welch
Wendy Allen	Amanda Evans	Heather Lutter	Jessi Owen	Emily Whipple
Pam Barrow	Nichole Flynn	Hailey McBride	Todd Pollock	Rachel Williams
Jennifer Beel	Amanda Ganser	Juli Murphy	Erin Rathe	Amanda Wirth
Betty Bower	Tammy Hancock	Sandi Nelson	Kelsey Riesen	
Ronda Davis	Jennifer Hitchcock	Jake Nelson	Lisa Schlueter	

Angie Welke-Secretary

Zoe Shankland-Secretary

## Ainsworth Community School's Web Page

In an effort to improve student learning and to help students realize they are part of a bigger world, we would like to demonstrate their projects on our school's website. We are using our digital camera to take pictures of classes, groups, as well as students working on projects. We will not be mentioning any full name or addresses, just displaying student immersed in learning!

The school's website is found at <http://www.ainsworthschools.org>

**We encourage you to sign up for the News Update feature to stay up-to-date with the happenings at Ainsworth Community Schools.**

\*\*\*Forms are available in the office if any parent wishes to **NOT** have a student's picture displayed on the school's webpage.

# Ainsworth Community Schools 2024-2025 School Calendar

5 Fall Sports Practice Begins  
 7, 8 Teacher work days  
 9, 12, 13 Teacher In-service  
 14 First Day Students

AUGUST 2024						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

SEPTEMBER 2024						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

2 No School - Labor Day  
 16 No School Teacher In-Service

11 End of 1<sup>st</sup> Qtr  
 14 No School - Work Time & P/T Conferences  
 25 No School - Fall Break

OCTOBER 2024						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

NOVEMBER 2024						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

27, 28, 29 - Thanksgiving Break

18, 19, 20 Semester Tests  
 20 End 2<sup>nd</sup> Qtr  
 20 2:00 Dismissal  
 23-31 No School - Holiday Break  
 22-26 NSAA Moratorium

DECEMBER 2024						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

JANUARY 2025						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

1 No School - Holiday Break  
 2 No School - Teacher Work Day  
 3 No School - In-service  
 6 School Resumes for Students  
 31 No School - Girls' Wrestling Tournament and staff work day

10 No School - Work Time and P/T Conferences  
 21 No School - Winter Break

FEBRUARY 2025						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	

MARCH 2025						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

5 End 3<sup>rd</sup> Qtr  
 6, 7 No School - Spring Break  
 21 No School - Teacher In-service & HS Track Meet

18 & 21 No School - Easter Break

APRIL 2025						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

MAY 2025						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

11 Graduation  
 13, 14, 15 Semester Tests  
 15 2:00 Early Dismissal  
 Student's Last Day  
 16 Teacher Work Day

<u>Number of Student Days</u>	<u>Number of Teacher Days</u>
Aug 13	Aug 18
Sept 19	Sept 20
Oct 21	Oct 22
Nov 18	Nov 18
Dec 15	Dec 15
Jan 19	Jan 22
Feb 18	Feb 19
Mar 18	Mar 19
Apr 20	Apr 20
May 11	May 12
<b>Total 172</b>	<b>Total 185</b>

Early Out Days for Students  
 Dec 20 (2:00)  
 May 16 (2:00)

Teacher In-Service/work Days  
 Aug 7-9, 12, 13  
 Sept 16  
 Oct 14  
 Feb 10  
 Jan 3, 6  
 Mar 21  
 May 16

Purple – PT Conferences  
 Red – Teacher In-Serv/Work time  
 Yellow – No School  
 Green – Semester Tests/Finals

*\*Subject to change. Please follow the website and app for current calendar updates.  
 Board Approved 4/8/24*

# AINSWORTH MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL BELL SCHEDULES

5<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade enter the building at the west entrance and report to the gym

7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade enter the building at the south entrance

## 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Grade Schedules:

### Regular Schedule

Warning Bell			7:55
Period 1	8:00	–	8:44
Period 2	8:47	–	9:31
Period 3	9:34	–	10:18
BULLDOG TIME	10:21	--	10:48
Period 4	10:51	–	11:35
<hr/>			
7 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup> Lunch	11:35	--	12:02
Period 5 (7-8)	12:05	–	12:49
Period 5 (9-12)	11:38	–	12:22
9 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> Lunch	12:22	–	12:49
<hr/>			
Period 6	12:52	–	1:36
Period 7	1:39	–	2:23
Seminar	2:26	–	2:47
Period 8	2:50	–	3:34

### 2:00 Dismissal

Warning Bell			7:55
Period 1	8:00	–	8:39
Period 2	8:42	–	9:21
Period 3	9:24	–	10:03
Period 4	10:06	–	10:45
Period 5	10:48	–	11:27
Period 6	11:30	–	12:09
7 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> Lunch	12:09	-	12:36
Period 7	12:39	–	1:18
Period 8	1:21	–	2:00

### 10:00 Late Start

Warning Bell			9:55
Period 1	10:00	–	10:35
Period 2	10:38	–	11:13
Period 3	11:16	–	11:51
Period 4	11:54	–	12:29
7 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> Lunch	12:29	–	12:59
Period 5	1:02	–	1:37
Period 6	1:40	–	2:15
Period 7	2:18	–	2:53
Period 8	2:56	–	3:34

### Semester Test Schedule

Day 1 (1 <sup>st</sup> -3 <sup>rd</sup> )	Day 2 (4 <sup>th</sup> -6 <sup>th</sup> )	Day 3 (7 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup> )
Warning Bell		7:55
Seminar (All Students)	8:00	8:30
Period 1,4,7	8:35	9:45
Seminar (All Students)	9:50	10:20
Period 2,5,8	10:25	11:35
Seminar (All Students)	12:45	12:15
7 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> Lunch	12:15	12:42
Period 3/6	12:45	2:00
Remediation	2:00	3:34
(Days 1&2)		

Certified Teaching Staff are required to be on duty, generally from 7:45 – 3:45.

This time may be adjusted to allow for coverage of supervisory rotations before and after school.

Middle School staff with coaching responsibilities may not be available after 2:40 p.m.

Faculty members may leave at 3:40 p.m. on Fridays.

**\*\*\*If the need should arise to deviate from this schedule for any reason, adjusted schedules and procedures are posted on the district website.**

## **Notice**

*The sole purpose of this handbook is to serve as a reference for staff and clarify procedures used in the operations of Ainsworth Middle/High School. Significant effort has been made to guarantee alignment with all state statutes and all agreements negotiated by ACS and its employees. In the case of error or non-agreement, statute and negotiated agreement must supersede this handbook and the information in this handbook will be null and void. For the sake of accuracy, in the case of error or non-agreement, please notify Ainsworth Administration immediately.*

*For more information use the link below to visit the district website.*

[www.ainsworthschools.org](http://www.ainsworthschools.org)

## **AINSWORTH COMMUNITY SCHOOLS NOTICE OF NON-DISCRIMINATION**

The Ainsworth Community School district does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age in its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the nondiscrimination policies and will serve as the coordinator for Title IX purposes:

Name: Ben Wright  
Title: Elementary Principal  
Address: 520 E 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, Ainsworth, NE 69210  
Telephone: 402-387-2083  
E-mail: [bwright@ainsworthschools.org](mailto:bwright@ainsworthschools.org)

For further information on notice of nondiscrimination, visit <http://wdcrobcolp01.ed.gov/CFAPPS/OCR/contactus.cfm> for the address and phone number of the office that serves your area or call 1-800-421-3481.

For additional prohibited discrimination and related information, please contact the office of the Superintendent for information regarding district policy and procedure to prevent discrimination.

# Teacher Handbook General Information

## ACTIVITIES

Activity Approvals, Scheduling and Facility Requests forms must be filled out by every event sponsor and submitted to the Activity Director or principal for approval. This includes all meetings regardless of the time or place of the activity.

**Activities must be completed by 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday and are not allowed on Sunday. Special circumstances may arise but require the Superintendent's approval in advance.**

## ADMITTANCE PROCEDURES

Upon returning to school due to an unforeseen absence, it shall be the responsibility of the staff member to make a student aware of homework or other learning activities missed and the timeline to complete this work.

Pre-arranged absences require an Admit/Make-up slip (white slip) before the absence and staff should provide students with the learning activities and timeline for completion prior to leaving.

## ASBESTOS

Federal regulations require schools to inventory asbestos containing materials and develop management plans to identify and control asbestos containing materials. The school has complied with these regulations, has conducted asbestos abatement projects, has properly identified and labeled all remaining materials containing asbestos, and has an appropriate management plan established. Records and further information concerning this requirement is available in the building offices and at the office of the Superintendent of Schools.

## EMPLOYEE USE OF DISTRICT TECHNOLOGY

The Board of Education believes that the availability of computers and computer technology will enhance the learning opportunities of our students and allow the district to deliver educational services more efficiently. Employees are expected to conduct themselves within the guidelines of district computer use policy as stated in Policy 606.06, Acceptable Use of Computers, Technology and the Internet.

A written staff agreement form will be required for all employees having access to electronic media. Staff shall confine e-mail use to work-related purposes and a reasonable, appropriate and limited personal use that does not interfere with their district duties. Individuals shall reimburse the Board for repair or replacement of District property lost, stolen, damaged, or vandalized while under their care.

## STUDENT ATTENDANCE POLICY

Due to changing laws it is very important that an accurate record of attendance is recorded. All teachers are required to take attendance during the first five minutes of EACH class period. If you are unable to use Power School during your class please call the office to report the absent student(s).

## CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT

Most disciplinary/classroom management problems can be avoided if the teacher has a plan, comes to class prepared to teach and has appropriate classroom rules which have been explained to the student and which are fairly and consistently enforced.

Proximity has proven to be one of the greatest tools for classroom management. This requires consistent and continual movement around the room. Teachers are expected to move throughout the classroom regardless of class activity.

The best classroom managers/disciplinarians are the ones who have learned to be firm and consistent without being autocratic and confrontational. **A review of your classroom rules/expectations will be completed during the first week of the school year.**

#### **COLLECTION OF MONIES**

**All class dues are to be paid by the end of the 1st Quarter.** All money being collected by class sponsors, treasurers, students, etc. needs to be turned in to the office **daily**. All checks written to the organizations are to be cashed weekly. **Do not hold money long term.**

#### **DAILY ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The PowerSchool system will be used for compiling the daily bulletin. Each teacher, sponsor, coach or advisor is responsible for submitting bulletin information for his or her organization. Faculty and Student announcements may be entered into the daily bulletin form or may be sent to [zshankland@ainsworthschools.org](mailto:zshankland@ainsworthschools.org). **Hand written notes or phone calls will not be posted.** All announcements must be submitted by 7:00 a.m. the date of publication. The Pledge of Allegiance will be recited in each room at the beginning of first period.

#### **STAFF DRESS CODE**

You are an important role model to your students. Staff members should be professionally/appropriately dressed at all times. All attire should also meet the dress code we enforce for students. Footwear should be professional and provide for safety in the case of emergencies. It has been customary for teachers at the high school to wear jeans on **the last teaching day of the week** if worn with an "I Love Public Schools" shirt or a school shirt/or school colors. (This is not to be a "dress down" day with lowered academic or behavioral expectations, it is to be viewed as a "school spirit" day where staff can show support for school activities.)

#### **DUPLICATING OR PHOTOCOPYING**

We all have a busy schedule and copying is one of the many duties that a teacher must accept if they choose to use hard copies within the classroom. Classroom teachers will be expected to complete their own copying during their plan time or outside the school day. Please plan accordingly and make arrangements for copying at one of the several copiers available throughout the building. Copier representatives recommend that construction paper not be used in the copiers and color printing is not to be a substitute for copying.

#### **EMERGENCY RESPONSE PACKETS**

An Emergency Response Packet is located in each room and must be within reach at all times. Faculty members are to review packet contents periodically and be aware of procedures contained in the packet in case of various emergency situations. At the end of the school year all emergency buckets need to be turned in with your handbook so they can be restocked.

#### **FACULTY MEETINGS**

Faculty meetings will be scheduled on a regular basis to discuss specific school problems and other agenda items relating to the welfare of the school, students and staff. When called, all meetings will begin at 7:25 a.m. unless otherwise noted. **All** faculty members are expected to attend unless a member has been excused by the Principal. **Faculty meetings take precedence over all other**

**activities-planned or not.** Teachers are expected to not schedule, cancel or reschedule other activities, meetings, etc. and to be in attendance at the faculty meetings.

August 28

September 25

October 30

November 20

December 11

January 29

February 26

March 26

April 30

May 07

### FIRE DRILLS

Monthly fire drills are required by Nebraska law and are an important safety precaution. They are held to establish an evacuation procedure in case of an actual emergency. Maps and directions for exiting the room have been provided for each room and each staff member. These are to be kept clearly posted in the room. At the beginning of school and periodically throughout the year, whenever a new group of persons are using the room, this exit route should be explained.

When a fire alarm sounds, **everyone** is to obey orders promptly and clear the building in an orderly manner as quickly as possible. **All students in a specific class are to remain with their teacher once they have reached the indicated safety zone. Teachers are to take their Emergency Response Packets and grade/roll books with them and take roll upon reaching the designated area. Any students who are not with their class are to be reported immediately to the appropriate Principal. (An Emergency Response Packet is located in each room and must be within reach at all times.)**

As a safety measure all students, staff, teachers and other adults or children are to proceed to the grass area and not to stop in the street. Greater care needs to be taken by teachers to set a good example for students in this situation. Go up onto the grass. **Do not stop or stand in the street or parking area during a fire drill emergency exiting.**

**A student or staff member who sets off the fire alarm in an intentionally false manner will be suspended from school and will face criminal charges.** This has been upheld by the Supreme Court in the "clear and present danger" doctrine.

### FOOD AND DRINKS

Food and drinks are not allowed in the classroom or in the hallways. Please follow the guidelines in the Student Handbooks. Water in clear (see through) plastic containers will be allowed.

### GRADING

PowerSchool will be the district-wide management program for tracking grades and attendance. **Grades should be updated in PowerSchool no later than 8:30 am on Monday morning.** Some may still choose to keep a paper grade book. If you choose to, this record should be turned in at the end of the school year. Grade weighting is determined by the teacher in alignment with best practice. However, any weighting used to determine a student's cumulative grade should be communicated with all students prior to the beginning of the semester.

**Grades are strictly the responsibility of the teacher. GRADES ARE TO BE BASED ONLY ON STUDENT ACADEMIC PROGRESS AND ACHIEVEMENT, NOT ON BEHAVIOR and extra-credit should be reserved for academic work done beyond the assigned coursework.**

The following scale will be used to record student performance on the permanent student records:

A+99-100	B+91-92	C+84-85	D+76-77	F 69-below
A 95-98	B 88-90	C 80-83	D 72-75	
A-93-94	B-86-87	C-78-79	D-70-71	

### HALL DUTY

All teachers are to supervise the hallways outside their classrooms (or distributed as needed) when classes are passing. Teachers **are not to tolerate** running, pushing, horseplay or teasing on the part of any student. Teachers are to assume responsibility for supervision of students at all times.

### **HOURS OF DUTY**

Generally, staff members are to be on duty from 7:45 to 3:45 p.m, but start and ending time may be adjusted before or after school for staff meetings, supervisory responsibilities or other unforeseen events. On Fridays faculty members may leave at 3:40 p.m.

Teachers are expected to be in their respective classrooms or teaching locations by 7:55 a.m. each day. Teachers are expected to be in their classroom unless activity sponsorship would necessitate their absence.

### **LEAVING THE BUILDING DURING THE DAY**

Any staff member needing to leave the building during the day will notify the front office and **sign out through the front office before leaving.**

### **LESSON PLANS**

Lesson plans are due by 8:00 am and are to be submitted digitally each Monday (or the first day of the week). They are to be placed and archived in the personal shared lesson plan google folder which will be shared with administration. Teachers will be asked to include enrichment lessons for Bulldog Time with their weekly lesson plans as well as maintaining a folder for paired reading activities.

### **MONDAY MORNING ELIGIBILITY**

Teacher grades need to be entered in PowerSchool by **8:30** on Monday morning so a 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> eligibility list can be compiled. Please make sure grades are current on PowerSchool before the eligibility list is due.

### **MORNING SUPERVISION**

Before the first day of school, teachers may have the expectation to sign up for a determined number of weeks of supervision. Morning supervision will consist of two positions (by the Big A and on the South at the Middle School entrance). Morning duty will be from 7:35-7:55 (teacher may leave at 3:35 on these days) and after school duty will be from 3:31-3:45 with no adjustment necessary in the morning. If you have to be gone for any reason, it is your responsibility to find a replacement for this supervision.

### **MULTI-CULTURAL EDUCATION**

Rule 16 attempts to insure that all teachers incorporate into their daily teaching positive cultural contributions of the four major minority groups in Nebraska-African Americans, Hispanic Americans, Native Americans and Asian Americans. The goal of the legislation, which mandates multicultural education, is to bring about the appreciation of cultural pluralism. When you are planning both long term and short term goals you are reminded to make a concentrated effort to make your lessons multi-culturally appropriate. Each year the district's Multicultural Education Committee is responsible for seeing that the requirements of Rule 16 are met. AR-6205 Form Attached.

### **MUTUAL RESPECT**

From childhood we have been taught to treat others as we would like to be treated. This is one of the basic character education traits that we attempt to instill in our students. We also need to be certain that we send this message to our students and that we lead by modeling this idea.

### **PROGRESS REPORTS**

Grades will be continue to be determined on a quarterly basis for grades 5-8 and will be generated on a semester basis for grades 9-12. Progress reports are designed to give the student and the parent an indication as to the academic progress of the student while there is still time to make improvement or seek assistance. These reports will be sent home according to the schedule below. Signed progress reports are

to be returned to the teacher by Friday of the week the reports were distributed. Reports not returned by Friday must be followed up by the teacher. Principals may request verification of returned reports.

- Middle School (7-8)

Grades for middle school students will be generated and reported on a quarterly basis. Progress reports will be made available to parents and students near the middle of each quarter and quarterly grades will be made available on Tuesday following the end of the each quarter. These will be generated by the office and distributed to students through their seminar teacher. These should be signed by at least one parent and returned to the seminar teacher by the last school day of the week. Parent use of PowerSchool is encouraged to check student progress on a regular basis. Quarterly grade reports are made available to parents and students at the end of every nine weeks.

	<u>Begins</u>		<u>Ends</u>	<u>Progress Report</u>	<u>Grades Available</u>
Quarter 1	August 14	-	October 11	September 13	October 14
Quarter 2	October 15	-	December 20	November 13	January 2
Quarter 3	January 6	-	March 5	February 5	March 10
Quarter 4	March 10	-	May 15	April 9	May 16

- High School (9-12)

Grades for high school students will be generated and reported on a semester basis. Progress reports will be made available to parents and students approximately at the end of the 5<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> weeks of the semester and finals grades will be made available at the end of each semester. These will be generated by the office and distributed to students through their seminar teacher. These should be signed by at least one parent and returned to the seminar teacher by the last school day of the week. Parent use of PowerSchool is encouraged to check student progress on a regular basis.

	<u>Begins</u>		<u>Ends</u>	<u>Grades Available</u>
Semester 1	August 14	-	December 20	January 2
Progress Report Dates	September 13		October 14	November 13
Semester 2	January 6	-	May 15	May 17
Progress Report Dates	February 5		March 10	April 9

### PURCHASE ORDERS

Any orders or purchases made through the Activity Account require a purchase order. Activity Account purchase orders may be requested from the High School office. General Fund purchase orders may be requested from the District Office. **All purchases require a purchase order and are subject to approval by the Superintendent.**

### SAFETY AND WELL-BEING AND ACCIDENT REPORTS

Each teacher is responsible for the safety and well-being of each student in their charge as well as for his/her own safety and well-being. If you observe situations in the facility or grounds which you feel are potential safety hazards, report these immediately to one of the Principals. Be ever alert to the physical setting in your classroom which may endanger the safety and well-being of yourself and your students. **Supervise your students at all times.**

**REMEMBER!!** When a person is injured use extreme caution-do not move the person if there is a chance that there may be injury to the spine. Keep students away from the injured person and send for the school nurse immediately. Do not allow yourself to come into contact with blood from the

**wound of the injured person. Use the gloves in your “Teacher Safety First Aid Packet.”** Additional first aid supplies may be obtained from the office when your supply is depleted.

### **SEMESTER ENDING PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENTS**

All teachers 9-12 are expected to have students complete a comprehensive exam, project or presentation at the conclusion of each semester for each class. (Seniors MAY be exempted from these exams at the discretion of the teacher). 7-8th grade teachers are encouraged to create a "larger" exam to allow students the opportunity to review and reassess previously learned concepts from the semester. (These do not need to be comprehensive in nature and should be "grade appropriate).

### **SENDING STUDENTS OUT OF THE CLASSROOM OR FROM THE BUILDING**

Teachers are not to send students from the building to run errands or to get supplies. Make prior arrangements to have on hand all materials that are needed for a class project or lesson. Do not send students to the office for supplies. If a student needs to go to the nurse, please contact to office first to assure that 1) the nurse is available at that time, and 2) the office can send someone to escort the student in the name of student safety.

If a student needs to leave the campus under exceptional circumstances, he/she should be sent to the Office of the Principal to gain permission. Please do all that you can to discourage the need for a student to leave the building and miss valuable instructional time.

### **SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR APPROVED ABSENCE**

The following guidelines will be used to determine whether or not the student deserves this privilege:

1. Student is not on Eligibility Exemption Roster.
2. Student has good attendance record.
3. Student has good conduct record.

If a student meets these criteria, then the student must have a parent call or personally contact the Principal in order to ensure that this absence meets with parental approval. At this point, if the student's absence has been approved, the next step will be for the student to complete all his/her classroom assignments which will be missed prior to leaving for the event.

Principal/Activities Director may deny approval for school sponsored trips or activities that the **student is participating in based on the three criteria listed above.**

When students are participating in a school-approved activity, the coach/sponsor will post a list of eligible student names in the faculty bulletin at least **three days** before the event. Teachers will use this list when assigning makeup work.

Coaches/Sponsors must get permission from the Principal/Activity Director before giving students permission to attend a state-sponsored activity when they are **not a participant** (such as the State Wrestling Tournament or school sponsored activity such as FCCLA Search). Any students under supervision of a sponsor or coach are considered a school approved absence. Any student not under supervision of a coach or sponsor is absent on a white slip.

### **SPONSORSHIP**

All middle and high school teachers may expect assignments to sponsor school organizations. Every effort will be made to keep these assignments in line with teaching preparations and teaching load. High school class sponsors will have co-sponsors.

As a sponsor you are expected to hold students to strict account for adherence to Board of Education and school rules and to give advice to the organization when you deem it is necessary and appropriate. Scheduling of meetings is left to the discretion of the organization and the advisor, however, the advisor is responsible for seeing that the proper procedures are followed in gaining approval from the Activities Director for placement on the school calendar. The advisor is also responsible for seeing that all charter guidelines are followed. Please bring these to the attention of the organization which you sponsor. **NOTE: All fund-raising activities are to have prior approval of the Principal and Superintendent. Proper procedure needs to be followed concerning purchase orders.**

### **SPONSORSHIP TRANSPORTATION ARRANGEMENTS**

Any student who rides to an event under the supervision of a sponsor/coach/faculty member will also return home under their supervision unless the sponsor has a Travel Release Form from the parents for the student to return home some other way. This form must be completed and personally handed to the sponsor/coach/faculty member after the event is completed and upon departure with the student. Failure to do so will result in the student riding school provided transportation from the activity.

### **STUDENT ASSISTANCE TEAM**

The Student Assistance Team, with the Guidance Counselor as chairperson, exists to assist teachers in dealing with a number of concerns regarding student academic progress or lack thereof, habitual behavioral problems, speech and language referrals and diagnostic testing request. Contact Mrs. Schlueter to receive the appropriate forms if you feel that you have students whom should be referred to the SAT. Attempts will be made to use the SAT for assisting those students whose names consistently appear on the ineligible list, also. At all levels of the SAT operations, the classroom teacher plays a vital role in providing information and brainstorming solutions. When you are notified of an SAT meeting make every effort to attend, if possible, and if not possible then provide written or verbal input to the Counselor.

### **STUDENT HANDBOOKS**

Staff is expected review, adhere and enforce uniformly and consistently all guidelines set forth in the student handbooks. The Student Handbook is an extension of the Faculty Handbook and all guidelines apply to teachers and staff as well. The Student Handbook has been redone and covers several new topics encouraged by legal council. A copy of the student handbook has been placed in your "BTS" folder for review.

### **SUPERVISION OF STUDENTS**

Students, either alone or in groups, are **never** to be left unsupervised at any time. All groups of students meeting as teams, classes, practices, parties or organizations are to be sponsored and directly supervised by a faculty member.

### **TEACHER ABSENCE**

Should an unforeseen need arise that a faculty member is unable to be present for all or a portion of the school day, the Principal and Secretary are to be notified as soon as possible so arrangements can be made to obtain a substitute teacher. A Staff Absence Report must be filled out for every absence of one half class period or longer, including during your planning period through Weblink ( <https://wl.sui-online.com/AinsworthNE/Login.aspx?ReturnUri=%2fAinsworthNE> ). If the absence is due to illness or is unplanned, the Staff Absence Report should be filled out as soon as possible and no later than upon your return. If the absence is unplanned, lesson plans may be e-mailed to Zoe, [zshankland@ainsworthschools.org](mailto:zshankland@ainsworthschools.org), however in all other circumstances teachers are expected to provide complete, clear and appropriate lesson plans for the substitute to use in **teaching the** class. It is expected that a teacher will also provide the substitute with a list of classroom rules and a seating chart.

Staff is allowed four (4) days of Planned Personal Leave per year as per the negotiated agreement. Staff members should use these wisely as it will not be common practice to allow personal days beyond those allotted. In the rare EMERGENCY situation that requires personal leave beyond those allotted, all requests must be made in person to the building principal three days prior to the planned absence.

Planned personal leave should be submitted at the earliest date possible (but not less than three school days) due to limited opportunities to find substitutes. Substitutes will be used to fill school activities before requests for personal days. Every effort will be made to find coverage but requests for personal days may be denied or teachers may be asked to reschedule if coverage cannot be found.

Whenever leaving the building, teachers are required to check in and sign out on the Teacher Checkout sheet in the main office.

#### **TELEPHONE AND INTERCOM SYSTEM IN CLASSROOMS**

The telephone and intercom systems which have been installed in each room **are to be used by teachers and staff members only unless in case of emergency when the classroom teacher is incapacitated.** **Students are not allowed to answer the phone.** Students are not to be on the phone during class times.

#### **TEXTBOOKS AND OTHER SCHOOL PROPERTY**

Teachers are to keep accurate records of textbooks and other school property issued to them. When assigning books to students, record the number of the book and then keep this list of book numbers and student names in a safe place. If a student informs you that he/she has lost their textbook, the teacher will collect for the original book before issuing him/her a new book. Should the original textbook show up at a later date the student's payment will be refunded. Please remind students of their responsibility in keeping the textbooks and materials issued to them in good condition.



# STANDARD™ RESPONSE PROTOCOL

## STUDENT SAFETY

A critical ingredient in the safe school recipe is the classroom response to an incident at school. Weather events, fire, accidents, intruders and other threats to student safety are scenarios that are planned and trained for by students, teachers, staff and administration.

## SRP

Our school is expanding the safety program to include the Standard Response Protocol (SRP). The SRP is based on these four actions: Lockout, Lockdown, Evacuate and Shelter. In the event of an emergency, the action and appropriate direction will be called on the PA.

**LOCKOUT** - "Secure the Perimeter"

**LOCKDOWN** - "Locks, Lights, Out of Sight"

**EVACUATE** "To the Announced Location"

**SHELTER** - "I or a Hazard Using a Safety Strategy"

## TRAINING

Please take a moment to review these actions. Students and staff will be trained and the school will drill these actions over the course of the school year.

More information can be found at <http://iloveguys.org>



## LOCKOUT SECURE THE PERIMETER

Lockout is called when there is a threat or hazard outside of the school building.

### STUDENTS:

- Return to inside of building
- Do business as usual

### TEACHERS

- Recover students and staff from outside building
- Increased situational awareness
- Do business as usual
- Take roll, account for students



## LOCKDOWN LOCKS, LIGHTS, OUT OF SIGHT

Lockdown is called when there is a threat or hazard inside the school building.

### STUDENTS:

- Move away from sight
- Maintain silence

### TEACHERS:

- Lock classroom door
- Lights out
- Move away from sight
- Maintain silence
- Wait for First Responders to open door
- Take roll, account for students



## EVACUATE TO A LOCATION

Evacuate is called to move students and staff from one location to another.

### STUDENTS:

- Bring your phone
- Leave your stuff behind
- Form a single file line
- Show your hands
- Be prepared for alternatives during response.

### TEACHERS:

- Grab roll sheet if possible
- Lead students to Evacuation Location
- Take roll, account for students



## SHELTER FOR A HAZARD USING SAFETY STRATEGY

Shelter is called when the need for personal protection is necessary.

### SAMPLE HAZARDS:

- Tornado
- Hazmat

### SAMPLE SAFETY STRATEGIES:

- Evacuate to shelter area
- Seal the room

### STUDENTS:

- Appropriate hazards and safety strategies

### TEACHERS:

- Appropriate hazards and safety strategies
- Take roll, account for students

# **McAndrew Elementary**

**Ainsworth Community Schools**

**Grades K-6**

**2024-25**



## **Teacher Handbook**

## **McANDREW ELEMENTARY TEACHER HANDBOOK**

This handbook is intended to be used by staff as a guide to the rules, regulations, and general information about McAndrew Elementary School. Each Teacher is responsible for becoming familiar with the handbook and knowing the information contained in it. Teachers are encouraged to use this handbook as a resource and to assist their students in following the rules contained in this handbook.

Although the information found in this handbook is detailed and specific on many topics, the handbook is not intended to be all-encompassing to cover every situation and circumstance that may arise during any school day, or school year. This handbook does not create a “contract.” The administration reserves the right to make decisions and make rule revisions at any time to implement the educational program and to ensure the well-being of all students. The administration will be responsible for interpreting the rules contained in the handbook. Should a situation or circumstance arise that is not specifically covered in this handbook, the administration will decide based upon all applicable school district policies, and state and federal statutes and regulations.

### **SCHOOL MISSION**

ACS CARES: Committed to Achieving Results for Everyone’s Success

## 2024-25 K-6 FACULTY & STAFF

**ADMINISTRATION** Dale Hafer Superintendent District Office Benjamin Wright PK-6 Principal Elementary Office

### BOARD OF EDUCATION

Brad Wilkins President  
Mark Johnson Vice President  
Scott Erthum Secretary / Treasurer  
Jessica Pozehl Member  
Bryan Doke Member  
Frank Beel Member

### FACULTY & STAFF

#### Ben Wright Principal K-6

#### DeAnn Nilson K-6 Office Assistant Elementary

Chelsea Hladky School Nurse Elementary Office  
Lori Clapper School Nurse Elementary Office  
Kelsey Reisen K-6 Guidance Counselor Room 20  
Lori Pollock Kindergarten Room 13  
Liz Salzman Kindergarten Room 14  
Brenda Konkoleski Grade One Room 10  
Stacey Alberts Grade One Room 11  
Britley Beck Grade Two Room 15  
Neiley Arens Grade Two Room 16  
Sarah Carpenter Grade Three Room 18  
Reagan Fairhead Grade Three Room 19  
Alisha Strelow Grade Four Room 21  
Julie Micheel Grade Four Room 17  
Jennifer Beel Grade Five/Art Room 109  
Mandy Evans Grade Five Room 108  
Heather Lutter Grade Six Room 110  
Nichole Flynn Grade Six Room 107  
Amanda Ganser Computers Room 9  
Kayla Nilson Vocal Music Room 138  
Jessica Kempke Physical Education Gym  
Kara Welch Library / Media Room 9  
Erin Rathe 5-6 Band HS  
Joyce Eurit K-6 Resource Room 12  
Bobbie Jo Robinson K-6 Resource Room 20  
Scott Steinhauser School Psychologist Room 130  
Christina Buckles Speech Therapy Room 6  
Sandi Nelson Reading Coach / Title I Room 5  
Lauren Osborne ELL Teacher  
Mikki Arens Paraprofessional  
Moriah Beel Paraprofessional  
Mindy Vansickle Paraprofessional  
Stephen Pierce Paraprofessional  
Connie Jackson Paraprofessional  
Roni Daniels Paraprofessional  
Karen Kackmeister Paraprofessional

Janet Painter Paraprofessional / ELL  
Laurie Goodloe IT Tech / Library

**Regular Schedule**

7:30 Breakfast is served.

Students eating breakfast enter through high school doors.

7:45 Teachers are on duty.

7:55 Students enter building.

K-2 enters by the east doors and goes into the gym.

3-4 enters by the west doors and goes into the gym.

5-6 enters by the Big A doors and goes into the gym.

8:00 Class begins.

**11:00-12:45 Lunch and recess**

<b>Grade Lunch Recess</b>
<b>K</b> 11:00-11:25/ 11:25-11:45
<b>1</b> 11:00-11:25/ 11:25-11:45
<b>2</b> 11:00-11:25/ 11:25-11:45
<b>3</b> 12:00-12:25 /12:25-12:45
<b>4</b> 12:00-12:25/ 12:25-12:45
<b>5</b> 11:35-12:00/ 12:00-12:20
<b>6</b> 11:35-12:00/ 12:00-12:20

3:30 School is dismissed.

K-2 dismissed through east doors.

3-4 dismissed through west doors.

**3:34** 5-6 dismissed through Big A doors.

## CLASSROOM SCHEDULES

Turn in all schedules to the Office Assistant no later than 5 days after the first day of school. Keep these updated with changes throughout the year, if applicable.

## FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL REMINDERS

1. Go over all rules and policies pertaining to your room, hallways, restrooms, playground, hot lunch and special milk programs; and all other rules that you may adopt for your room.
2. Go over your daily class schedule; spend some time with each class in its discussion.
3. Keep an accurate record of textbooks issued, their conditions and other classroom books used during the year.

## CLASSROOM RESPONSIBILITIES

1. You as a professional teacher are responsible for the educational process of the students. This is a heavy burden, but with hard work and dedication we all can provide the students with the best educational opportunities. Review the evaluation policy for expectations.
2. As a teacher you should not leave students unsupervised at any time. **If you have to leave the room for an emergency, contact the office and someone will supervise your room.**
3. When your classes are entering the building, leaving the building, or going to and from the Middle School, or High School **at least one teacher per grade level should accompany the students. This will help keep students calm and reduce the number of unpleasant incidents among students.**
4. Teachers are to be on duty at 7:45 a.m. You may leave at 3:45 p.m. I expect you to observe these hours unless you have discussed a specific situation with me. **You should supervise hallways when students enter, and when students are moving through the halls.** Most students are eager to greet their teacher in the morning, and you should be there to meet them.
5. Prepare for your substitute. Use the RED folder we provided on your desk for the purpose of helping the substitute.  
In the folder should be:
  - daily schedule
  - seating chart
  - class list
  - supervising duties
  - complete lesson plans
  - attendance information
  - any other information that may be useful to a substitute.

If you need a substitute after normal office hours:

- Call Dedra at 402-389-2047.
- It is easier to cancel a substitute than to arrange one at the last minute.
- **It is your responsibility to have your red sub folder, clear plans, materials, and directions brought in for the substitute.**

6. Many special services are available to our students, including speech services, psychological evaluation, resource placement, counseling, and health services. The referral process may involve direct contact with Mr. Steinhauser, Mrs. Riesen or with Mr. Wright. One of us may recommend a Student Assistance Team meeting, or the students' teacher may request an SAT meeting. Parents may also request an SAT meeting. The purpose of the SAT is to generate educational alternatives using the expertise of team members. Subsequent SAT meetings may result in recommendation for testing for possible special services.
7. Dismissal and Clean up: There should be no early dismissals. When students are dismissed, dismiss them in an orderly manner under your supervision. Running in halls and loud boisterous activity is not acceptable. **I expect teachers to supervise students being dismissed as well as students entering the building. 3<sup>rd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> should use West doors; K-2<sup>nd</sup> should use East doors.**

All students should vacate the building 10 minutes after dismissal (unless weather or other conditions mandate that those who are waiting for rides or relatives wait inside). Other exceptions would be students in detention or those who stay for extra teacher help.

#### **DETENTION AND HOMEWORK**

1. Students may be detained at noon, recess or after school if, in your judgment, this is the best way to remedy a situation. A student should notify his/her parents if he/she is staying after school. The student must also be supervised. You must make contact with parent before holding student after school.
2. Homework is an invaluable tool when used wisely. Likewise, it can be equally harmful if used improperly or overwhelmingly. The principal will question continual homework of large proportions. Homework should not be busy work. Forty problems should not be assigned when 15 are sufficient. If homework is assigned, students must have feedback on it shortly after it is assigned. Don't wait until the end of the week or the following week to grade it.

**INSTRUCTIONS**

1. Fire drills will be held monthly (2 in August).
2. Disaster and emergency response procedures are kept current in the Emergency Response Packet. All teachers and staff should familiarize themselves with the current procedures set forth in the Emergency Response Packet.
3. Students should walk quickly, quietly and in single file. Two classes may walk side by side.

**EVACUATION PLAN****ROOMS 10, 11, 12, 13**

WILL EXIT OUT THE EAST DOORS AND PROCEED TO WALK TOWARDS THE PARISH HALL USING THE SIDEWALK ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF THIRD STREET.

**ROOM 9**

WILL EXIT THROUGH THE SOUTH DOOR AND PROCEED TO WALK TOWARD THE PARISH HALL USING THE SIDEWALK ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF THIRD STREET.

**ROOMS 6, 7**

WILL EXIT THROUGH THE EAST DOOR AND PROCEED TO WALK TOWARDS THE PARISH HALL USING THE WALK ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF THIRD STREET.

**ROOMS 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20 & 21**

WILL EXIT THROUGH THE WEST DOOR, GO NORTH ACROSS THE STREET AND PROCEED TO THE PARISH HALL USING THE SIDEWALK ON THE NORTH SIDE OF THIRD STREET.

**LUNCHROOM STUDENTS**

WILL EXIT THROUGH THE WEST CAFETERIA DOORS, CROSS THE STREET TO THE WEST, PROCEED NORTH ACROSS THIRD STREET. THEY SHOULD THEN TURN EAST, CROSS ELM STREET AND PROCEED TO THE PARISH HALL USING THE SIDEWALK ON THE NORTH SIDE OF THIRD STREET.

**5-6 CLASSES****Rooms 107, 108, 109, 110**

WILL EXIT THROUGH THE SOUTH DOORS OF THE MIDDLE SCHOOL AND CROSS THE STREET.

## SEVERE WEATHER DRILL & EVACUATION PLANS

### INSTRUCTIONS

1. Tornado drills will be held twice a year.
2. All students are to go to their designated areas in the hallways and assume the tucked position, with their hands over the back of their heads and facing the wall. 2024-257
3. Classroom doors and windows are to be closed.
4. Exterior doors should be pulled shut and all entryway doors closed.

### DESIGNATED AREAS FOR SEVERE WEATHER DRILLS / DISASTER EMERGENCIES

**LIBRARY** Room 6 (Speech Room)

**ROOM 10 & 11** Room 7 (Resource Room)

**ROOM 12& 13** Room 5 (Resource Room)

**ROOM 14** Girls' Restroom (East Hallway)

**ROOM 15** Boys' Restroom (East Hallway)

**ROOM 16 & 17** Room 3 (Teacher's Workroom)

**ROOM 18** Girls' Shower Room (Northeast corner of gym)

**ROOM 19** Girls' Shower Room (Northeast corner of gym)

**ROOM 20** Girls' Shower Room (Northeast corner of gym)

**ROOM 21** Boys' Shower Room (Southeast corner of gym)

**ROOM 5, 6 & 7** Stay in your rooms

**GYM** PE Teacher should take students to his office or girls' shower room

**LEARNING CENTER** Music Teacher should take students to the locker room back stage **CAFETERIA**  
Lunchroom teacher should take students into the inner Principal's office and HS office

**IN CASE OF LATE NOTICE AND IMPOSSIBILITY TO MAKE DESIGNATED AREAS, THE FOLLOWING WOULD BE USABLE:**

NORTH/SOUTH HALL-ALONG OUTSIDE HALL WALL

EAST/WEST HALL-ALONG OUTSIDE HALL WALL

REGULAR CLASSROOMS-SOUTH EAST CORNER UNDER COVER

### 5-6 CLASSROOMS

**ROOM 107, 108, 109** WILL GO TO ROOM 107

**ROOM 110** WILL GO TO ROOM 115 AND 114

## **EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYMENT**

Ainsworth Community Schools will employ the best qualified applicant for each position without regard to sex, disability, race, color, religion, veteran status, national or ethnic origin, marital status, pregnancy, childbirth or related medical condition, or other protected status, and to not fail or refuse to hire or to discharge any individual, or otherwise to discriminate against any individual with respect to compensation,

2023-24 8

terms, conditions, or privileges of employment, because of such individual's sex, disability, race, color, religion, veteran status, national or ethnic origin, marital status, pregnancy, childbirth or related medical condition, or other protected status. There shall be no discrimination by school officials against any employee because of membership or activity in an employee organization or because of protected free speech activities.

## **HOT LUNCH, BREAKFAST AND MILK PROGRAM**

Under special federal programs, hot lunch, breakfast and milk is served to students who wish to participate. Forms will be sent home to apply for free or reduced participation in these programs. Parents who wish to be included under these guidelines must sign the forms and return them to school before participation is effective.

## **BREAKFAST & LUNCH PRICES**

### **ITEM PAID REDUCED FREE**

K-12 Breakfast **\$2.00 FREE FREE**

K-4 Lunch **\$3.45 \$0.40 FREE**

5-12 Lunch **\$3.65 \$0.40 FREE**

Extra Lunch Entrée **\$2.25**

Extra Pizza Hut Pizza **\$2.25 \$2.25 \$2.25**

Extra Milk **\$0.50 \$0.50 \$0.50**

Extra Fruit & Veggie Bar **FREE FREE FREE**

Adult Guest Breakfast **\$2.65 -- --**

Adult Guest Lunch **\$4.35 -- --**

Adult ONLY Fruit & Veggie Bar **\$3.00 -- --**

Child Guest Breakfast **\$2.65 -- --**

Child Guest Lunch **\$4.35 -- --**

1. Students in Kindergarten and 1<sup>st</sup> grades have the opportunity to drink snack milk during the school day. **This must be paid for by semester or for the entire year. Students will not be allowed to drink snack milk until payment has been received. Notices will be sent home before the start of each semester.**

2. 1st semester: \$47.30 2nd semester: \$47.30 All Year: \$94.60

3. Any milk or lunch money collected should be sent to the office. Doing this at the start of the day ensures the deposit will be made before lunch that day.

4. Students who eat at school will not be allowed to leave the school grounds unless they have permission from the office.

5. Students going home for lunch **should not** return to school until time for classes to begin. 6. Staff members will be assigned playground duty. The duty is a responsibility of the substitute teacher. Be sure to include it in your substitute plans.

2024-25 9

## LIBRARY

1. The library will be open to all students during the day except during scheduled library classes. Teachers shall clearly define library manners if students wish to go down in **small groups of two or three.**

2. The librarian will develop rules that are beneficial to the good of the order.

3. Books and other materials should be checked out either with the librarian or on the clipboard before being removed from the library. Materials returned to the library should be placed on the top shelf of the book cart beside the desk.

## LUNCHROOM SUPERVISION

There will be a teacher/Staff member in the lunchroom at all times. The teacher/Staff Member will be responsible for supervising during lunch. If a student must be sent from the lunchroom, send him/her to the office, not to his/her classroom as there might not be a teacher in the classroom. The students should be allowed to engage in conversation. Shouting, throwing of food, or any other misconduct will not be tolerated.

### LUNCHROOM RULES:

1. Use quiet voices
2. Students need permission to:
  - ...Return trays
  - ...Get a drink
  - ...Use the restroom
3. Keep floor and tables clean

## MEDICATIONS

All medications, with few exceptions, must be stored in the office and given by trained personnel or the school nurse. Written permission from a parent is required. **Medicines must be in the original container, regardless if the drug is a prescription drug or an over-the-counter drug.** Medicines, such as inhalers, can be kept with the student but the parent is required to fill out a self-administration permit form. Permission

2024-2025 9

forms are in the office.

## **PLAYGROUND SUPERVISION**

When children are on the playground, the school rules apply. As you supervise the playground, use good common sense and be safety conscious.

If a student on the playground needs to be disciplined, utilize the school discipline plan and communicate with the child's homeroom teacher. In addition, I would suggest that you designate a "time-out" or "cooling off" area to isolate the child for a while. This provides some immediate punishment and a chance to calm down. Some groups may need teacher direction in finding suitable activities. Students with severe problems can be sent to the principal's office with an explanation.

Teachers **and** aides have discipline authority in our school. Teachers should help students understand the authority of aides.

1. All playground activities shall be properly supervised whether during recess, over the noon hour, or at any other time that you have an organized group on the school grounds or under your supervision.
2. We will arrange designated areas where certain groups are required to be during large group recesses if necessary.
3. **Teachers and playground supervisors are directly responsible for the actions of the students. Your alertness, attention to duty and interest in what is going on will greatly influence the actions and attitudes of the students and have a positive effect upon their behavior. Go out with them, do not be late, continuously survey and MOVE AROUND. IF THERE IS MORE THAN ONE STAFF MEMBER SUPERVISING...PLEASE BE ON SEPARATE PARTS OF THE PLAYGROUND.**
4. There shall be no: Abusive, foul or off-colored language; throwing of snowballs; rough-house or "bully" tactics; tackle football; roller skating, skateboards, scooters or bike riding; scuffling, wrestling, "horseplay" or any other forms of activity not conducive to the good of order. Keep playground activities under control at all times. Initiate activities when students drift aimlessly.
5. All playground accidents shall be reported to the office as soon as possible. Each teacher will receive an accident form. Please complete this form and turn it into the office within 24 hours.
6. All children must leave the school premises immediately after school unless under the direct supervision of a teacher or waiting for their parents. If you detain them for more than 10-15 minutes, have them call home.
7. Weather conditions may dictate a change in these procedures.
8. During noon and other recesses students should not be in the building. They should bring needed equipment out with them at the beginning of the recess so as not to have to go back in. Grant permission to reenter the building sparingly.

## **PRESS RELEASES**

All press releases must be cleared with the principal. The principal must approve any written article and/or photograph before it reaches the media.

## **PURCHASE ORDERS AND REQUISITIONS**

A teacher must have a purchase order before buying material for school use. Check with the principal for approval of a purchase order. Requisition forms are available on Weblink. All purchases are subject to approval by the Superintendent.

## **REPORT CARDS AND PERMANENT RECORDS**

1. Report cards will be sent home the week following the close of each 9-week period, except for Q2/S1. Those are sent home a few days after school resumes for Q3. These dates will be determined by the principal at the start of each year and are subject to change.

## **GRADING SCALE AND CODE**

A+ 99-100  
A Excellent 95-98  
A- 93-94  
B+ 91-92  
B Above Average-Very Good 88-90  
B- 86-87  
C+ 84-85  
C Average-Good 80-83  
C- 78-79  
D+ 76-77  
D Below Average-Needs Improvement 72-75  
D- 70-71  
F Failing-Not Acceptable 69 or below

S+ Above Satisfactory  
S Satisfactory  
S- Below Satisfactory  
U Unsatisfactory

2. Mid-Quarter Reports: (Grades 3<sup>rd</sup>- 6<sup>th</sup>)

This involves notification to parents at mid-quarter of their child's progress during the first half of the quarter. They will be sent home a few days following the close of the 5-week period.

## **ROOM ASSIGNMENT**

Each teacher is assigned to a room. It is your responsibility to see that this room is locked each night before leaving the building. All the lights should be turned out, the windows closed and locked, and the shades should be left open except during cold weather. The teacher in charge of a room is directly responsible for all the equipment and supplies in that room. Staff members occupying any room **MUST** keep on file in the room and in the office an inventory of all furniture, supplies, curriculum materials, technology, etc. Any excessive or unnecessary damage by a student will be reimbursed.

## **ROOM PARTIES AND HOMEROOM PARENTS**

1. There shall be a Fall, Christmas and Valentine's Day party officially. Kindergarten may include Halloween and Easter.
2. Birthday parties, unless permission from the office is granted, shall not be more than common courtesy and recognition would permit.
3. Don't shake the roof in carrying out your party plans.
4. Parties should probably not last more than ½ hour.
5. Room parents suggested responsibilities: Bring or arrange for pre-packaged treats, help plan for games or activities.

## **SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES**

Any event, which involves students and use of school facilities after school hours, should be listed on the master calendar in the principal's office. In the case of parties, picnics, hikes, etc., notice should be given to the principal five days prior to the day of the event to avoid conflicts. No activities are to be scheduled on Wednesday night or Sunday, unless approved by the superintendent.

## **SCHOOL CLOSING**

Should it become necessary to close school because of bad weather, an announcement will be given through the School Messenger notification program, the local radio station KBRB (FM 92 or AM 1400) and 2023-24 12 Channels 10/11 TV. If the elementary school is closed, it will be closed to all grades. If it becomes advisable because of an impending storm or other reason to close school during the school day, this information will be given out over the above listed methods.

## **SICKNESS AND ABSENCES**

Refer to the current negotiated agreement for specific details concerning sick leave and personal leave.

## **STUDENT ABSENCE, ATTENDANCE AND TARDINESS**

1. Attendance should be taken at the beginning of the morning and afternoon session. Teachers should immediately report any suspicious or unusual absences.
2. The circumstances for all absences from school will be identified as School Excused, Self-Excused, or Unexcused. Absences should be cleared through the Principal's office in advance whenever possible. All absences, except for illness and/or death in the family, or emergencies, require advance approval.
  - a. School-Excused. Any of the following circumstances that lead to an absence will be identified as a *School Excused* absence, provided the required attendance procedures have been followed:
    - (1) Impossible or impracticable barriers outside the control of the parent or child prevent a student from attending school. The parent must provide the school with documentation to demonstrate the absence was beyond the control of the parent or child. This could include, but is not limited to:

- Medically documented illness
- Documented medical or dental appointments. When possible, appointments should be scheduled outside of school time.
- Court appearances that are required by a court order.
- Death/Funeral of immediate family
- School sponsored activities which require students to be absent from school.
- Documented College visits (two per year for senior students and 1 per year of junior students).
- School suspension
- Other absences which have received approval from the Principal.

b. Self-Excused. Absences that are self- excused may result in a report to the county attorney, loss of credit, and count toward excessive absenteeism may be classified as follows:

- (1) Parent acknowledged absences are those in which the parent communicated with the school in the prescribed manner that the child is absent and is the parent’s responsibility for the extent of the school day. This includes, but is not limited to:
- Parent acknowledged absences that are not listed above as excused.
  - College visits beyond those that are excused, undocumented college visits and underclass college visits.

c. Unexcused. Absences that are unexcused and self-excused may result in a report to the county attorney, loss of credit, and count toward excessive absenteeism. This could include, but is not limited to:

2024-25 13

- Other absences in which the parent has not communicated a viable reason for the student’s absence.
- Non-School sponsored class skip day.

Time missed and all work shall be made up for unexcused absences.

3. Tardiness is a habit, and is rarely excusable. Let the student know this. If tardiness occurs more than a few times, please have the student report to me.
4. Students who have been absent due to a communicable disease may be required to have a doctor’s statement indicating they may return to school before they will be allowed to return to classes.
1. Should a child become ill during school, send him or her to the nurse’s office. The nurse, the administrative assistant, or the principal will make arrangements for the student to be picked up.

#### **STUDENT CONTROL AND DISCIPLINE PROCEDURES**

When student misconduct must be corrected, the following forms of corrective action should normally be utilized:

1. Warning

Let the student know how they are wrong in their actions. This may be verbal or non-verbal.

2. Reprimand

It should be administered with restraint in the classroom. Severe reprimands should be privately administered away from the classroom.

3. Conference

Used to reason with the student, to discuss the circumstances of misbehavior, and to advise the student. This should be done privately away from other children. Parents should be involved in conferences when it becomes apparent that a pattern of misbehavior is developing.

4. Detention

Usually administered when reprimand and initial conferences have failed to correct the situation. Can be assigned for one or more days before or after school.

5. Repairing or Paying for Damage

Please use it for the student who has defaced school property.

6. Please keep these ideas in mind regarding discipline:

a. Do not remove students from PE, music or any other special class without discussing it with me and the other teacher involved.

b. Inform parents about large or continuing problems. It will be easier to work with parents if you maintain contact with them throughout the problem period. Also, don't wait for the problem to become large before talking with parents. Get their help at the beginning. You might call parents with "good" reports, also.

c. Document incidents and student behaviors in writing and on SWIS. I suggest keeping a notebook in your desk. Specific notes and data are much more effective than relying on your memory.

d. If you keep students inside at recess, at noon, or after school to do classwork, it is your responsibility to supervise them. Don't leave them unattended or expect others to supervise them for you. (If you have a meeting to attend, then they will have to stay another time.) If students are sent to the office, notify the office as to why and how long they will be here.

7. Proper student conduct and discipline are prerequisites to learning. They must both be maintained at all times. Self-discipline and conduct on the part of the teacher is the first step in accomplishing this goal. Together, we can maintain this among the student body. These, like every other concept of education, must be taught by word, deed and example.

**8. TEACHERS SHOULD BE IN THE HALLWAY DURING PASSING OF STUDENTS. THIS APPLIES TO YOUR OWN CLASS OR WHEN ALL CLASSES ARE MOVING WITHIN THE BUILDING. BATHROOMS ARE TO BE MONITORED WHENEVER CLASSES ARE USING THEM.**

9. Do not hesitate to correct students, even if they are not from your room. We are all in this together. Most often a simple warning, caution, touch, or even a look is sufficient. Anger or lecturing is

unnecessary.

## **EMPLOYEE USE OF DISTRICT TECHNOLOGY**

The Board of education believes that the availability of computers and computer technology will enhance the learning opportunities of our students and allow the district to deliver educational services more efficiently. Employees are expected to conduct themselves within the guidelines of district computer use policy as stated in policy 606.06, Acceptable Use of Computers, Technology and the Internet.

## **TEACHER'S ATTIRE**

You are an important role model to your students. Staff members should be professionally dressed at all times. All attire should also meet the dress code we enforce for students. Footwear should be professional and provide for safety in the case of emergencies. It has been customary for teachers to wear jeans on Fridays if worn with a school shirt/or school colors. (This is not to be a "dress down" day with lowered academic or behavioral expectations. It is to be viewed as a "school spirit" day where staff can show support for school activities.)

## **TEACHER MEETINGS**

1. A general meeting will be held once each month (approximately). All staff members-including specials teachers and aides are welcome to attend.
2. Any meeting, which is not regular classroom procedure, must have the approval of the principal before it is called.

## **TELEPHONE**

1. **Students must get permission to use the telephone and this use should be restricted to short business calls.** All calls by students must be under the direct supervision of you or the office personnel. Remember, students must not use the room phones to make playdates after school, etc.
2. As a general rule, students will not be allowed to receive calls during school time. Rather, the office will take the information and relay it to the student, or have the student call back when free.
3. Teachers will not be disturbed by phone calls unless it is an urgent matter.

## **VISITORS TO THE BUILDING**

A sign will be posted on all doors for visitors to report to the office for permission to visit a room. Many exceptions will occur, I'm sure, but under no circumstances does anyone come into your room to take a student from the room unless you know them and their relationship with our students. Children are allowed to visit for a reasonable amount of time and with permission from the principal and teacher.

## **Notice of Nondiscrimination**

The Ainsworth Community School District does not discriminate on the basis of sex, disability, race, color, religion, veteran status, national or ethnic origin, marital status, pregnancy, childbirth or related medical condition, or other protected status in its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. Complaints or concerns involving discrimination or needs for accommodation or access should be addressed to the Superintendent.

Dale Hafer, Superintendent, 520 E. 2<sup>nd</sup> St., Ainsworth, NE 69210, 402-387-2333, [dhafer@ainsworthschools.org](mailto:dhafer@ainsworthschools.org)  
The Superintendent shall be the Coordinator for anti-discrimination laws (including Title VI, Title IX; the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (Section 504)) and complaints or concerns involving discrimination or compliance with those laws should be addressed to the Superintendent. For further information about anti-discrimination laws and regulations, or to file a complaint of discrimination with the Office for Civil Rights in the U.S. Department of Education (OCR), please contact the OCR at 601 East 12<sup>th</sup> Street, Room 353, Kansas City, MO 64106, (800) 368-1019 (voice), Fax (816) 426-3686, (800) 537-7697 (telecommunications device for the deaf), or [ocr.kansascity@ed.gov](mailto:ocr.kansascity@ed.gov).

## WORKPLACE PRIVACY

The district will not:

1. Require or request that an employee or applicant provide or disclose any username or password or any other related account information in order to gain access to the employee's or applicant's personal Internet account by way of an electronic communication device; or
2. Require or request that an employee or applicant log into a personal Internet account by way of an electronic communication device in the presence of the employer in a manner that enables the employer to observe the contents of the employee's or applicant's personal Internet account or provides the employer access to the employee's or applicant's personal Internet account; or
3. Require an employee or applicant to add anyone, including the employer, to the list of contacts associated with the employee's or applicant's personal Internet account or require or otherwise coerce an employee or applicant to change the settings on the employee's or applicant's personal Internet account which affects the ability of others to view the content of such account; or
4. Take adverse action against, fail to hire, or otherwise penalize an employee or applicant for failure to provide or disclose any of the information or to take any of the actions specified above.
5. Require an employee or applicant to waive or limit any protection granted under the Workplace Privacy Act as a condition of continued employment or of applying for or receiving an offer of employment.

The district shall maintain its right to control, monitor and review the use of its computers, technology and the Internet as stated in policy 606.06, to access any employee-related information available in the public domain, and conduct investigations related to employee actions prohibited by district policy to the extent those investigations are not expressly prohibited by the Workplace Privacy Act or other applicable state or federal law.

### Recording of Conversations in the Workplace

To ensure privacy and confidentiality in the workplace, no person is authorized to record or transmit the sound or image of any person without prior authorization or consent by either the person(s) being recorded or whose sound or image is being transmitted or by the Superintendent. Recording may be done in circumstances where recording is expressly permitted such as (1) recording a Board meeting during open session, (2) at District-sponsored activities where the focus of the recording or transmission is on the student performances or activities, (3) when recording an IEP or similar meeting to facilitate a record of parental involvement in the process or protection of other rights guaranteed by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, (4) District-operated security equipment, or (5) other instances required by law or allowed by District policy.

Legal Reference: Neb. Statutes, LB 821 (2016)

Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Reviewed \_\_\_\_\_ Revised \_\_\_\_\_



Dale Hafer &lt;dhafer@ainsworthschools.org&gt;

## May 24, 2025 NASB Policy Update

1 message

Jim Luebbe &lt;jluebbe@nasbonline.org&gt;

Fri, May 24, 2024 at 11:48 AM

To: "Aaron Plas (aplas@bennps.org)" <aplas@bennps.org>, "Bryon Hanson (bhanson@callawaypublicschools.org)" <bhanson@callawaypublicschools.org>, "Cherie Van Dyke (vandykec@discoverers.org)" <vandykec@discoverers.org>, "Dale Hafer (dhafer@ainsworthschools.org)" <dhafer@ainsworthschools.org>, "David Patton (david.patton@apsbulldogs.org)" <david.patton@apsbulldogs.org>, "Evelyn Browne - Banner County (evelyn.browne@bcswildcats.org)" <evelyn.browne@bcswildcats.org>, "Jeff Rippe (ripj@hotmail.com)" <ripj@hotmail.com>, "Jodi McCoy (jmccoy@bennps.org)" <jmccoy@bennps.org>, "Joe'l Ruybalid (JoelRuybalid@bluehillschools.org)" <JoelRuybalid@bluehillschools.org>, "Loren Engel (loren.engel@cvsstorm.com)" <loren.engel@cvsstorm.com>, "Rich Lemburg (rlemburg@clarkson.esu7.org)" <rlemburg@clarkson.esu7.org>, "Rodney Brown (rodney.brown@bpsne.net)" <rodney.brown@bpsne.net>, Rodney Olson <rodney.olson@bayardtigers.org>, "Samantha Wehenkel (samantha.wehenkel@apsbulldogs.org)" <samantha.wehenkel@apsbulldogs.org>, "Troy Loeffelholz (loeffelholz@discoverers.org)" <loeffelholz@discoverers.org>

NASB Policy Update Subscribers,

The policy revisions from the recent legislative session are a bit more lengthy than usual. I will send a set of redlines showing all revisions in an email following this one.

As always, any text in *italics* indicates a choice to be made between alternate wording to fit your district's local practices.

1. Policy 201.02 – LB 287 requires that in the case of a special district election called by the Secretary of State to fill a majority of board seats, all candidates shall fill out candidate filing forms.
2. Policy 204.07 Meeting Notice – LB 287 prescribes an alternate method for providing notice of meetings when newspaper publication cannot be done on a timely basis. This policy will once more be revised prior to January 2025, when a more detailed alternate notice method from LB 287 will go into effect. We'll keep you posted.
3. Policy 204.12 Public Comment – LB 43 requires that public comment shall be allowed at each meeting. No minimum time period is specified by the legislation for the complete comment period nor is there a requirement that each person must be given time to speak. A practice such as allowing the first individuals who signed up to speak until the period is filled would still be acceptable. When updated posters for the Open Meetings Act become available, the outdated ones should be replaced.
4. Policy 206.02 Board Association Membership – LB 304 requires school districts to disclose on their website any membership dues paid to organizations such as NASB and also any additional fees paid to lobbyists or lobbying organizations.

5. Policy 402.03 Employee Conflict of Interest – LB 287 reinforces existing conflict of interest statutes to prevent employees from entering into personally beneficial agreements on behalf of the district without the board's knowledge.
6. Policy 409.01 Certificated Employee Professional Development – LB 1329 modifies state statutes that had previously been quite specific about minimum annual training hour requirements for certain topics. Local school boards may now determine how much training shall be reasonable.
7. Policy 502.02 Nonresident Students/Option Enrollment – LB 1329 has several language changes to implement the decision that students may now option enroll for each of 3 levels of schooling. Since the entire topic has gotten a bit more complex, I have also added some additional basic guidance from the original rules to better describe the entire process.
8. Policy 502.03 Entrance – Admissions – LB 71 creates additional funding opportunities for early childhood education programs and the change here deals with making it available both to children who are not yet eligible for kindergarten and also for children a year older who are being held back to the latest allowable year before beginning kindergarten. This language is entirely optional.
9. Policy 503.04 Addressing Barriers to Attendance – LB 1029 specifically exempts mental or physical illness from those reasons for unexcused absences that may be considered as excessive. LB 1329 also strengthens the option of conducting an educational evaluation of the reason for absences.
10. Policy 504.03 Student Conduct – LB 43 created the First Freedom Act to prevent undue substantial burdens from being placed upon a student's religious exercise.
11. Policy 504.06 Student Appearance – LB 43 also includes basic language effective this coming school year to protect a student's right to wear tribal regalia. LB 298 passed in 2023 directs NDE to issue a model dress code and grooming policy by December 2024. The right to wear tribal regalia is effective now but districts will not need to adopt a policy similar to NDE's model until the 2025-26 school year.
12. Policy 504.11 Weapons – LB 1329 makes changes in acceptable methods of firearms storage in vehicles operated by adults and parked at schools. There is also a requirement for state authorities to develop a model policy to allow the carrying of firearms by certain individuals in lesser populated districts (now designated as Class II and Class III), but no deadline has been set for its adoption.
13. Policy 607.10 Classroom Environment – LB 1329 requires that the primary classroom world map must be an equal-area projection map. Gerardus Mercator's 1569 navigational projection map may still serve useful instructional purposes since it preserves directions accurately. Since it distorts the relative sizes of land masses, it now cannot be used alone.

14. Policy 611.02 Student Promotion, Retention, or Acceleration – LB 71 creates new procedures for a parent to request having a student repeat a grade.
  
15. Policy 611.07 Graduation Requirements – LB 705 last year required that each graduating student must submit a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) beginning in the 2024-25 school year and allows certain situations for opting out of it.
  
16. Policy 802.05 Free or Reduced Cost Meals Eligibility and Meal Charges – LB 1329 prohibits schools from using debt collection agencies to collect outstanding school lunch debts from students.
  
17. New Optional Policy 905.04 Emergency Response Mapping – LB 1329 allows boards to adopt an optional policy to create an emergency response map of school facilities for public agency use. Districts adopting such a policy will have state funding sources available to assist with the cost of implementing these maps. This policy is not required and will not include a redline since it is new.
  
18. Policy 1003.00 Public Examination of School District Records – LB 43 requires districts to supply up to 8 hours of employee time, rather than the previous requirement of 4, to meet public records requests of state residents without charging for employee time.
  
19. Policy 606.09 Textbook Loans to Children Enrolled in Private Schools – LB 705 last year required NDE to take over the textbook loan program beginning with the 2024-25 school year. Policy 606.09 can now be deleted.

There was much discussion about increasing parental oversight in schools and LB 71 requires NDE to adopt an Educational Decisionmaker model policy by July 1, 2025, stating how districts will provide additional information regarding a wide range of materials and procedures in the schools. This does not affect this year's policies.

LB 1329 makes a minor change in statute to specify that it is a district's responsibility to keep student attendance records, but it is the teacher's responsibility to record attendance. This did not require any change in Policy 503.02 Student Attendance Records.

LB 1329 also requires that NDE or before July 1, 2025, develop and adopt a model policy relating to behavioral intervention, behavioral management, classroom management, and removal of a student from a classroom in school. It does not affect this year's policies.

I will also send out a revised alphabetical, topical Index next week to help everyone locate some of the many changes that have been made to policies over the last couple of years. The Board Policy Manual is getting more complex all the time and it becomes difficult to locate some of these pieces that have been legislated into policy.

Thank you for your participation in NASB Policy Updates. We welcome your questions or comments.

Jim Luebbe

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**18 attachments**

-  **0201.02 - elections and appointments.docx**  
16K
-  **0204.07 - meeting notice.docx**  
17K
-  **0204.12 - public comment.docx**  
19K
-  **0206.02 - association membership.docx**  
17K
-  **0402.03 - employee conflict of interest.docx**  
19K
-  **0409.01 - certificated employee professional development.docx**  
23K
-  **0502.02 - nonresident students, option enrollment.docx**  
28K
-  **0502.03 - entrance - admissions.docx**  
19K
-  **0503.04 - addressing barriers to attendance.docx**  
21K
-  **0504.03 - student conduct.docx**  
18K
-  **0504.06 - student appearance.docx**  
18K
-  **0504.11 - weapons.docx**  
19K
-  **0607.10 - classroom environment.docx**  
18K
-  **0611.02 - student promotion, retention or acceleration.docx**  
18K
-  **0611.07 - graduation requirements.docx**  
22K
-  **0802.05 - free or reduced meals and meal charges.docx**  
18K
-  **0905.04 - emergency response mapping.docx**  
16K
-  **1003.00 - examination of district records.docx**  
17K

## BOARD MEMBERSHIP - ELECTIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

The biennial school election takes place on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November. Terms shall be staggered so that at least three board members are elected at each general election. Members of the board will be elected at large.

Incumbents must file for election at the Office of the County Clerk, Brown County, by February 15 prior to the date of the primary election. All other candidates must file for election by March 1 prior to the date of the primary election.

If a vacancy occurs on the board it may be filled within 45 days by appointment of a qualified registered voter by the remaining members of the board for the remainder of the unexpired term. If the board does not fill the vacancy by appointment, the vacancy may be filled by election at a special election or school district meeting called for that purpose. If a majority of the offices of the school board members are vacant, the Secretary of State will call a special school district election to fill the vacancies. Every candidate for a special district election shall file a candidate filing form according to state statutes.

It is prohibited to meet in closed session for discussion of the appointment or election of a new board member.

Legal Reference:                      Neb. Statute 32-501 et seq.

Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Reviewed \_\_\_\_\_ Revised \_\_\_\_\_

MEETING NOTICE

Reasonable advance public notice shall be given for meetings and work sessions held by the board in a local newspaper designated and recorded in the board minutes and, if available, on the newspaper's web site. If the newspaper refuses, neglects, or is unable to publish the notice on time, the district shall (1) post the notice on the newspaper's website, if available, and (2) post the notice in at least 3 conspicuous places in the district. The Board Secretary shall keep a written record of the postings.

Public notice shall indicate the meeting's time, place and date, and shall include a statement that the agenda shall be readily available for public inspection at the district office. Agenda items shall be sufficiently descriptive to give the public reasonable notice of the matters to be considered at the meeting and a copy kept readily available for public inspection at the principle office of the district. Except for items of an emergency nature the agenda shall not be altered later than 24 hours before the meeting.

A copy of the public notice will be provided to those who have filed a request for notice with the superintendent. These requests for notice must be in writing. A copy of the public notice will also be accessible to employees and students.

In the case of special meetings, public notice shall be given in the same manner as for a regular meeting unless it is an emergency meeting. Public notice of emergency meetings shall be given as soon as practical and possible in light of the situation. Reasonable efforts shall be made to notify news media who have requested notification of meetings.

It shall be the responsibility of the superintendent to give public notice of board meetings and work sessions. The superintendent shall maintain a list of the news media requesting notification of meetings and shall make reasonable efforts to provide advance notification of the time and place of each meeting and the subjects to be discussed.

Legal Reference:                   Neb. Statute 84-1408 to 1414  
  79-554  
  79-560  
  79-561

Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Reviewed \_\_\_\_\_ Revised \_\_\_\_\_

## PUBLIC COMMENT IN BOARD MEETINGS

The board recognizes the importance of citizen participation in school district matters and has created rules to assure citizens are heard and board meetings are conducted efficiently and in an organized manner. The board shall set time aside for public comment at each board meeting except closed sessions, at those times specified by the board. The orderly process of the board meeting shall not be interfered with or disrupted. Hostile conduct and offensive or defamatory comments will not be tolerated.

The board has the discretion to limit the amount of time set aside for public comment. The board president shall specify the total amount of time available for public comment prior to opening the public comment period. If public comment is allowed prior to individual agenda items, that limit on the total comment period should also be defined. Individual comments will be limited to \_\_\_ minutes for each participant. The board president will recognize these individuals to make their comments at the appropriate time. Only those speakers recognized by the board president shall be allowed to speak. Comments by others are out of order. If disruptive, the individual making the comments or another individual causing disruption may be asked to leave the board meeting.

The board requires any member of the public desiring to address the body to identify himself or herself, including an address and the name of any organization represented by such person unless the board waives the address requirement to protect the security of the individual.

Individuals who have a complaint about employees or students who have complaints shall follow policies 403.05 and 504.01 respectively. The board will follow policy 1005.01 in handling public complaints.

Any written or printed materials to be circulated for a meeting of the school board must be submitted to the superintendent by the Wednesday preceding a Monday night meeting and such information will only be added to the agenda packet at the discretion of the superintendent after consultation with the board president.

Legal Reference: Nebraska Statute 84-1408 to 1414

Cross Reference: 201.07 Board Member Liability  
403.05 Public Complaints about Employees  
1005.01 Public Complaints

Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Reviewed \_\_\_\_\_ Revised \_\_\_\_\_

## BOARD ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP

Participation in board member associations are beneficial to the board. The board shall maintain an active membership in the Nebraska Association of School Boards (NASB) and in organizations the board determines will be of benefit to the board and the school district.

The district shall publicly disclose the following on its website:

- a) Membership dues paid annually to any association or organization such as NASB;  
and
- b) Any fees other than membership dues paid to any individual lobbyist or lobbying firm.

Legal Reference:                   Neb. Statute 79-512

Cross Reference:                 206.03 Board Member Development Opportunities

Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Reviewed \_\_\_\_\_ Revised \_\_\_\_\_

## EMPLOYEE CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Employees' use of their position with the school district for financial gain shall be considered a conflict of interest with their position as employees and may subject employees to disciplinary action.

No employee earning more than one hundred fifty thousand dollars annually in salary and benefits may enter into any contract, agreement, or understanding on the district's behalf that may cause financial benefit to the employee, a member of the employee's immediate family, or a business with which the employee is associated, without prior full disclosure of the conflict to the board, and without prior approval by the board.

Employees have access to information and a captive audience that could award the employee personal or financial gain. No employee may solicit other employees or students for personal or financial gain to the employee or employee's spouse without the approval of the superintendent. If the approval of the superintendent is given, the employee must conduct the solicitations within the conditions set by the superintendent. Further, the superintendent may require the employee to immediately cease such solicitations as a condition of continued employment.

Employees shall not act as an agent or dealer for the sale of textbooks or other school supplies. Employees shall not participate for personal financial remuneration in outside activities wherein their position on the staff is used to sell goods or services to students or to parents. Employees shall not engage in outside work or activities where the source of information concerning the customer, client or employer originates from information obtained because of the employee's position in the school district.

It shall also be a conflict of interest for an employee to engage in any outside employment or activity which is in conflict with the employee's official duties and responsibilities. In determining whether outside employment or activity of an employee creates a conflict of interest, situations in which an unacceptable conflict of interest shall be deemed to exist shall include, but not be limited to, any of the following:

1. The outside employment or activity involves the use of the school district's time, facilities, equipment and supplies or the use of the school district's badge, uniform, business card or other evidences of office to give the employee or the employee's immediate family an advantage or monetary benefit that is not available to other similarly situated members or classes of members of the general public. For purposes of this section, a person is not "similarly situated" merely by being related to an employee who is employed by the school district.
2. The outside employment or activity involves the receipt of, promise of, or acceptance of more or other consideration by the employee or a member of the employee's immediate family from anyone other than the school district for the performance of any act that the employee would be required or expected to perform as part of the

Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Reviewed \_\_\_\_\_ Revised \_\_\_\_\_  
employee's regular duties or during the hours during which the employee performs  
service or work for the school district.

3. The outside employment or activity is subject to the official control, inspection, review, audit or enforcement authority of the employee during the performance of the employee's duties.

If the outside employment or activity is employment or activity in (1) or (2) above, the employee must cease the employment or activity. If the activity or employment falls under (3), then the employee must:

- Cease the outside employment or activity; or
- Publicly disclose the existence of the conflict and refrain from taking any official action or performing any official duty that would detrimentally affect or create a benefit for the outside employment or activity. Official action or official duty includes, but is not limited to, participating in any vote, taking affirmative action to influence any vote, or providing any other official service or thing that is not available generally to members of the public in order to further the interests of the outside employment or activity.

It shall be the responsibility of each employee to be aware of and take the necessary action to eliminate a potential conflict of interest should it arise.

Legal Reference: NDE Rule 27.004.03F

Cross Reference: 202.02 Board Member Conflict of Interest  
403.04 Gifts to Employees  
403.06 Employee Outside Employment

## CERTIFICATED EMPLOYEE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The board encourages certificated employees to attend and participate in professional development activities to maintain, develop, and extend their skills. The board shall maintain and support an in-service program for certificated employees.

The superintendent and or designee will develop and schedule in-service workshops as appropriate to the needs of the district and will inform the board regarding in-service staff development. In consultation with the Superintendent, annual time requirements for staff training in areas such as concussion awareness, suicide awareness, dating violence prevention, and others shall utilize a reasonable length of time as determined and approved by the board.

The requirements stated in the Negotiated Contract between employees in that certified collective bargaining unit and the board regarding professional development of such employees shall be followed.

Legal Reference: NDE Rule 10  
Neb. Statute 79-830

Cross Reference: 409.02 Certificated Employee Training, Workshops or  
Conferences

Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Reviewed \_\_\_\_\_ Revised \_\_\_\_\_

## NONRESIDENT STUDENTS/OPTION ENROLLMENT

Students who are eligible to attend a Nebraska public school but who are not legal residents of the school district may be admitted into the school district in accordance with the option enrollment program authorized by state statutes. Option enrollment students shall be accepted without charge. The option shall be available once during elementary school, once during middle school or junior high school, and once during high school for a total of three times

**Applications:** Application for option enrollment should be made between September 1 and March 15 for enrollment during the following and subsequent school years. Upon agreement of the school boards of the resident district and the option (receiving) district, deadlines for application and approval of the option may be waived. Following the March 15 deadline, applications requesting admittance must contain a release approval from the resident school district, or if the student is an option student at the time of such application and applying to become an option student at a subsequent option school district, a release approval from the option school district the student is attending at the time of such application,

**When No Release Approval is Required:** The application for option enrollment does not require a release from the resident district or the option school district the student is attending at the time of such application, and the receiving district the student is applying to attend has forty-five days to issue acceptance or rejection if:

1. after February 1 the student relocated to a different resident district, or
2. the student's option district merged with another district effective after February 1, and
3. the student's attendance would occur during the next immediate and subsequent school years.

**Initial Decision for Acceptance or Rejection:** The option school district the student is applying to attend shall provide the resident school district, and if applicable, the option school district the student is attending at the time of such application, with the name of the applicant on or before April 1 or, in the case of an application submitted after March 15, within sixty days after submission. If the district rejects an application for a student to option in or out, the district will provide notification by certified mail to the parent/guardian of the specific reasons for rejection including a description of services and accommodations required that the district does not have the capacity to provide, and the process for appealing the decision to the State Board of Education.

**Attendance at Option District:** In general, the option student shall attend the option district until graduation unless the student relocates in a different resident school district, transfers to a private or parochial school, or chooses to return to the resident school

Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Reviewed \_\_\_\_\_ Revised \_\_\_\_\_

district, or options into a subsequent option school district, except that no student may use the enrollment option program other than as provided in state statutes.

No option student shall attend an option school for less than one year unless the student relocates to a different resident school district, completes requirements for graduation prior to the end of his or her senior year, transfers to a private or parochial school, or upon mutual agreement of the resident and option school districts cancels the enrollment option and returns to the resident school district or the previous option school district the student was attending immediately prior.

**Setting Standards for Acceptance or Rejection of an Option Request:** The board shall adopt a resolution and publish its specific standards for acceptance and rejection of applications as an option school prior to October 15 of each school year for the next school year. Standards will conform to those set forth by state statute. These may include the capacity of a program, class, grade level, or school building.

The board shall also adopt standards and conditions for acceptance or rejection of a request for release of a resident student submitting an option application after March 15. Such standards shall not include the failure to meet the March 15 deadline.

Capacity for the district's special education services shall be determined on a case-by-case basis as determined by the Director of Special Education or designee. If the district receives an option enrollment application indicating the student has an individualized education program under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act or may be eligible to receive special education or related services, it shall be evaluated to determine if the appropriate class, grade level, or school building in the district has the capacity to provide the student with the appropriate services and accommodations.

The standards shall not include previous academic achievement, athletic or other extracurricular ability, disabilities, proficiency in the English language, or previous disciplinary proceedings except as allowed by law.

**Option Priorities:** An option district shall give first priority for enrollment to siblings of option students within the requirements of state statutes. The board shall follow statutes regarding the application of a student who relocates in a different district but wants to continue attending his or her original resident district or current option district.

**Acceptance or Rejection Procedures:** The option district shall notify the parent/guardian and the resident district whether the application is accepted or rejected within sixty days after submission. False or substantively misleading information submitted by a parent/guardian on an application to an option district may be cause for the option district to reject a previously accepted application prior to the student's attendance.

If an application is rejected by the option school district or if the resident school district rejects a request for release, the rejecting school district shall provide written notification to the parent or guardian stating (a) the specific reasons for the rejection including, for students with an individualized education program under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act,, or with a diagnosed disability as defined in section 79-1118.01, a description of services and accommodations required that the school district does not have the capacity to provide, and (b) the process for appealing such rejection to the State Board of Education. Such notification shall be sent by certified mail.

The parent or legal guardian may appeal a rejection to the State Board of Education by filing a written request, together with a copy of the rejection notice, with the State Board of Education. Such request and copy of the notice must be received by the board within thirty days after the date the notification of the rejection was received by the parent or legal guardian. The hearing shall be held in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act and shall determine whether the procedures of sections 79-234 to 79-241 have been followed. Any rejection based upon capacity limitations established under section 79-238 shall be the responsibility of the school district to prove in any appeal filed with the state board.

**Reporting to the Department of Education:** The district shall provide to NDE required information relating to all applications rejected by the option school district. Such information shall include, but not be limited to, (a) the number of applications rejected in each public school in such district, (b) an explanation why each application was rejected, and (c) whether each application for option enrollment indicated that the student had an individualized education program under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act or had been identified as a student with a disability as defined in section 79-1118.01.

**Nonresident Students:** Nonresident students not going through option enrollment may also be admitted under a contract with the student's resident district at the discretion of the superintendent upon application and payment of tuition as stated in the contract. The tuition rate shall be the current per-pupil cost of the school district as computed by the superintendent.

Students whose residency in the district ceases during a school year may continue attending school for the remainder of the school year without payment of tuition.

**Transportation:** The district may choose to provide transportation to the option student in the same manner as for resident students and may choose whether or not to charge the parents of those option students a fee to recover the district's costs for the transportation. All option students who qualify for free lunches are eligible for either free transportation or the reimbursement of transportation costs from the school district as provided by state statute. Students receiving special education services shall receive transportation services as provided in the student's Individualized Education Plan.



## ENTRANCE - ADMISSIONS

Children in the school district community will be allowed to enroll in the school district's regular education program beginning at age five. The child must be age five on or prior to July 31 to participate in the school district's kindergarten program or beginner grade or be admitted under exceptions provided by state statute.

The board shall require evidence of age and residency in the form of a birth certificate or other evidence before the student may enroll in the school district's education program. It shall be within the discretion of the superintendent to determine what is satisfactory evidence for proof of age.

Prior to enrollment, the child must provide the administration with proof of a physical examination and immunizations as required by law and the respective policies of this district. Failure to provide this information shall be reason for denying admission to the student under statute 79-217.

### Preschool Enrollment

The district will develop and make available its guidelines for families wishing to enroll a child in the district's preschool program. If applications exceed the program's enrollment capacity, students will be admitted into the program according to the following priority:

1. Any students required by law to participate or required to be given a preference in the program.
2. Resident students who will become eligible to attend the kindergarten grade in the following year.
3. Resident students who are not otherwise yet eligible to enroll in kindergarten.
4. Non-resident students who are not yet eligible to enroll in kindergarten.
5. Resident students who will be required to attend kindergarten in the following year.

Legal Reference: Neb. Statute 79-214 et seq.

Cross Reference: 503.01 Compulsory Attendance  
508.01 Student Health and Immunization Checkups

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## ADDRESSING BARRIERS TO ATTENDANCE

Regular attendance by the students at school is essential for students to obtain the maximum opportunities from the education program. Parents and students alike are encouraged to ensure an absence from school is a necessary absence. Students shall attend school unless excused by the principal of their attendance center. This policy, developed and annually reviewed in collaboration with the county attorney for the district's principal office location, is an attempt to address the barriers to student attendance. This policy shall include a provision indicating how the district and the county attorney will handle those cases in which excessive unexcused absences are not due to mental or physical illness and shall state the circumstances and number of other absences or hourly equivalent upon which the school shall render all services to address barriers to attendance.

Any superintendent, principal, teacher, or member of the school board who knows of any violation of the state school attendance laws (79-201) shall report that violation to the school attendance officer within 3 days.

The superintendent shall designate an attendance officer. The attendance officer will immediately investigate the report of any child who may be in violation of the state's compulsory attendance statutes.

If any student has exceeded the number of unexcused absences as defined in the student handbook, the school shall render all services to address barriers to attendance. These services shall include the following:

1. Verbal or written communication by school officials with the person or persons who have legal or actual charge or control of any child; and
2. A meeting or meetings between the school attendance officer, school social worker, a school administrator or designee, the person who has legal or actual control of the child, and the student (when appropriate) to address the barriers to attendance. The result of the meeting or meetings shall be to develop a collaborative plan to reduce barriers identified to improve regular attendance. The plan shall include, if agreed to by the person who is responsible for making educational decisions on behalf of the child, an educational evaluation to determine whether any intellectual, academic, physical, or social emotional barriers are contributing factors to the lack of attendance. The plan shall also consider, but not be limited to:
  - (i) Illness related to physical, mental, or behavioral health of the child;
  - (ii) Educational counseling;
  - (iii) Referral to community agencies for economic services;
  - (iv) Family or individual counseling; and
  - (v) Assisting the family in working with other community services.

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The school may report to the county attorney of the county in which the person resides when the school has documented the efforts it has made as required by statutes, that the collaborative plan to reduce barriers identified to improve regular attendance has not been successful, and that the child has been absent more than twenty days per school year. The school shall notify the child's family in writing prior to referring the child to the county attorney. Illness, either physical or mental, that makes attendance impossible or impracticable shall not be the basis for referral to the county attorney.

Students are subject to disciplinary action for excessive absenteeism including suspension and expulsion. It shall be within the discretion of the principal to determine, in light of the circumstances, whether a student may make up work missed because of excessive absenteeism. Disciplinary action for students receiving special education services will be assigned in accordance with the goals and objectives of the student's Individualized Education Program.

The superintendent shall report to the Commissioner of Education as directed by the commissioner regarding the number of and reason for any long-term suspension, expulsion, or excessive absenteeism of a student; referral of a student to the office of the county attorney for excessive absenteeism; or contacting of law enforcement officials other than school resource officers by the district relative to a student enrolled in the district. The superintendent shall report annually to the Commissioner the required data for the number of students who have dropped out of school.

It shall be the responsibility of the superintendent to implement this policy. The implementation may include regulations indicating the disciplinary action to be taken for excessive absenteeism.

Legal Reference:	Neb. Statute 79-208 and 209 NDE Rule 10.012.01B
Cross Reference:	411.03 Attendance Officer 505 Student Discipline 506 Student Activities 507 Student Records

## STUDENT CONDUCT

The board believes inappropriate student conduct causes serious disruption to the learning environment, interferes with the rights of others, and threatens the health and safety of students, employees and the public. The Superintendent and staff will develop and implement age-appropriate student codes of conduct to facilitate the educational process.

The district will not substantially burden the right to a student's religious exercise unless that religious exercise is disruptive to or interferes with the school learning environment, is detrimental to the health or safety of the student or another person, or violates the permission of staff.

Students shall conduct themselves in a manner fitting to their age level and maturity and with respect and consideration for the rights of others while on school district property or on property within the jurisdiction of the school district. This policy will also apply while on school owned, operated or chartered transportation; while attending or engaged in school activities; and while away from school grounds if misconduct will directly affect the good order, efficient management and educational processes of the school district.

Students who violate this policy and the administrative regulations supporting it will be subject to disciplinary measures including, but not limited to, removal from the classroom, detention, suspension, probation and expulsion. The codes of conduct will include measures to prevent or discourage behavior which interferes with the educational program, behavior which disrupts the orderly and efficient operation of the school or the functioning of school activities, behavior which interferes with the maintenance of a learning environment, behavior that is violent or destructive, or behavior which interferes with the rights of other students to pursue their education. Procedures will be available to allow rights of due process for all students.

Every report of alleged violations of student conduct policies that can be interpreted at the outset to fall within the protections of laws against discrimination shall be handled as a joint, concurrent investigation into all allegations and coordinated with the full participation of the Compliance Officer and Title IX Coordinator. If, in the course of an ongoing student conduct investigation, potential issues of discrimination are identified, the Title IX Coordinator shall be promptly notified, and the investigation shall be conducted jointly and concurrently to address the issues of alleged discrimination as well as the incidents of alleged violations of student conduct policies.

This disciplinary process is designed to create the expectation that the degree of discipline imposed by the school will be proportionate to the severity of the behavior of the particular student, the previous discipline history of the student and other relevant

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factors. It will also include parental involvement processes designed to enable parents, guardians, teachers and school administrators to work together to improve and enhance appropriate student behavior and academic performance. All student codes of conduct shall be submitted to the board for approval or review.

The code of conduct will be included in the student handbook, and a parent/guardian will sign and promptly return an acknowledgement of receipt of the handbook which specifically mentions the student code of conduct.

Legal Reference:                   Goss v. Lopez, 419 U.S. 565 (1975).  
  Neb. Statute 79-2,114 et seq. (Nebr. Equal Opportunity  
  in Education Act)  
  79-254 et seq. (Student Discipline Act)

Cross Reference:                503     Student Attendance  
  505     Student Conduct  
  506     Student Activities  
  1005.03 Parental and Family Involvement in the Schools

## STUDENT APPEARANCE

The board believes inappropriate student appearance causes material and substantial disruption to the school environment or presents a threat to the health and safety of students, employees and visitors.

Students are expected to adhere to standards of cleanliness, grooming and dress that are compatible with the requirements of a good learning environment. The standards will be those generally acceptable to the community as appropriate in a school setting.

The board expects students to be clean and well-groomed and wear clothes in good repair and appropriate for the time, place and occasion. Clothing or other apparel promoting products illegal for use by minors and clothing displaying obscene material, profanity, or reference to prohibited conduct are disallowed. While the primary responsibility for appearance lies with the students and their parents, appearance disruptive to the education program will not be tolerated. When, in the judgment of a principal, a student's appearance or mode of dress disrupts the educational process or constitutes a threat to health or safety, the student may be required to make modifications.

A student who is a member of an indigenous tribe of the United States or another country may wear tribal regalia in any public or private location on the school grounds or at any school function where the person is otherwise authorized to be as long as the tribal regalia does not interfere with the educational process and is not detrimental to the health or safety of the student or another person.

It shall be the responsibility of the superintendent, in conjunction with the principals, to develop administrative regulations regarding this policy.

Legal Reference: Hines v. Caston Sch. Corp. 651 N.E.2D 330 (1995)  
Hazelwood School District v. Kuhlmeier, 484 U.S. 260 (1988).  
Bethal School District v. Fraser, 478 U.S. 675 (1986).  
Tinker v. Des Moines Ind. Comm. Sch. Dist., 393 U.S. 503 (1969).  
Neb. Statute 79-526

Cross Reference: 501 Objectives for Equal Educational Opportunities for  
Students

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## WEAPONS

The board believes weapons and other dangerous objects and look-a-likes in school district facilities including concealed weapons cause material and substantial disruption to the school environment or present a threat to the health and safety of students, employees and visitors on the school district premises or property within the jurisdiction of the school district.

This shall not apply to the issuance of firearms to or possession by members of the armed forces of the United States, active or reserve, National Guard of this state, or Reserve Officers' Officers Training Corps, peace officers, authorized law enforcement officers, or authorized retired law enforcement officers when on duty or training.

Weapons and other dangerous objects and look-a-likes shall be taken from students and others who bring them onto the school district property or onto property within the jurisdiction of the school district or from students who are within the control of the school district.

The term "dangerous object" shall include noxious or flammable material, fireworks, devices intended to administer an electric shock (tasers, electric batons, prods, or stun guns) chemical weapons (i.e. mace, pepper spray), martial arts weapons or other instruments including those which eject a projectile or substance of any kind, or any replica or facsimile of any of the above, whether functional or nonfunctional, whether designed for use as a weapon or for some other use.

Parents of students found to possess weapons or dangerous objects or look-a-likes on school property shall be notified of the incident. Confiscation of weapons or dangerous objects including concealed weapons shall be reported to the law enforcement officials, and students will be subject to disciplinary action including suspension or expulsion.

Students bringing firearms as defined in 18 U.S.C. 921 to school or knowingly possessing firearms including concealed firearms at school may be expelled for a period of not less than one year. Students bringing to school or possessing dangerous weapons, including firearms, will be referred to law enforcement authorities. The superintendent shall have the authority to recommend this expulsion requirement be modified for students on a case-by-case basis. For purposes of this portion of this policy, the term "firearm" includes, but is not limited to, any weapon which is designed to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive, the frame or receiver of any such weapon, a muffler or silencer for such a weapon, or any explosive, incendiary or poison gas.

Weapons or dangerous objects under the control of law enforcement officials shall be exempt from this policy. This policy does not prohibit firearms contained in a private vehicle operated by a nonstudent adult or prohibited person that are locked inside the

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## CLASSROOM ENVIRONMENT

Classrooms are expected to be maintained in a safe, orderly manner at all times in keeping with providing an appropriate, healthy learning environment. Any items for display or use in the classroom shall meet this criterion. The use of essential oils or essential oil diffusers will not be permitted in district facilities by students, staff or visitors.

All items on display in the classroom such as posters, pictures, banners, charts, signs or flags must be related to the curriculum. Items unrelated to the curriculum or that may cause a disruption to the learning environment are prohibited. Staff members are expected to request the building principal's approval for display of items that may not meet this standard.

The district will display or use the Gall-Peters projection map (or a similar cylindrical equal-area projection map) or the AuthaGraph projection map in classrooms, although other types of maps are allowed in addition to it.

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## STUDENT PROMOTION, RETENTION OR ACCELERATION

Students will be promoted to the next grade level at the end of each school year based on the student's achievement, age, maturity, emotional stability, and social adjustment.

Students will normally progress annually from grade to grade. Exceptions may be made when, in the judgement of the teachers and the principal, such exceptions are in the best educational interest of the students involved. Exceptions will always be made after prior notification and explanation to the student's parents, but the final decision will rest with school authorities.

When it becomes apparent a secondary student will be unable to meet the minimum credit requirements for the year, both the student and parents will be informed. Students who cannot demonstrate proficiency at their grade levels will also be considered for retention. Teachers must notify the principal of these students, make a recommendation to the principal concerning their promotion or retention, and hold a conference with parents.

A student in kindergarten through fourth grade may be retained due to academic needs, illness, or excessive absenteeism. A student in fifth through twelfth grade may be retained due to excessive absenteeism.

Excessive absenteeism means that the student was absent fifty percent or more of the school year and includes excused absences, unexcused absences, and absences due to suspension or expulsion. Absences due to approved school-related activities, such as field trips, competitions, athletic events, and testing, are not included. Illness means that the student experienced a severe mental or physical illness resulting in hospitalization of two or more weeks during the school year.

A parent or guardian wishing to request their student repeat a grade shall meet with the superintendent or designee to discuss having the student repeat a grade. The parent or guardian shall provide evidence of academic needs, illness, or excessive absenteeism that would justify the student repeating the grade. At the meeting, the superintendent shall identify any alternative educational opportunities, including remedial instruction, if applicable, and verify any special education supports available to the student. If the parent or guardian still intends their student repeat a grade, they shall complete and submit the district's required form. If all other requirements of district policy and state statute are met, the district shall have the student repeat the grade for the next school year. The district shall file the form with the Nebraska Department of Education.

Students with exceptional talents may, with the permission of the principal and parents, take classes beyond their current grade level. Enrichment opportunities outside the school district may be allowed when they do not conflict with the school district's

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graduation requirements. Acceleration ahead in a grade level should be approached with caution and should only occur with the joint approval of the superintendent, the principal and the parent or guardian.

Legal Reference: Nebraska Statute 79-526

## GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Students must successfully complete the courses required by the board and the Nebraska Department of Education in order to graduate. It shall be the responsibility of the superintendent to ensure that students complete grades one through twelve and that high school students complete 240 credits prior to graduation. The following credits will be required:

The following will be the graduation requirements effective with the class of 2024:

Language Arts	40 credit hours
Science	30 credit hours
Mathematics	30 credit hours
Social Studies	40 credit hours
Physical Education	10 credit hours
Communication	5 credit hours
Personal Finance	5 credit hours
Fine Arts	10 credit hours
Vocational/CTE	10 credit hours
Total Elective Hours	60 credit hours
Total Required Hours for Graduation	240 credit hours
Total Possible Hours Available	320 credit hours

The following will be the graduation requirements effective with the class of 2028:

Language Arts	40 credit hours
Science	30 credit hours
Mathematics	30 credit hours
Social Studies	40 credit hours
Physical Education	10 credit hours
Communication	5 credit hours
Personal Finance	5 credit hours
Fine Arts	10 credit hours
Vocational/CTE	10 credit hours
Computer Science	5 credit hours
Career Planning	5 credit hours
Total Elective Hours	50 credit hours
Total Required Hours for Graduation	240 credit hours
Total Possible Hours Available	320 credit hours

The Principal will maintain a detailed list of requirements and options in which students can achieve the mark of 240 credits for graduation. The intent is to provide rigor with adequate opportunities to produce well-rounded graduates.

Each student shall complete and submit a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) prior to graduating unless the required opt-out form is submitted by either: (1) the parent or legal guardian; (2) the Principal, if the Principal determines good cause

exists for not requiring the student to complete the FAFSA; or (3) an emancipated student or a student of at least 19 years of age.

The required courses of study will be reviewed by the board annually. Graduation requirements for special education students will be in accordance with the prescribed course of study as described in their Individualized Education Program (IEP). Each student's IEP will include a statement of the projected date of graduation at least 18 months in advance of the projected date and the criteria to be used in determining whether graduation will occur. Prior to the special education student's graduation, the IEP team shall determine whether the graduation criteria have been met.

#### IDEA Considerations

Graduating with a regular high school diploma or reaching the maximum age of eligibility both result in termination of a student's eligibility for Special Education (IDEA) services. Procedurally, the student's Individualized Education Program (IEP) team must meet to review the student's status and issue the appropriate coding for the student, specifically 210 or 211 as described in the ADVISER Data Elements Manual, a reasonable time before the student's eligibility is terminated. These meetings may be held via the telephone or through a virtual platform (e.g. Zoom, Google, etc.) and should include the student (if possible). The school district must also provide the student with a summary of performance prior to graduation or ending services because of age. Some IEP teams may have already provided a Notice of Graduation or Notice of Ending Services Due to Age to certain students. As this is an issue of IDEA eligibility, the Nebraska Department of Education recommends that school districts make every effort to complete these steps in a timely manner.

#### Requirements Related to American Civics (Nebraska Revised Statute 79-724)

The requirements within Nebraska Revised Statute 79-724 took effect on September 1, 2019, and the NDE considers 2019-2020 a transition year for implementation. Even so, opportunities may exist in an alternate learning environment to meet requirements within 79-724.

- If a district intends to administer the civics portion of the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Service Naturalization Test, students are required to take the test twice -once prior to completing 8th grade and a second time prior to completing 12th grade. It may be possible for seniors to complete the second testing in an alternate learning environment. For example, the University of Nebraska High School is offering "Citizenship 101" for free (non-credit), and it prepares students to take the naturalization test at the completion.
- For districts that intend to have students attend/participate in a meeting of a public body OR complete a project/paper and class presentation as outlined in 79-724, those requirements may also be met in an alternate learning environment.

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## FREE OR REDUCED COST MEALS ELIGIBILITY AND MEAL CHARGES

The district shall comply with all state and federal laws applying to providing free and reduced meals under the National School Lunch Program, School Breakfast Program, and other related federal grant programs.

### Free or Reduced Meals Eligibility

Families of students enrolled in the district who wish to qualify for free or reduced price meals may submit an application on or after July 1 for the current school year. If the financial situation of a household changes during the school year, they may submit a new application to become eligible. Applications are available at the Central Administrative Office of the school building.

### Meal Charges

The written meal charge policy and guidelines shall be in place before the beginning of each school year and parents shall be advised of the available payment systems and meal prices. The district will encourage pre-payment of meal balances but the district must include a method for adding funds during the school day such as cash payments at the school office. A qualifying student with money to purchase a reduced price meal must be provided the meal; the district may not use that money for previously unpaid charges if the student intended to buy a meal that day.

All balances remaining in accounts shall carry over to the next month. Balances of households qualifying for free or reduced meals with funds remaining in the account at the end of the school year shall receive a refund. The district shall attempt to contact the household of all students transferring out or graduating from the district to return any unused funds remaining in the student's account. The district may set varying meal charge guidelines for students of different grade levels including charges relating to alternate meals, ala carte items and limits on charges that a parent may set for a student's daily lunch expenditures.

The district must set written guidelines regarding the collection of delinquent meal charges such as the amount of delinquent meal charges which initiate an established collection process, providing notice to households of those students and carrying out appropriate follow-up. Unpaid meal charges are classified as "delinquent debt" and remain on the food service accounting documents until they are collected or written off as uncollectible.

The district will not use a debt collection agency to directly or indirectly collect, or attempt to collect, debts due or assessed to be owed on a school lunch or breakfast account of any student nor will it assess or collect any interest, fees, or other monetary penalties for outstanding debts on a school lunch or breakfast account of any student.

Guidelines must also cover how the district will handle situations where children eligible

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for reduced price meals do not have money in their accounts to cover the cost of their meal at the time of service. Households must be notified of all payment methods used by the district, including any fees. At least one payment method must be free of charge. The district cannot solely require the use of an online payment system; another option must be available.

#### Confidentiality

The information provided by families on the free and reduced price application will be used only for determining eligibility for meal or milk benefits and verification of eligibility. Only staff members and organizations carrying out the activities of the School Lunch Act shall have access to this information.

The district should use methods of lunch payment systems such as pre-payment to avoid openly identifying children who qualify for free or reduced meals. Meal cards, tickets, tokens or other methods of payment must not be coded or colored to identify such status.

#### Policy Communication

This policy will be provided in writing to all households at the start of each school year and to households that transfer to the district during the school year.

This policy will also be provided annually to all district staff responsible for enforcing the policy including food service professionals. Staff members such as counselors, school nurses, homeless liaisons, and others assisting students in need should also be informed of the policy.

The district will maintain documentation of the annual distribution of this policy.

It shall be the responsibility of the superintendent to implement this policy.

Legal Reference: 42 U.S.C. §§ 1751 et seq.  
7 C.F.R. §§ 210 et seq.  
USDA Unpaid Meal Charges, SP 46-2016, 47-2016 and 57-2016.

Cross Reference: 504.19 Student Fees

## EMERGENCY RESPONSE MAPPING

The district will provide mapping data to public safety agencies to assist them in providing efficient responses to emergencies. The map will be in a standard or open-source electronic file reader and available in a printable format. It will give an indication of directions, be overlaid with a grid and coordinates, and provide site-specific information as required by statutes.

The district will verify and certify the mapping data to the public agencies for accuracy, initially and annually, by a walk-through of the school facilities. If any information has changed, the district will provide the appropriate public safety agencies with updated mapping data.

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## PUBLIC EXAMINATION OF SCHOOL DISTRICT RECORDS

Public records of the school district may be viewed by the public during the regular business hours of the administration offices of the school district. These hours are 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, except for holidays and recesses.

Records defined by law as confidential records shall be viewed or copied upon receipt of written permission by the administration office from the person or entity whose confidential records are being requested. Lacking such permission, the superintendent will issue a written denial of the request.

Persons wishing to view the school district's public records shall contact the central administration office and make arrangements for the viewing. The office personnel will make arrangements for viewing the records as soon as practicable, and within 4 business days if possible.

Nebraska residents wanting copies shall submit a written request and may be assessed a fee for the copies not to exceed the actual costs. If responding to the request is expected to cost more than \$50.00 or require more than eight cumulative hours of searching, identifying, physically redacting, or copying, the office may obtain an advance deposit equal to the estimated cost. Records will not be made available in any form in which that record is not already maintained or produced. Persons making requests to use their own copying equipment must make arrangements satisfactory to the administration office.

Nonresidents shall submit a written request and may be charged fees including public employee salaries and attorneys' fees as allowed by state law.

It shall be the responsibility of the administration office to maintain accurate and current records of the school district. It shall be the responsibility of the office to respond in a timely manner to requests for viewing and receiving public information of the school district. If the office is unable to provide the requested records within 4 business days, the secretary will issue a written explanation with a revised date for completion, an estimate of cost, and allow the requester to modify or prioritize the information request.

Legal Reference: Nebraska Statutes 84-712.0 et seq.

Cross Reference: 507.01 Student Records Access

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