

Regular Meeting
Thursday, July 16, 2020 5:30 PM
ESU7/CPS Student Center
3434 Discoverer Drive
Columbus, NE 68601

- I. Board Meeting
 - A. Call to Order
 - B. Roll Call of Board
 - C. Pledge of Allegiance
 - D. Notice of Open Meeting Posted
 - 1. President insures all can hear proceedings
 - E. Mission Statement
 - F. Opportunity for Public to be Heard
 - G. Adjourn
 - H. Hearings
 - 1. Special hearing for the purpose of receiving public input on Columbus Public Schools' Student Fees Policy -Policy 504.18, Regulation 504.18R1, and Exhibit 504.18E1
 - I. Board Special Functions
 - 1. Presentation of the 20- 21 Elementary Handbook
 - 2. Appointment of Chester Kay as Secretary, Board of Education, Columbus Public Schools
 - 3. CHS Student Handbook 2020-2021
 - 4. CHS 2020-2021 Activities Handbook
 - 5. CHS Fees and Admission Prices for 2020-2021

6. CMS Student Handbook 2020-2021
 7. CMS Course Descriptions Catalog
 8. Return to School Resolution
- J. Items to be removed from the Consent Agenda
- K. Consent Agenda
1. Approval of Minutes
 2. Financial Reports M2, M3, M4a
 3. Financial Report M5
 4. Certified Personnel
 5. Classified Personnel
 6. Professional Travel
- L. Acceptance of Gifts/Donations
- M. Business Operations and Human Relations
1. Administrative Functions
 1. Surplus
 2. Meal Prices for 2020-2021
 2. Updates
 1. Substitute Teachers/Handbook, Rates
- N. Buildings & Sites/Technology
1. Administrative Functions
 2. Updates
- O. Curriculum and Instruction
1. Policies

2. Administrative Functions

1. Computers II Curriculum Approval

3. Updates

P. Student Services

1. Policies

2. Administrative Functions

3. Updates

Q. Superintendent's Report

R. Board Sharing

II. Executive Session

III. Adjourn

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. In other special cases where the parent/guardian requests that the student be exempted from charges, the superintendent shall determine granting of waivers. No fees, specialized or non-specialized 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 fees for the following purposes are properly recorded and deposited to it:

- Participation in extracurricular activities;
- Postsecondary education costs; and
- Summer school or night school.

The superintendent shall promulgate regulations outlining the purposes for which fees in these three areas are collected and shall ensure such fees are spent for those purposes.

The superintendent shall promulgate regulations to be published annually in the student handbook authorizing and governing:

1. Any non-specialized clothing required for specified courses and activities;
2. Any personal or consumable items a student will be required to furnish for specified activities; and
3. Any specialized equipment or specialized attire which a student will be required to provide for any extracurricular activity, including extracurricular music courses.

The superintendent shall also promulgate regulations authorizing and governing the following areas:

1. All fees to be collected within the nine numbered areas of the third paragraph of this policy;
2. Any other types of specialized equipment or attire to be provided by all students in the nine numbered areas of the third paragraph of this policy;
3. Procedures and forms for students or parent/guardians to apply for waivers under this policy;
4. Deadlines for waivers for all types of fees;
5. Procedures for the handling of fees for students receiving postsecondary education credits;
6. Procedures for handling of fees related to summer school or night school; and
7. Attendance requirements and procedures in connection with evening, weekend or summer use of facilities related to all extracurricular activities to avoid conflict with this policy.

The maximum dollar amount of each fee must be specified as part of this policy.

Public concerns or complaints regarding required fees, attire or equipment shall be addressed under Policy 1005.01, Public Complaints.

This policy will be reviewed and re-adopted annually by August 1 at a regular or special meeting of the board. This shall include a review of the amount of money collected under this policy and the use of waivers as provided by this policy. The policy shall be published in the student handbook provided at no cost to each household.

Legal Reference: Neb. Constitution, Art VII, Sect. 1
Neb. Statute 79-215 (tuition)
79-241 (option student busing)
79-605 (nonresident busing)
79-611 (transportation fees)

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

Policy
Adopted: 7-16-12

COLUMBUS PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Columbus, Nebraska
Reviewed: 7-20-16

STUDENT FEES REGULATION

The Board of Education of Columbus Public Schools adopts the following 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 **2017-2018** 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 Materials. 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 subject to parking fines up to \$15.00 for parking violations specified in the student handbook. Student parking fines will not be allowed to accrue in excess of \$30.00m after which parking privileges will be restricted until which time the fine balance is paid. Students 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 extracurricular activities for the **2017-2018** 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 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 pre-kindergarten services. Students are responsible for fees required for participation in before-and-after-school or pre-kindergarten 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 the equivalent (for example, publication may be made in an addendum or a supplement to the student handbook). The Student Handbook or the equivalent shall be provided to every student of the District or to every household in which at least one student resides, at no cost.

(13) Student Fee Fund. The School Board hereby establishes a Student Fee Fund. 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.

CERTIFICATION

On the 17th day of July, 2017, the school board held a public hearing at a meeting of the school board on a proposed student fee policy. Such public hearing followed a review of the amount of money collected from students pursuant to, and the use of waivers provided in, the student fee policy for the **2017-2018** school year. The foregoing student fee policy was adopted after such public hearing by a majority vote of the school board at an open public meeting in compliance with the public meetings laws.

Superintendent or Other Authorized School Official

Legal References:

Neb. Rev. Stat. §§79-2,125 to 79-2,135 and Laws 2003, LB 249 (The Public Elementary and Secondary Student Fee Authorization Act)

Neb. Constitution, Article VII, section 1.

Neb. Rev. Stat. §§79-241, 79-605, and 79-611 (transportation)

Neb. Rev. Stat. §79-2,104 (student files or records)

Neb. Rev. Stat. §79-715 (eye-protective devices)

Neb. Rev. Stat. §79-737 (liability of students for damages to school books)

Neb. Rev. Stat. §79-1104 (before-and-after-school or pre-kindergarten services)

Neb. Rev. Stat. §§79-1106 to 79-1108.03 (accelerated or differentiated curriculum program)

Policy Adopted: 6/10/02

Policy Revised: 7/29/02

Policy Revised: 7/14/03

Policy Revised: 7/07/04

Policy Revised: 7/11/05

Regulation Adopted: 7/10/06

Regulation Revised: 7/9/07

Regulation Revised: 7/13/09

Regulation Revised: 7/12/10

Regulation Revised: 7/11/11

Regulation Revised: 7/16/12

Regulation Revised: 7/15/13

Regulation Revised: 7/21/14

COLUMBUS PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Columbus, Nebraska

Reviewed: 7/21/14

Sharing Information with Other Programs

Dear Parent/Guardian:

To save you time and effort, the information you gave on your Free and Reduced-Price School Meals Application may be shared with other programs for which your children may qualify.

For the following programs, we must have your permission to share your information. Sending in this form will not change whether your children get free or reduced-price meals.

☐ Yes! I **DO** want school officials to share information from my Free and Reduced Price School Meals Application with: **Extracurricular Activities** _____

Class Fees _____

If you checked yes to the box above, complete the following form to ensure that your information is shared for the child(ren) listed below. Your information will be shared only with the programs you checked.

For more information, you may call **Dave Melick** at **563-7000, ext 1200**.

Child's Name: _____ School: _____

Child's Name: _____ School: _____

Child's Name: _____ School: _____

Child's Name: _____ School: _____

Signature of Parent/Guardian: _____ Date: _____

Printed Name: _____

Address: _____

Return this form to: Columbus High School Cafeteria by Monday, August 31, 2015.

Exhibit
Approved: 7-20-15

COUMBUS PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Columbus, Nebraska

Columbus Public Schools Elementary School Supply List 2020-21

PRE-SCHOOL

The following items need to have names on them:

- 1 - Bookbag – large enough to hold a folder, no rollers and can be opened and closed by child without help
- 1 - Change of clothes (season appropriate—does not need to be new)
- 1 - Folder to hold papers and notes

The following items will be shared and do not need names:

- 1 - 24 count box of Crayola crayons
- 1 - Box of watercolor markers
- 2 - Container Clorox Wipes 75 count
- 1 - 16 oz. bottle of handsanitizer
- 1 - Large box of Kleenex

KINDERGARTEN

The following items need to have names on them:

- 1 - Bookbag – large enough to hold a folder, no rollers and can be opened and closed by child without help
- 1 - Change of clothes (season appropriate—does not need to be new)
- 1 - Headphones to use with ipads - Wired, not wireless/bluetooth
- 1 - Pencil box with hinged lid (plastic only)

The following items will be shared and do not need names:

- 1 - 1-Subject spiral bound notebook (wide ruled)
- 1 - 16 oz. bottle of hand sanitizer
- 2 - 24 count box of Crayola crayons (regular size, No Rose Art please)
- 1 - Box of Crayola markers
- 1 - Container Clorox wipes 75 count
- 1 - Crayola Watercolors
- 12 - Fine point dry erase markers (black only)
- 1 - Fiskar scissors
- 8 - Glue sticks
- 2 - Large boxes of Kleenex
- 1 - Package of 12, #2 yellow pencils (sharpened)
- 1 - Roll of paper towels

1ST GRADE

The following items need to have names on them:

- 1 - 3-Hole pencil pouch w/ zipper
- 3 - 3-Hole punched folders w/ bottom pockets (No metal clasps)
- 1 - 3-ring clear-view binder (1 inch)
- 1 - 6" x 8" Pencil box
- 1 - Book Bag
- 1 - Fiskar scissors
- 1 - Headphones to use with ipads - Wired, not wireless/bluetooth

The following items will be shared and do not need names:

- 1 - 16 oz. hand sanitizer
- 2 - 24 count box of Crayola crayons (No Rose Art please)
- 1 - Box of Ziploc Bags
(choice of one: gallon, quart or snack size)
- 1 - Container Clorox Wipes 75 count
- 4 - Expo dry erase markers (black only)
- 4 - Glue sticks
- 2 - Large erasers
- 2 - Large boxes of Kleenex to share
- 1 - Package of 12, #2 yellow pencils (sharpened)

2ND GRADE

- 2 - 3-ring solid color binder with inside pockets (1 inch)
- 1 - 16 oz. bottle of handsanitizer
- 2 - 24 count box of Crayola crayons
- 1 - Book bag
- 1 - Box of Ziploc bags (boys: gallon; girls: quart)
- 2 - Composition notebook
- 1 - Container Clorox wipes 75 count
- 4 - Expo dry erase markers (black only)
- 1 - Fiskar scissors
- 4 - Glue sticks
- 1 - Headphones to use with ipads - Wired, not wireless/bluetooth
- 2 - Large erasers
- 2 - Large boxes of Kleenex to share
- 2 - Packages of 12, #2 yellow pencils (sharpened, no sparkles)
- 1 - Plastic pencil box (no larger than 6" x 8")
- 3 - Pocket folders with two bottom pockets, **3-hole punched**

3RD GRADE

- 1 - 16 oz. bottle of handsanitizer
- 1 - 3-ring binder (1 inch)
- 1 - 3 ring pencil pouch
- 1 - 24 count box of Crayola crayons
- 1 - Book bag
- 1 - Box of Ziploc Bags (Quart-Boys, Gallon-Girls)
- 1 - Composition notebook - 9 1/2 x 7 1/2 (no spiral bound)
- 1 - Container Clorox wipes 75 count
- 1 - Crayola markers
- 4 - Expo dry erase markers (black only)
- 1 - Fiskar scissors
- 3 - Folders w/ two bottom pockets (3 hole punched)
- 2 - Glue sticks
- 1 - Headphones to use with iPads - Wired, not wireless/bluetooth
- 2 - Large boxes of Kleenex to share
- 1 - Large eraser
- 2 - Packages of 12, #2 yellow pencils (sharpened)
- 1 - Red pens (for checking)

4TH GRADE

- 1 - 16 oz. hand sanitizer
- 2 - 1-Subject spiral bound notebook (wide ruled)
- 1 - 3-ring binder (1 1/2 inch)
- 1 - 24 or 48 count box of Crayola crayons
- 1 - Book bag
- 1 - Box of colored pencils (8 pack, sharpened)
- 1 - Box - Crayola markers
- 1 - Box of Ziplock Bags -- Boys: Quart size, Girls: Gallon size
- 1 - Container Clorox Wipes 75 count
- 6 - Expo dry erase markers (**Black**)
- 1 - Fiskar scissors (small)
- 4 - Glue sticks
- 1 - Headphones to use with ipads - Wired, not wireless/bluetooth
- 3 - Large boxes of Kleenex to share
- 4 - Packages of 12, #2 yellow pencils (sharpened)
- 1 - Package of loose leaf paper (wide ruled)
- 2 - Pink Erasers
- 4 - Plastic folders with bottom pockets & 3 hole punch (No Prongs)
- 1 - Zipper pencil pouch

School supplies should be replaced periodically.

Classroom teachers may determine to collect items for community use.

Columbus Middle School
2020 - 2021
Supply List
***School supplies replaced as needed**

5th Grade

- 4 - packages of 12, #2 pencils
- 1 - packages loose leaf paper (wide ruled)
- 2 - single subject notebooks (wide ruled)
- 1 - composition notebook (wide ruled)
- 4 - 2 pocket folders, **3 hole punched, no metal clips** (1 for STEM)
- 1 - 3 ring binder, 2", or Trapper Keeper
- 1 - 1" binder with pockets, no bigger for science
- 1 - box colored pencils, maximum 24
- 1 - Post-it sticky notes 3x3 (1 package)
- 1 - package washable markers
- 8 - dry erase markers
- 1 - large eraser or pencil erase toppers
- 1 - pencil pouch, 3 hole punched, heavy duty (no boxes)
- 1 - pair of earbuds/headphones (no Bluetooth)
- 3 - boxes facial tissue
- 1 - bottle hand sanitizer (boys only)
- 1 - container disinfecting wipes (girls only)

6th Grade

- 1 - package blue pens
- 1 - package red pens
- 3 - packages wooden pencils (collected by teacher)
- 1 - package colored pencils
- 6 - glue sticks
- 1 - package highlighters (various colors)
- 4 - black dry erase markers
- 1 - 2" binder
- 2 - 1" binders (science/social studies)
- 3 - composition notebooks
- 1 - heavy duty 3 hole punched pencil pouch
- 1 - package plastic dividers with pockets
- 1 - 2 pocket folder (STEM)
- 3 - large boxes facial tissues
- 1 - pair of earbuds (no Bluetooth)
- 1 - container disinfecting wipes (girls only)
- 1 - box ziplock baggies - quart, half gallon or gallon (boys only)
- 1 - bottle hand sanitizer (everyone)

7th Grade

- pencils, pens, erasers - replace as needed
- colored pencils
- highlighters - personal use - replace as needed
- loose leaf paper - replace as needed
- 2 - dry erase markers - replace as needed
- 1 - pair of earbuds/headphones (no Bluetooth)
- 1 - 3 ring binder (personal use)
- 1 - 3 hole punched pencil pouch (personal use)
- 2 - packages tab dividers (personal binder, science)
- 2 - 2 pocket folders (STEM)
- 1 - 2 pocket folder with center fasteners (social studies)
- 3 - 100 page composition notebooks (science, health, pre-spanish)
- 1 - 120 page (3 subject) college ruled notebook (math) replace as needed
- 3 - large boxes of facial tissue (Advisory)
- 1 - bottle hand sanitizer (girls)
- 1 - container antibacterial wipes (boys)
- Health/Fitness: binder divider, t-shirt, shorts, socks, tennis shoes, deodorant (roll on or stick)

8th Grade

- 1 - 2" binder
- 1 - pencil pouch
- 8 - dividers
- 1 - package pencils / erasers
- 3 pack/refill Scotch tape (science)
- 1 - composition notebook (science)
- 1 - packages lined loose leaf paper
- 2 - 2 pocket folders (STEM)
- 4 - highlighters
- 4 - dry erase markers
- 1 - tri-fold display board (science)
- 1 - pair of earbuds (no Bluetooth)
- 1 - spiral notebook (all math classes)
- 1 - spiral graph paper notebook (algebra only)
- scientific calculator (ex: Texas Instrument TI-30x)
- 3 - large boxes of facial tissue (Advisory)
- 1 - bottle hand sanitizer or disinfecting wipes (Advisory)
- Health/Fitness: binder divider, t-shirt, shorts, socks, tennis shoes, deodorant (roll on or stick)
- Spanish: 1" 3 ring binder, 1 composition notebook

Columbus Middle School Student Fees List

Grades 5-8

School Fees

The following activities may have fees associated with them. They should be paid in advance. Students/families that qualify for free or reduced lunch may have the fees waived by completing a waiver request form at the start of course/activity.

Math Counts	Varies
Destination Imagination	Varies
Sing Around Nebraska Festival Choir	Varies
UNO Middle School Honor Choir	Varies
Wayne State Honor Festival Choir	Varies
History Day	Varies
Quiz Bowl	Varies
Duke Talent Identification Program	Varies
Nebraska Scholars Academy	Varies
Platte County Spelling Bee	Varies
Geography Bee	Varies
Nebraska Scholastic Art Comp./Display	Varies
Intramural Volleyball	Varies
Intramural Flag Football	Varies
Intramural Basketball	Varies
Intramural Wrestling	Varies
Football	Varies
Wrestling	Varies
Basketball	Varies
Track	Varies
Leadership / Yearbook	Varies
Band	Varies
Vocal Music	Varies
Cheerleading	Varies
Drumline	Varies
Robotics	Varies
Musical	Varies
Play	Varies

Athletic Physicals

The Nebraska School Activities Association (NSAA) requires that students involved in Athletics are required to have an annual physical.

Activity Stamp

Any student may purchase an activity stamp for \$35.00. The Activity Stamp allows students to attend all CHS and CMS home games, plays and musicals. The Activity Stamp is not valid at NSAA sponsored activities. (district and state tournaments) Students that qualify for free or reduced meals and participate in activities may receive an activity stamp to all CHS/CMS home events. Students may purchase the activity stamp in the office.

Other Activity Fees

The following courses or co-curricular activities have fees associated with them. They should be paid in advance. Students/families that qualify for free or reduced meals may have their fees waived by completing the free or reduced lunch form at the start of the course.

All Students	\$5
Band Instrument Rental	Varies
Band Competition	\$10-\$20/event
All Activities	Meals on Trips

Grades 9-12 Student Fees

Class Fees	Each fall with the start of a new school year as part of grade level orientation, students will be charged a class fee as shown below. • Class fees for Grades 9 and 10 are \$5.00 • Class fees for Grade 11 are \$7.00 • Class fees for Grade 12 are \$10.00 Class fees defray the costs associated with student incentives, the school newspaper, class pages in the yearbook for all grades; PROM for juniors and seniors; and graduation for seniors.												
Technology Damage Protection Plan	It is highly recommended that a student purchase the technology damage protection plan at an annual cost of \$25.00. With the purchase of the plan, the district will cover 85% of costs per claim with the student being responsible for 15%												
Athletic Physicals	The Nebraska School Activities Association (NSAA) requires that all students involved in athletics be required to have an annual physical paid for by the student.												
Activity Stamp	Any student may annually purchase an activity stamp for \$35.00. The activity stamp is good for admission to all CHS sponsored home activity events including plays and musicals. The activity stamp is not valid at NSAA sponsored activities including district and state competitions. Students qualifying for free and reduced meals may receive an activity stamp at no charge. Students can purchase an activity stamp during back-to-school orientation or during the school year in the high school office beginning with the first full day of classes.												
Individual Class Fees	Each of the following high school elective courses will charge a fee specific to the nature of the class. For example, fees are charged for tuition and books for college credit courses and for projects that students make and take home. <table><tr><td>Advanced Automotive Technology</td><td>To receive college credit students must pay for tuition and fees through CC. Fees determined by student initiated project.</td></tr><tr><td>Advanced Manufacturing Design</td><td>To receive college credit students must pay for tuition and fees through CC. Fees determined by student initiated project.</td></tr><tr><td>Advanced Placement Calculus 1 & 2</td><td>To receive college credit students must pay for tuition and fees through CCC</td></tr><tr><td>Advanced 2D, 3D and Advanced Art</td><td>\$12.00 for student art creations</td></tr><tr><td>Art Exploration, Art Techniques, 2D Media</td><td>\$8.00 for student art creations</td></tr><tr><td>3D Media</td><td>\$10.00 for student art creations</td></tr></table>	Advanced Automotive Technology	To receive college credit students must pay for tuition and fees through CC. Fees determined by student initiated project.	Advanced Manufacturing Design	To receive college credit students must pay for tuition and fees through CC. Fees determined by student initiated project.	Advanced Placement Calculus 1 & 2	To receive college credit students must pay for tuition and fees through CCC	Advanced 2D, 3D and Advanced Art	\$12.00 for student art creations	Art Exploration, Art Techniques, 2D Media	\$8.00 for student art creations	3D Media	\$10.00 for student art creations
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3D Media	\$10.00 for student art creations												

Calculus	To receive college credit students must pay for tuition and fees through CCC
College Algebra	To receive college credit students must pay for tuition and fees through CCC
Concert Band = Fall Concert Band = Spring	\$9.00 and includes an ensemble method book
Engineering Concepts	Up to \$7.00 depending on student initiated projects
Environmental Science	To receive college credit students must pay for tuition and fees through CCC
Honors Biology	To receive college credit students must pay for tuition and fees through CCC
Intermediate Automotive Technology Service	To receive college credit students must pay for tuition and fees through CCC. Fees determined by student initiated project
Introduction to Manufacturing Woods	Up to \$50.00 depending on student initiated projects
Linkages	Up to \$7.00 depending on student initiated projects
Manufacturing Welding	Up to \$15.00 depending on student initiated projects
Marching Band	\$46.00 plus an instrument and does not include shoes and gloves
Marching Band Cadet	\$25.00 plus an instrument and does not include shoes and gloves
Manufacturing Woods	Fee will vary and are determined by the student initiated project
Manufacturing Processes	Up to \$60.00 depending on student initiated projects
Percussion	\$300 and includes instrument usage fee, consumable materials, sticks and mallets, camp fees
Photography	\$10.00 for student photography items
PreCalculus with Trigonometry	To receive college credit students must pay for tuition and fees through CCC
Principles of Marketing	To receive college credit students must pay

		for tuition and fees through CCC
	Spanish III, IV and V	To receive college credit students must pay for tuition and fees through Nebraska Wesleyan
	Symphonic Band	\$9.00 and includes an ensemble method book
	Technical Math	To receive college credit students must pay for tuition and fees through CCC
	US History - Dual Credit	To receive college credit students must pay for tuition and fees through CCC
School Fees	Each of the following extra-curricular activities may have fees and/or other costs associated with the activity. Free and Reduced status may waive the fee with completion of the waiver request form at the start of the school year/activity.	
	All Activities	\$25.00 C-Stamp/Meals on Trips
	All Athletic Teams	Shoes, Personal Attire
	All Choir Groups	Appropriate Personal Attire for Performances
	Bowling	Bowling ball and shoes
	Cheerleading	Standard Uniform up to \$1200
	Color Guard	\$15.00 plus cost of uniform
	Dance Team	Standard Uniform up to \$1200
	Destination Imagination	Costs will vary depending on competitions
	Golf	Golf clubs and shoes
	HOSA	Entry fees for individual competitions
	Intramural Basketball	\$5.00
	FBLA	Membership dues, conference expenses
	Mock Trial	Appropriate Personal Attire for Competitions
	SkillsUSA	Membership dues, conference expenses
	Tennis	Tennis racquet, Personal Attire
	Robotics	Costs will vary depending on competitions

	Swimming	Goggles, Cap, Personal Attire
	Soccer	Shin Guards, Personal Attire
	Speech	Appropriate Personal Attire for Competitions
Other Items	Purchases that include yearbooks, class rings, letter jackets and other similar personal effects are sold to students as a convenience which are not fees and do not fall under the guidelines of the fees policy. Fines for overdue books, school parking violations, restitution for damage to property that is deemed to be a violation of school rules, regulations and policies established for the safe and efficient operation of the school and thus do not fall under the Student Fee Policy 504.18R1	
Graduation Caps and Gowns	To participate in the graduation ceremony, students are required to purchase a cap and gown. Participation in the ceremony is optional and thus costs do not fall under the Student Fee Policy 504.18R1	
Fund Raising	Students may do fund raising activities while participating in an extracurricular activity. Fundraising is done to offset expenses incurred by the student as members of the activity. Fundraising can also be done as charitable giving campaigns by student affiliated groups with Board of Education approval in September or January each year	

Columbus Public Schools

Elementary Student Handbook



2020-2021

Student Handbook Signature Page

Parents and Students,

Please tear out this signature page and return your signed form to your child's homeroom teacher.

Thank you!

We have received a copy of the Columbus Public Schools Elementary Handbook.

Yes _____ No _____

We have read the Columbus Public School Elementary Handbook and are aware of the district policies and procedures.

Yes _____ No _____

We agree to have our child's photo taken for school activities and for educational purposes.

Yes _____ No _____

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

Student Signature

Date



Columbus Public Schools Compact for Learning

“Engaging All Learners to Achieve Success”

CPS Elementary staff, students and families have high expectations. Our mission is to ensure we are engaging all learners to achieve success. In order to provide the highest quality instruction and to support our goal of developing successful life-long learners, we pledge to work together through this compact.

It is our belief that student performance will improve as a result of our cooperative efforts to support this compact. For this three-way partnership to succeed, it is imperative that we all assume these responsibilities.

Parent/Caring Adult:

I understand that my participation in my child’s education will help his/her achievement and attitude. I agree to carry out the following responsibilities:

- Make sure my child attends school every day
- See to it that my child arrives to school on time, eats breakfast and is well rested
- Attend all parent-teacher conferences
- Participate in school events
- Monitor my child’s progress
- Communicate with the teacher and my child about any concerns I notice
- Provide a quiet work area, supervise and check my child’s homework
- Check my child’s planner daily
- Read to and listen to my child read

Student:

I know my education is important to me. An excellent education will help me be successful. I agree to carry out the following responsibilities:

- Be a Discoverer by being safe, respectful and responsible
- Attend school regularly and be prepared to learn
- Exhibit a positive attitude towards learning
- Fill in my planner, complete my homework and read every day
- Accept responsibility for my own behavior
- Ask for help when needed

School/Teacher:

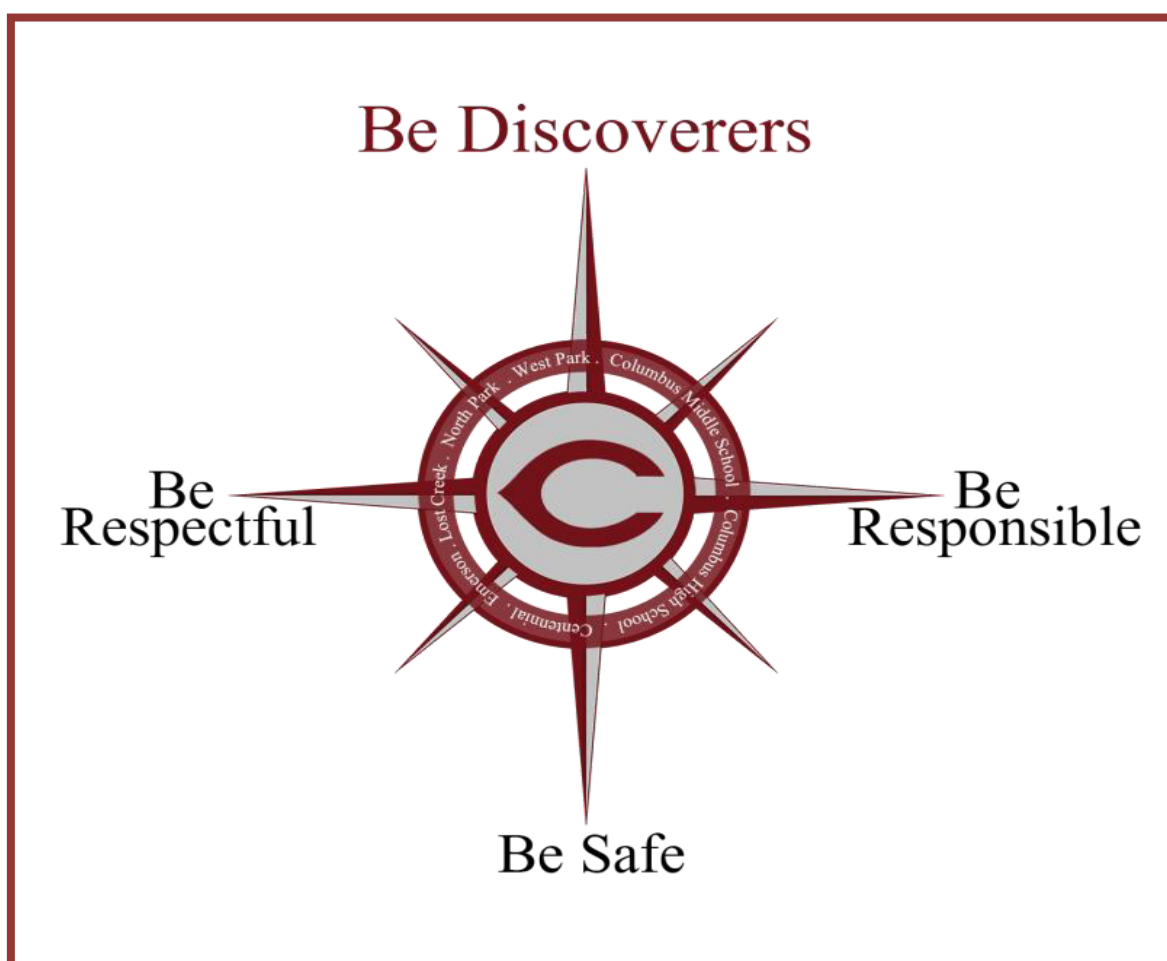
I understand the importance of the school experience to every student and my role as a teacher. I agree to carry out the following responsibilities:

- Keep families and students informed of academic progress
- Make sure students understand homework assignments and fill out their planners
- Provide engaging lessons to help students achieve success
- Foster a positive learning environment
- Implement the curriculum developed by the district
- Invite parents into the classroom to observe lessons, volunteer and help with special events
- Implement the school’s responsibility to provide high-quality curriculum and instruction to enable children to meet state academic achievement standards

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ATTENDANCE POLICY

In order for students to gain the maximum benefit of the educational program provided by Columbus Public Schools, it is necessary for students to be regular and punctual in their attendance at school. It is the belief of Columbus Public Schools that students missing more than 20 days of school per year will not be able to achieve in the school setting. Exceptions may be made to this 20-day maximum only in the event of major illness or accident, which would prevent the student from attending classes. All such major illness or accident-related absences should be verified in writing by the family physician and updated regularly. Arrangements should be made to obtain missing assignments by contacting the student's teachers. **Columbus Elementary Schools will be consistent with State Law and policies established by the Columbus Board of Education.**

5 Day - Any time a student accumulates a total of five (5) or more absences the parent will be contacted and notified of the total number of absences, the dates of these absences, and the time period of accumulation.

10 Days - Any time a student misses a total of ten (10) days of school, that parent shall be contacted and notified of the total number of absences and the current policy relating to attendance at school.

15 Days - When a student has missed a total of fifteen (15) school days, the parents shall be notified of the total number of unexcused absences and a telephone or personal conference shall be held with the parent, principal, and student (if appropriate) in attendance. At 15 days, parents may be told that all future absences will have to be verified by either the school nurse or a written excuse from a physician. The county attorney, attendance monitor and school social worker may be notified of school concerns regarding the student's attendance.

20 Days - When a student misses a total of twenty (20) school days, the parents shall be notified of the total number of absences and a conference may be held. The county attorney, attendance monitor, and school social worker will be notified of school concerns regarding the student's attendance. At 20 days, parents may be told that all future absences will have to be verified by the school health office or by a written excuse from a physician.

Absence - Parents or legal guardians are **REQUIRED** to notify the school by 8:30 a.m. the day of the student's absence or tardiness unless the absence has been prearranged. Parents or guardians who do not call regarding a student's absence will be called at home or work to ensure the safety of the child. Students are marked as absent even when a doctor's note has been obtained. Students are counted absent anytime they are not at school, regardless of the reason.

Students who are absent during the school day are not permitted to participate in after school or evening activities.

Tardiness – Students are expected to be on time to school. Students will be counted tardy if they are not in their classrooms by 8:00 a.m. When students arrive late, an adult must check in the student at the school office. Excessive tardies may result in a parent contact, parent conference, and notification to the attendance monitor, school social worker, and county attorney.

Students are counted as tardy if they arrive between 8:00 – 8:30 a.m. Students who arrive after 8:30 a.m. are counted as absent for a quarter of the school day.

Makeup Work – Work missed during an absence **MUST** be made up. Students are responsible for obtaining make-up work from each of their teachers and completing the work in a reasonable amount of time. Parents or siblings may make arrangements to pick up textbooks or other materials by contacting the school office, which is open until 4:00 p.m. Students may be required to stay after school in order to make up the missed instructional time and assignments.

Vacations – We request that parents or guardians notify the school of vacations at least one week prior to the start of the vacation. Students are responsible for getting and completing all work missed during the vacation. Families are strongly encouraged to use scheduled school breaks for vacations whenever possible in order to avoid having their child(ren) miss school. (See Makeup Work)

Leaving During the School Day – Students leaving the building for any reason during the time school is in session must check out through the School Office. **Students will not be called out of class until the parent arrives to check them out.** In case of illness, the school nurse or other school official will check the student before being excused. Before being released from school, the student's parent or other responsible adult will be contacted and advised of the student's need to be dismissed from school.

Students who leave school due to illness during the school day are responsible for getting and completing all missed work. Students who have left school during the school day due to illness may not return for any after school or evening activities.

CHECK OUT PROCEDURE (MOVE TO ATTENDANCE)

- The student must present a parental note to their teacher before school starts. Phone calls from parents will also be accepted.
- The student must report to the office in order to be checked out by an adult before leaving the school building.
- The student must report to the office to check in if he/she returns to school before the end of the day.
- Students will not be called out of class until the parent arrives to check them out. (Could we bold this or underline it?)

BICYCLES

Bicycles should be parked in the racks as soon as students arrive at school. The school is not responsible for damage to or theft of bicycles. It is recommended that sturdy locks be used with bicycles to discourage theft. Bicycles should not be ridden on the sidewalks around the school. For safety purposes, students need to walk their bike on the sidewalk when approaching the school.

BIST (BEHAVIOR INTERVENTION SUPPORT TEAM)

Columbus Public Schools utilizes the BIST model to support students and the learning environment. When students struggle to make positive behavior choices, the following continuum of support is provided. Based on student need, individual intervention plans may be developed to support the academic and behavioral needs of students.

Safe Seat: The Safe Seat is a place within the classroom for students to think about their behavior. The Safe Seat is away from the other students (as in the back of the classroom) while still being within the learning environment. When students are asked to move to the Safe Seat, they continue to do their work and listen to the instruction. They do not, however, actively participate in the learning activity. Students remain in the Safe Seat until the teacher has the opportunity to process with them. Processing involves helping the student understand their misbehavior and the appropriate expectations for the learning activity and classroom.

Buddy Room: If students are unwilling to sit in the Safe Seat or sit quietly in the Safe Seat, they move to the Buddy Room. The Buddy Room is another classroom, preferably at the same grade level. Students may be asked to complete a Think Sheet while in the Buddy Room. The Think Sheet is a tool to help students identify their misbehavior(s) and feelings, and think about what they need to do when they return to their classroom. A student remains in the Buddy Room until the teacher has time to process with them.

Recovery Room: If students are unwilling to go to the Buddy Room or sit quietly in the Buddy Room, they move to the Recovery Room, which is located in the office. While in the Recovery Room, students must demonstrate that they are calm, ready to learn, and ready to follow directions.

The goal of BIST is to help students learn the following life skills so that they will become responsible students and citizens:

- I can make good choices even when I am mad.
- I can be okay even if others are not okay.
- I can do something even when I don't want to (or it is hard).

CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

All adults are required by law to report any suspected case of child abuse or neglect to the authorities. Abuse and/or neglect are defined by Nebraska State Law LB 28-710 as follows: *“Abuse or neglect shall mean knowing, intentionally, or negligently causing or permitting a minor child or an incompetent or disabled person to be: (a) placed in a situation that endangers his or her life or physical or mental health; (b) cruelly confined, or cruelly punished; (c) deprived of necessary food, clothing, shelter, or care; (d) left unattended in a motor vehicle, if such minor child is six years of age or younger; or (e) sexually abused.”*

CLASSROOM SUPPLIES

The school will provide a list of classroom supplies needed by students. Parents will be notified if any additional supplies are needed throughout the year.

CLASSROOM VISITATIONS

Parents/guardians are welcome to visit their child’s classroom during school hours. Please check with your child’s teacher regarding the best time to visit. All visitors are asked to report to the school office for a visitor badge when they arrive. Children who do not attend our school may not visit during the school day. Parents who have court ordered supervised visitation with their child(ren) are required to prearrange any school visits through Health and Human Services so that the caseworker can be present.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Parents are required to supply the school with current information regarding work, home and cell phone numbers so that the school can contact parents in an emergency. Parents should also provide phone numbers of relatives or friends who may be called in the event that a parent cannot be reached. **If these phone numbers and/or your address should change during the school year, please notify the school office.**

COUNSELORS, SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGISTS & SCHOOL SOCIAL WORKERS

Parents can contact counselors, school psychologists and school social workers by calling the building secretary. Counselors and school psychologists are student focused and address concerns that affect the student’s academic, behavioral, physical, social and emotional health. School social workers are parent/family focused and address concerns that impact a parent’s or family’s quality of life requiring community support services.

DATING VIOLENCE

Columbus Public Schools strives to provide physically safe and emotionally secure environments for all students and staff. Positive behaviors are encouraged in the educational program and are required of all students and staff. Dating violence will not be tolerated. For purposes of this policy, dating violence means a pattern of behavior where one person uses threats of, or actually uses physical, sexual, verbal or emotional abuse to control his or her dating partner. Dating partner means any person, regardless of gender, involved in an intimate relationship with another person primarily characterized by the expectation of affectionate involvement whether casual, serious or long term. Consequences may include restriction of privileges, schedule change, activities suspension/expulsion (where appropriate), ISS, OSS, alternative placement and/or expulsion. Incidents of dating violence involving students at school will be addressed as the administration determines appropriate, within the scope and subject to the limits of the district’s authority.

Legal Reference: Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 79-2,139 to 79-2,142 / Date of Adoption: May 17, 2010

DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS

THE DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS THAT A TEACHER AND/OR ADMINISTRATOR CAN ADMINISTER INCLUDE:

1. Guidance: A conversation between the student and school personnel. The purpose of this conversation is not to scold the student, but to inform him/her that his/her behavior needs to change so that he/she does not violate the rights of others, or to help the student improve his/her learning capabilities.
2. Conference: A meeting of student's parent(s) or legal guardian(s) and school personnel to discuss the student's behavior or learning progress. The school intends to seek the assistance of the student's parent(s) or legal guardian(s) in helping the student to become a better student.
3. Detention: Requiring that a student serve time in the office for a period of time. It is intended that students serving an office detention will be completing classroom work, reflecting on their behavior and creating a plan to change their behavior in order to successfully return to the classroom.
4. School Clean Up: Requiring a student to clean up certain items of the school that the student failed to care for properly. The student may be required to clean more than just the item(s) damaged by himself/herself in order to encourage the student to take better care of school property in the future.
5. The Use of Force: Teachers, administrators, and other school district employees may use force to restore order to the educational environment or to protect students and staff from physical harm.

THOSE DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS THAT ONLY ADMINISTRATORS MAY ADMINISTER INCLUDE:

1. Rearrangement of School Schedule: Assigning a student a new schedule of classes, which may be shortened from a regular schedule due to academic and/or behavioral needs and/or in-school suspension when the behavior of the student is such that the student cannot conduct himself/herself in an acceptable manner. A student assigned to a shortened schedule will be required to check into the office before his/her school day begins and out of the office after his/her school day ends. A student assigned to in-school suspension for the reasons of usage of alcohol, tobacco, controlled substances, extortion, possession of firearms, setting off false alarms or bomb threats, or at administrative discretion, shall not be allowed to participate in school-sponsored activities until he/she is reinstated to school. The intent of this action is to improve the student's behavior.
2. Restriction of Extracurricular Activities: Informing a student that he/she cannot participate in certain activities because of his/her past or present behavior. Such actions as this are intended to improve student behavior at home and at school.
3. Loss of Privileges: Action taken by the principal and/or assistant principal(s) to assist a student in resolving his/her behavioral problems. The action is in the form of certain stipulated conditions agreed to by the school, the student, and parent(s) or legal guardian(s).
4. Requirement That a Student Receive Counseling/Educational Evaluation: An action that may require a student to visit a guidance counselor, medical counselor, or psychological counselor to assist the student in resolving his/her problem.
5. In-School Suspension: Students are placed in the detention room rather than their regularly scheduled class(es). Students are supervised and expected to carry on their studies, as well as abide by the rules set down for in-school suspension. Assigning students to in-school suspension is at the discretion of the principal.
6. Suspension and Emergency Exclusion:
 - (a) Short term: A forced withdrawal of a pupil from school. Such action will comply with state statutes. A short-term suspension will not exceed five school days in length.
 - (b) Long term: A forced withdrawal of a pupil from school. Such action will comply with state statutes. A long-term suspension will not exceed twenty school days in length.

Any student who is suspended from school will not be allowed to participate in any after school or evening activities or be allowed on any school property until he/she is reinstated to school.

Expulsion: The permanent withdrawal of a student from school. Such action will comply with existing state statutes.

1. Exclusion: Immediate withdrawal of a student from school for:
 - a. (a) presenting a clear threat to the
 - b. physical safety of himself/herself or others, or for being so extremely disruptive as to make temporary removal necessary to preserve the rights of other students to pursue an education.
 - c. (b) a dangerous communicable disease 79-4177
2. Legal Action in Court of Law: Any disciplinary action taken against a student will comply with existing state and school board policies and shall afford the student due process.

PROTOCOL FOLLOWED FOR STUDENT THREATS

1. Principal is informed of the threat.
2. Threat assessment is conducted.
3. If the threat is deemed viable, parents of the student making the threat are called. The School Resource Officer (SRO) or Police and HHS may be called to assist with the initial investigation.
4. Student may be suspended under emergency exclusion if deemed appropriate.
5. If the student is suspended under emergency exclusion, the student may return to school after a psychologist has evaluated the student to determine the child is no longer considered a threat to themselves or others. This evaluation is at the cost of the parent.

SHORT-TERM SUSPENSION PROCEDURE (1-5 DAYS)

The essential ingredients of due process afforded the student in a short-term suspension (1-5 days) and set forth in School Policy 505.02 are as follows:

1. Notice of the charge against the student.
2. An explanation of the charge against the student.
3. An opportunity for the student's explanation of the incident(s), issue(s), and/or event(s).
4. Written notification within 24 hours, or such additional time as is reasonably necessary, to the parents or guardians of the student stating:
 - (a) the reason(s) for the short-term suspension.
 - (b) dates of the short-term suspension.

The decision of the administrator shall be final.

LONG-TERM SUSPENSION PROCEDURE (6-20 DAYS)

Due process afforded the student in Long-Term Suspension, Expulsion or Exclusion, and covered in detail in School Policy 505.02. Written notification to parent(s) or legal guardian(s) indicating the following:

1. The rule(s) or standard(s) of conduct allegedly violated.
2. The penalty recommended by the school official in charge.
3. A statement indicating the student has a right to a hearing on the specified charges upon request.
4. A description of the hearing process and appeal procedure.
5. A form for parents to fill out in order for parents to request a hearing (to be signed and returned to the Superintendent of Schools).

Nothing in the above procedure precludes the student, student's parent(s), legal guardian(s), or representative from discussing and settling the matter with the appropriate school personnel prior to the hearing. In the event the school does not receive a request for a hearing within five (5) school days following the receipt of the written notice, the punishment shall go into effect. A hearing can still be requested prior to thirty (30) calendar days after the actual receipt of written notice; however, the punishment imposed may continue in effect pending the final determination. The appeal procedure shall be as set forth in School Policy 1005.02.

DRESS CODE

Students may wear any clothing that does not interfere with the purpose of school or break one of our school rules. Clothing which creates a distraction to staff or students or disrupts the learning process in any manner will not be allowed. Any piece of clothing or any item brought to school should not contain any reference to violence, gang affiliation, profanity, sexual innuendoes, or promote the use of tobacco, alcohol, or drugs. **Students who wear inappropriate clothing to school will be asked to change into appropriate clothing provided by the school, parent, or guardian.**

The dress code specifically prohibits the following kinds of clothing:

- Any piece of clothing or any item brought to school containing any reference to violence, gang affiliation, profanity, sexual innuendoes, or promotes the use of tobacco, alcohol or drugs.
- Clothing identified by police or other law enforcement agencies as gang-related apparel. Some of these items would be sagging pants, long baggy coats, specific colors that promote gang activity with slang symbolism.
- Clothing which is disruptive to the learning environment because it is too tight, too short, has holes in inappropriate places, or exposes bare midriffs.
- Girls may be asked to wear a sweater or shirt over tops with spaghetti straps, halter-tops or tank tops if it is determined to be inappropriate by an administrator.

If parents or guardians are unsure as to whether clothing is appropriate, they are welcome to call the school and visit with the counselor or principal.

FIELD TRIPS

Classes may take educationally based field trips during the school year under the direction of the classroom teacher. **Permission slips need to be signed by parents/guardians prior to field trips that are outside of Platte County.** Parents will be notified of any field trips within Platte County.

Elementary students not participating in a field trip due to parent request should remain at home during the field trip time. Students remaining at home will be regarded as absent from school. Children who arrive after the bus departs will be the responsibility of the parent. The same expectations regarding student behavior that are enforced at school shall also be enforced during the field trip.

On occasion, parents are asked to help supervise groups of students on field trips. If selected, parents are expected to ride the bus to help with supervision as students travel to/from the field trip. We want parents to keep in mind that their first priority when taking on this responsibility is for the safety of the children they have been designated to supervise. For this reason, parents may not bring younger siblings or extended family members on school field trips. It is our belief that the parent would not be able to adequately supervise our students if they also have to care for younger siblings or extended family members.

Parent volunteers shall conduct themselves in a manner fitting to their age level and maturity and with mutual respect and consideration for the rights of others while attending school events. Parents failing to conduct themselves accordingly will not be selected to supervise field trips or school activities.

HEALTH SERVICES

EMERGENCY HEALTH SITUATIONS

In the event of a student experiencing an emergency breathing problem or systemic allergic reaction (anaphylaxis), our CPS health offices follow the state-wide emergency protocol.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE TO LIFE-THREATENING ASTHMA OR SYSTEMIC ALLERGIC REACTIONS

The protocol requires that 911 is called first. After that call is made, an EpiPen injection will be given and then albuterol is provided through a nebulizer.

The protocol steps are designed to provide quick, effective care in order to prevent death from occurring due to severe asthma attack or anaphylaxis. Staff members have been trained to recognize signs and symptoms of a life-threatening “breathing” emergency and to properly administer the medications.

If you know that your child has asthma or a known allergy, it is ***critically important*** that you communicate this information to our school staff. You may also contact health personnel at your child’s school. For each student with a known allergic condition or asthma, you must provide the school with (1) written medical documentation, (2) instructions, and (3) medications as directed by a physician. In the event that your student experiences a life-threatening asthma attack or systemic allergic reaction, we will defer to the specific documents and medication that you have provided. If you do not have medical documentation and instructions on file with the school for your students, we will defer to the regulatory protocol described above. If, for whatever reason, you do not want your student to receive the life-saving emergency treatment under the protocol, you must file your written objection with the schools.

HEAD LICE

When it is reported or suspected that a student may have head lice, the student will be discreetly sent to the health office. The Health Aide or School Nurse will examine the student’s head for evidence of live lice. If a student is found to have live lice, the family will be contacted by the Health Aide or School Nurse and will be assisted in developing a treatment plan.

IMMUNIZATION

Nebraska law requires that students shall be protected against Poliomyelitis, Diphtheria, Pertussis, Tetanus (DPT), Measles, Mumps, Rubella (MMR), Hepatitis B, and Varicella (chicken pox). Any student who does not comply with immunization requirements shall not be permitted to continue in school until he or she shall so comply. Exceptions to this requirement are as follows:

- Medical exemptions for health reasons substantiated by a signed statement from a physician
- Religious conflict substantiated by a signed affidavit that is notarized by the student’s legal guardian

MEDICATIONS

Medication may be administered at school when such treatment is necessary for school attendance and cannot otherwise be accomplished. Parents need to complete the proper form **prior** to school personnel administering medication to a child in school. This form is available in the school health office or the CPS district website.

All medication products must be sent to the school in the original container with label intact. This includes “over the counter” medications such as Acetaminophen, Ibuprofen, etc.

SCREENINGS

Students enrolled in Columbus Public Schools are provided health screening in accordance with Nebraska State Statute. The screening is conducted to help identify health concerns in as early a stage as possible, in an effort to enhance learning. Screening is not intended to be diagnostic but to identify students with potential problems.

Each student will be screened of vision, hearing, dental, height and weight. The state statute requiring health inspections in Nebraska does not allow a waiver option. Parents who request that their child not be screened at school must provide current screening results from a medical provider.

STUDENT ILLNESS

Students should not be sent to school with a **fever of 100 or greater, vomiting, diarrhea, or have signs of a contagious illness or skin condition**. Students should not return to school until they are **symptom free for 24 hours** without the use of Acetaminophen or Ibuprofen (Tylenol, Motrin Advil, etc.).

HOMEWORK

Homework refers to tasks that a student is assigned to do on his/her own time after school hours. It may be work for which the student needs additional practice due to absence or lack of attention or effort at school. Homework assignments serve as a means of providing a bond of common effort between parent, child, and teacher. In order for homework to be effective, each participant – teacher, student, and parent – must understand and be committed to carrying out his/her responsibility. If any of the three (teacher, student, parent) do not fulfill their responsibilities, then the positive effects of homework will be reduced.

Homework Responsibilities of Teacher

1. Communicate to students and parents, homework goals and expectations.
2. Set clear and concise expectations concerning assigning, returning, and evaluating homework.
3. Coordinate homework assignments with other teachers with whom students work, and who may assign homework.
4. Assign appropriate homework.

Homework Responsibilities of Students

1. Know and understand what is required for completion of the assignment.
2. Assume responsibility for completing and returning assignments.
3. Complete assignments neatly and do quality work.

Homework Responsibilities of Parents

1. Maintain a positive attitude towards learning and the value of homework.
2. Be aware of the homework policy and individual teacher requirements.
3. Help your child find a study area that is quiet and relatively free of distractions.
4. Be patient with your child and praise him/her for any effort made.
5. If your child has difficulty understanding the directions, help them with explanations. **Do not do the homework for your child!**
6. Look over the assignment when your child reports the work is complete to affirm completion and quality.

LIBRARY MEDIA CENTER

Students may check out material for a period of two weeks and may renew the materials once. No fines are charged for overdue materials however, students are expected to pay for damaged or lost materials. If the item is not returned, a letter will be sent to parents requesting that the material be returned. In the event that materials are not returned or paid for, or if a student repeatedly returns items in a damaged condition, the student may have library media center privileges restricted or report cards withheld. Money will be refunded for materials that were lost and paid for, then later found and returned to the library media center.

NONCUSTODIAL PARENTS

The School District assumes that non-custodial parents have all the rights and privileges of custodial parents unless presented with a certified copy of a court order or decree limiting those rights.

NONDISCRIMINATION STATEMENT

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity in any program or activity conducted or funded by the USDA.

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 Agency (State or local) where they applied for benefits. 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.

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, 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

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

PARENT APPEAL PROCEDURES

In the event a parent is denied access to any topic listed in Board Policy 1005.02 or who is unsatisfied with the solution presented by the administration in accordance with the Parental Objection Provisions of 1005.02, said parent has the right of appeal as listed below:

1. Upon receipt of the administrator's decision, the parent has five (5) school days to appeal that decision by contacting the Office of the Superintendent of Schools.
2. The Superintendent of Schools shall inform the Board no later than the next regularly scheduled Board meeting that an appeal has been made. The privacy of the individual filing the appeal shall be maintained.
3. The Superintendent of Schools shall meet with the parent and administrator in an attempt to resolve the matter within ten (10) school days of receipt of such an appeal.
4. The parent shall receive from the Superintendent his/her decision within five (5) school days of the meeting stated in #3.
5. Upon receipt of the Superintendent's decision, the parent shall have five (5) school days to appeal this decision to the Board of Education to be considered at its next regularly scheduled meeting. Such requests are made by contacting the Office of the Superintendent of Schools. Appeals to the Board will include the parent's/guardian's name and the nature of the objection.
6. Final decision will rest with the Board of Education.

PARENT/GUARDIAN INVOLVEMENT AND PARTICIPATION

School Board Policy 1005.02 provides parents/guardians with the information as to when and how they can access instructional materials. This policy includes the following:

- The Elementary Student Handbook will be sent home with students at the beginning of each school year. Parents/guardians are required to return the signature form indicating that they have received the handbook.
- Parents/guardians are invited to review instructional materials. Parents/guardians can gain access to instructional materials by contacting the school office.
- Parents/guardians are welcome to visit their child's classroom during school hours. Parents/guardians are asked to contact their child's teacher to schedule the best time to visit.
- The building administrator will notify parents/guardians if a substitute teacher will teach their child for four or more weeks.

PARENT VOLUNTEERS

We welcome parent volunteers at each of our elementary schools. Volunteers help students and teachers with various tasks in the classrooms. Parents can volunteer any amount of time that they have available. All volunteers are requested to check in/out at the school office when entering and leaving the building. Parents who volunteer on a regular basis will be subject to a background check. CPS has the right to deny parent participation on field trips and/or with classroom or school activities.

PETS IN SCHOOL

Due to allergies and safety issues, family pets are not allowed in the school building. Due to student safety, family pets are not allowed on school grounds during school hours, including drop off and pick up times.

PROGRESS REPORTS TO PARENTS

The school year is divided into four grade report periods. Report cards are distributed at the end of each grading period. Parent-Teacher Conferences are scheduled twice during the school year. Dates and times of these conferences will be sent to parents prior to conferences being held. Parents or teachers may arrange additional conferences when they are necessary.

RIGHT TO DUE PROCESS

The policy of the Board of Education states: *"The Board of Education of the Columbus Public Schools views the establishment of rules and responsibilities governing student behavior as a necessary element of the educational process."*

The rules and responsibilities governing student behavior established pursuant to this policy and other School Board policies affecting student personnel shall be approved by the district's established procedure prior to their use. All rules and responsibilities established by the school district and any rules established by individual buildings governing student behavior at the school shall be publicized.

The Board recognizes that each classroom teacher needs to establish certain rules governing the educational process he/she is in charge of. Any rules established by individual teachers are to be reflective of school policies and rules. Such rules are exempt from Board approval and need only to be made known in each individual class of which he or she is in charge. Any behavior on the part of a student that violates school policies, rules, or regulations may be subject to disciplinary action. Any disciplinary action shall be administered within the fundamental framework of due process.

SCHOOL HOURS

- School Day: 7:55 a.m. – 3:25 p.m. (2:15 p.m. on early dismissal Wednesdays)
- Office Hours: 7:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
- Breakfast: 7:25 a.m. – 7:45 a.m.
- After School Program 3:25 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. (2:15 p.m. on early dismissal Wednesdays)

Supervision is provided before and after school from 7:45 a.m. – 3:35 p.m. ***Students need to be picked up by 3:35. On early dismissal Wednesdays students need to be picked up by 2:25.***

SCHOOL INITIATED PHONE CALLS AND TEXT MESSAGES

Columbus Public Schools does send a lot of information to parents regarding upcoming events and activities in order to keep parents informed. The *Federal Telephone Consumer Protection Act* states: **"All phone calls—whether live, automated, or prerecorded voice calls or text messages—made to cell phones using an auto-dialer or other automated dialing technology; are prohibited unless the calls are made for emergency purposes or made with the prior express consent of the cell phone subscriber. "**

In order to conform with the new regulations within the *Federal Consumer Protection Act*, schools need to obtain the "prior express consent" of the parent prior to making calls to the parent's cell phone number.

The Federal Communications Commission has stated, “People who knowingly release their phone numbers have given permission to be called at the number which they have given, absent instructions to the contrary.”

By signing receipt of this handbook, you are giving Columbus Public Schools permission to call all cell phone numbers that are registered in PowerSchool for school and student purposes.

SCHOOL MEALS

The schools provide daily breakfast and hot lunch through Lunchtime Solutions. Children who bring cold lunches may purchase milk.

Families are encouraged to keep account balances in the positive at all times. Deposits are accepted at each school building and at the Administration Building. Deposits may be made by cash or check. Account balances may be obtained through the parent access portal in PowerSchool. If online access is not available, the District Food Service office may be contacted at (402) 563-7055. Each day that a student eligible for reduced price or paid meals brings the actual amount of the cost of the meal, that student will be provided a breakfast and/or lunch and the amount received will be applied to the cost of that meal rather than to reduce a prior negative balance.

In the event that a student's account balance reaches -\$15.00, the student will be offered an alternate meal meeting reimbursable requirements of the USDA school nutrition program. The District will also provide the necessary forms for the student's parent or guardian to apply for free or reduced-price meals. Such benefits may be applied for at any time during the school year.

To the extent possible, all actions pertaining to students with negative account balances will be handled as confidentially as possible. Communications regarding account balance concerns will be provided in writing by an assigned District Food Service staff member and/or by automated phone calls. Students will not be used as couriers of such information.

Parents should contact the school if their child has any food allergies or requires a special diet as specified by a doctor. Any student going home for lunch needs written permission from a parent/guardian. Students that require a special medical diet, as specified by a doctor, may request that it be prepared in the cafeteria.

No student or parent may bring in commercially prepared food such as Pizza Hut, Subway, Burger King, McDonald's, etc, during CPS breakfast or lunch periods. Students and parents may bring in sack lunches that are made at home. Students or parents who bring a cold lunch to school are asked to drink juice or water or purchase a carton of milk. Pop is discouraged.

SOCIAL MEDIA

In an effort to better inform parents and the community, Columbus Public Schools will be using social media to share information. Social media includes but is not limited to Facebook, Twitter, blogging and podcasting. When posting information on social networks sites (such as Facebook), the district will only post group photos/videos with no student names. If a student's name is used, there will be no photo. Students will not be allowed to post on any social media pages from the district. Social media will be monitored by each building principal and only be used with their approval. Parents who assist with field trips or school activities are required to follow these same social media guidelines.

STUDENT BIRTHDAYS

School Board Policy 508.13 includes the following, “All foods offered on the school campus will meet or exceed the USDA Smart Snacks in School nutrition standards and/or state nutrition standards.” The Smart Snacks in Schools applies to celebrations such as student birthdays. Due to this federal law and district policy, students are no longer allowed to bring food items to school when celebrating their birthday. In lieu of food items, students may bring party favors, pencils, erasers, etc. to share with classmates.

Birthday party invitations should not be distributed at school unless they are given to all the boys and/or girls in the classroom. The school is not allowed to share student contact information, which includes home address and phone numbers. Gifts sent to students at school on birthdays or other occasions will be kept in the office and given to students at the end of the school day in order to minimize disruptions during instructional hours.

STUDENT CONDUCT

The expectations for all students who attend Columbus Public Schools are to BE SAFE, BE RESPECTFUL and BE RESPONSIBLE. Students are taught what it looks like to be safe, respectful and responsible in all areas within the school as these expectations encompass all of the daily routines and procedures within the classroom and within the school.

The following policies and procedures have been established and approved by the Board of Education of the Columbus Public Schools for use in all schools within the school district and at all school-sponsored events. **Compliance with the following standards of conduct is mandatory.**

ACTIVITIES FORBIDDEN BY LAWS OF NEBRASKA OR THE UNITED STATES

Students, as citizens of the United States and the State of Nebraska, are to obey all laws established by these respective governmental agencies. The school, in addition to any action taken by law enforcement agencies, may discipline students who violate these laws during the school hours or at school-sponsored events.

ALCOHOL, DRUGS, AND TOBACCO

Students are not to consume, possess, sell, or distribute any drug (including tobacco), narcotic, alcohol, or substance purported to be a drug, narcotic, or alcohol, at school, on school grounds, or at school-sponsored events. This rule does not prohibit possession or consumption by a student of a substance that has been prescribed to him/her by a person licensed to prescribe.

Students are prohibited from consuming any drug, narcotic, controlled substance, alcohol, or substance purported to be a drug, narcotic, alcohol, controlled substance or any facsimile of any substance in any quantity immediately prior to coming on school grounds or to a school-sponsored event. Disciplinary action will be in accordance with District Policy 504.14.

BEHAVIOR TO AND FROM SCHOOL

Students are not to interfere with the ability of other students to travel to and from school safely and without verbal, physical, or sexual harassment. Students are not to participate in activities, which are potentially dangerous to themselves, other students, or the public while on their way to and from school.

BULLYING, EXTORTION & INTIMIDATION

Threatening, bullying or intimidating another student(s) or school personnel is prohibited at school, on school grounds, at school-sponsored events, or going to and from them.

CHEATING

Students who cheat, plagiarize, or forge in connection with academic endeavor and/or school procedures are subject to disciplinary action.

CLASSROOM RULES

Teachers may establish reasonable rules in their classrooms to assist them in providing a positive environment for learning. Students are expected to follow these rules and may be disciplined for noncompliance.

DAMAGE OR THEFT OF SCHOOL OR PRIVATE PROPERTY

Students are not to participate in any activity not properly supervised by school personnel that could possibly damage or deface school or private property. If a student damages school or private property, he/she is financially responsible for all damages and may be disciplined. Students are prohibited from borrowing without permission or stealing private or school property. Students who do either of these things may be disciplined.

FALSE FIRE ALARMS AND/OR BOMB THREATS

Students are not to falsely set off fire alarms or falsely report bomb threats.

FIGHTING

Students may not engage in verbal or physical fights in school buildings, on school grounds, at school-sponsored activities, or on their way to and from school. Students are prohibited from hitting, striking, kicking, or in any other way harming another student or school personnel. Disciplinary actions are based on the frequency and severity of the student's behavior and age.

INSUBORDINATION / CLASSROOM DISRUPTIONS

Students are to comply with reasonable directions or requests from teachers, student teachers, substitute teachers, teacher aides, secretaries, principals and other school personnel during any period of time the student is properly under the authority of school personnel. Any student who fails to comply with directions or requests of school personnel will be considered insubordinate. Disciplinary actions are based on the frequency and severity of the student's behavior and age.

SEARCH AND SEIZURE

Students possess the right of privacy of person as well as freedom from unreasonable search and seizure of property guaranteed by the Fourth Amendment of the Constitution. This individual right, however, is balanced by the school's responsibility to protect the health, safety, and welfare of all students.

School employees may conduct searches when they have reason to suspect that the health, safety, and welfare of students may be in danger. Any school employee making a search or a seizure will follow these guidelines:

1. General searches of school property (including personal items found on school property) will be conducted at any time when there is a reasonable cause for school employees to believe that something that violates a law or school rule is on school property. This search of school property may be made without the student being present.
2. Illegal items (firearms, weapons, drugs) or other possessions reasonably determined to be a threat to the safety or security of others, or may possibly interfere with school purposes, may be seized by school personnel.
3. Items, which are used to disrupt or interfere with the educational process, may be temporarily removed from a student's person.
4. A student's person may be searched by school employees when there is reasonable cause to believe that the student has on his/her person illegal items or other items that may interfere with school purposes.

SEXUAL DISCRIMINATION

It is the policy of the Columbus Public School District to comply in spirit as well as in fact with the regulations implementing Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972. Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 prohibits sex discrimination in federally assisted education programs. Specifically, Title IX states: "*No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving federal financial assistance.*"

Any student who has a grievance should complete a grievance form and forward it to the Superintendent.

SEXUAL HARASSMENT

Sexual harassment in any form will not be tolerated. If violations occur, disciplinary action will be taken. Any discrimination on the basis of race, creed, national origin, sex, age or handicap will not be tolerated.

WEAPONS, EXPLOSIVES, AND MATERIAL THAT CAN BE IGNITED

The before-mentioned material items are prohibited on school property or at school-sponsored events unless authorized by proper school authorities. A student shall not knowingly possess, handle, or transmit any object or material that is ordinarily or generally considered a weapon or any look-alike or facsimile of a weapon.

STUDENT PLANNER

Every student in grades 1–4 is issued a planner. One planner is issued FREE to each student. Lost or misplaced planners MUST be replaced and purchased by the student for \$3.00.

STUDENT RECORDS

School Board Policy 507 and its accompanying rules govern the maintenance of student records. These records are maintained to assist the instructional, guidance, and educational progress of the student and for legitimate research to better the educational programs of the school district. Parents and/or legal guardians may request in writing that information contained in student records be released for their purposes. In the event of a student transfer out of the district, student records, including academic, attendance, and discipline information will be sent to the requesting school district.

Schools may make public certain non-confidential “directory information” in association with recognition for such things as academic excellence, extracurricular honors and awards, or participation in officially recognized school sponsored activities. “Directory information” may include such things as name, address, date and place of birth and dates of school attendance. Any parent or legal guardian who does not wish the school district to release such “directory information” must notify the principal of the school that the student presently attends.

STUDENT RETENTION

Parents are included in the retention process. The school will notify parents as early as possible if retention is being considered. Parents, teachers, support staff, and the principal discuss any retention that is considered. The building principal makes the final decision regarding student placement.

STUDENT RIGHTS, RULES, AND RESPONSIBILITIES

State rules, rights, and responsibilities are automatically school district policy as well as building level policy. Therefore, we must be sure that students and parents have been given the opportunity to read them. **Parents and students are required to sign the SIGNATURE SHEET found at the beginning of this handbook.** This information is reviewed with students at the beginning of each school year.

RESPONSIBILITIES AND RIGHT TO AN EDUCATION

A student’s right to an education in Nebraska is granted because of provisions in the state’s Constitution. There are two very important things a student must do faithfully to protect this constitutional right. Those two things are: attend school and participate in the learning activities.

There are many other things responsible students do while they are students, but nothing is more important than doing the schoolwork assigned by their teachers and being in school on a regular basis.

The policy of the Columbus Public Schools regarding the right to an education states: *“The State of Nebraska, as provided for in Article VII, Section I of the Nebraska Constitution, established public schools to provide free education for students between the ages of five and twenty-one. All residents of the Columbus Public Schools from ages five through twenty-one are entitled to attend public schools without tuition. All students are entitled to equal educational opportunities.”*

Along with one’s right to equality of educational opportunity, each student has a commensurate responsibility to act in such a way as to not interfere with the rights of others to the same opportunity.

Essential to the fostering and maintaining of educational opportunity, is reasonable and necessary order in the schools. A student may forfeit his/her right to educational opportunities when his/her conduct is such that it substantially disrupts the educational process and deprives others of their rights. The most important things a student must do to protect his/her right to an education are stated as Responsibilities. These Responsibilities include:

RESPONSIBILITY AND RIGHT OF FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION

The right to freely express oneself is justifiably tempered with responsibilities to ensure that the expression made does not interfere with the rights of others. The official school policy and the responsibilities students have when expressing themselves are contained in this handbook to promote reasonable communication to reflect one of the purposes of Columbus Public Schools. **That purpose is to encourage the use of good language skills while providing educational experiences for students.**

The official school policy in regard to Freedom of Expression states: *“The Board of Education of the Columbus Public Schools recognizes the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States of America as being an essential part of the learning process. The Board of Education further recognizes that students need guidance in exercising the right of Freedom of Speech so that they do not interfere with the rights of others. The following statements are made to guide students in exercising their constitutional right of Freedom of Speech.”*

RESPONSIBILITY AND RIGHT TO FREEDOM OF ASSEMBLY

Official school policy states: "The Board of Education of the Columbus Public Schools recognizes that Freedom of Assembly is a right protected by the First Amendment of the constitution of the United States. The exercise of this right must be conducted in a responsible manner so as not to interfere with the educational activities of the school district."

The right to assemble in a school building, on school grounds or at school activities can be protected by following the responsibilities listed below.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF STUDENTS WHEN EXPRESSING THEMSELVES

When students express themselves at school, at school-sponsored activities, or in public places away from school, they must abide by the following rules:

1. The expression shall not contain words that are considered indecent, lewd, obscene, profane, vulgar, off-color, fighting or gutter words (four-letter words); phrases which contain threats, or physical gestures which are offensive or threatening to anyone seeing or hearing the expression; and expressions which undermine or are disrespectful to school personnel.
2. The expression of the student shall not contain words, phrases, or gestures that ridicule or belittle others.
3. The expression of the student shall not encourage other persons to violate school rules.
4. The expression of the student shall not be unusually loud, or interfere with or obstruct any lawful mission, process, function, or purpose of the school.
5. The expression of the student shall not be slanderous.
6. The expression of the student shall not be libelous.
7. The expression of the student about, or directed to, any teacher, administrator, or other school employee at any time in a public place shall comply with the six previously stated rules governing student expression. (Example: Any student who shall refer to a teacher in a public place at any time by a lewd or obscene name in such a loud voice that the teacher and/or others hear the insult may be disciplined by the school authorities.)

Any student who fails to meet these requirements when expressing himself/herself may be disciplined.

SYMBOLIC EXPRESSION AND RELATED ACTIVITIES

Symbolic expression is defined as that type of expression, exclusive of verbal and written expression, which conveys the personal ideas, feelings, attitudes and opinions of an individual. Length of hair, choice of clothing, buttons, badges, armbands, and physical gestures are some examples of symbolic expression.

Each student has the right to express himself/herself by way of symbols subject only to the restrictions that such expression does not result in over exhibitionism, disruption of the educational process, obscenities, disrespect, or obvious annoyance to others.

SUPPORT SERVICES

A variety of support services are offered by Columbus Public Schools. In order to be eligible for these services, students must meet criteria established by the district or state.

TECHNOLOGY INTEGRATION & INTERNET USAGE

Computer Network/Internet access is available to students and teachers in Columbus Public Schools. We believe that an Internet/Network access offers valuable, diverse, and unique resources to both students and teachers. Our goal in providing this service is to promote educational excellence in the district by facilitating resource sharing, innovation, and communication.

Access to the Internet enables students to explore thousands of libraries, databases, and bulletin boards while exchanging messages with users throughout the globe. In addition, the system is used to increase school and district communication, enhance productivity, and assist teachers in upgrading their skills through greater exchange of information with their peers. The system also assists us in sharing information with the local community, including parents, social service agencies, government agencies, and businesses.

With access to computers and people from around the world also comes the availability of material that may not be considered to be of educational value in the context of the school setting. Families should be warned that some material obtained via the Internet might contain items that are illegal, defamatory, inaccurate, or potentially offensive. We have taken precautions to restrict access to controversial materials through the installation of an Internet filtering device. However, on a global network, it is impossible to control all materials and an industrious user may discover controversial information, either by accident or deliberately. We firmly believe, however, that the benefits to students from online access far outweigh the possibility that users may procure material that is not consistent with our educational goals. We strive to ensure that use of Internet/Network resources is consistent with our stated mission, goals, and objectives.

Students using the Internet will follow all laws, policies, and rules governing computers and iPads. This includes (but is not limited to) copyright laws, software publisher's rights, license agreements, acts of terrorism, assault, threats, and expectations for student and parent privacy. Students at Columbus Public Schools shall receive instruction in Internet Safety. This curriculum will include the appropriate use of social networking sites, cyber-bullying, and other topics as are relevant in encouraging digital citizenship. A copy of the Internet Safety Curriculum may be found in the district Curriculum Office and each school media center.

APPROPRIATE USES AND DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP

While working in a digital and collaborative environment, students should always conduct themselves as good digital citizens by adhering to the following guidelines:

1. **Respect Yourself:** I will show respect for myself through my actions. I will select online names that are appropriate. I will use caution with the information, images, and other media that I post online. I will carefully consider what personal information about my life experiences, or relationships I post. I will not be obscene. I will act with integrity.
2. **Protect Yourself:** I will ensure that the information, images, and materials I post online will not put me at risk. I will not publish my personal details, contact details, or a schedule of my activities. I will report any attacks or inappropriate behavior directed at me while online. I will protect passwords, accounts and resources.
3. **Respect Others:** I will show respect to others. I will not use electronic mediums to antagonize, bully, harass, or stalk people. I will show respect for other people in my choice of websites. I will not visit sites that are degrading to others, pornographic, racist or inappropriate.
4. **Protect Others:** I will protect others by reporting abuse and not forwarding inappropriate materials or communications. I will avoid unacceptable materials and conversations.
5. **Respect Intellectual Property:** I will request permission to use copyrighted or otherwise protected materials. I will suitably cite all use of websites, books, media, etc. I will acknowledge all primary sources. I will validate information. I will use and abide by the fair use rules.
6. **Protect Intellectual Property:** I will request to use the software and media others produce. I will purchase, license, and register all software or use available free and open source alternatives rather than pirating software. I will purchase my music and media and refrain from distributing these in a manner that violates their licenses.

iPAD USE

~~Student iPad use will be contained to the school building.~~ Students will use their iPad in various learning settings throughout the day. Student iPads may be sent home for additional learning opportunities. ~~Student iPads are to be kept at school and are not allowed to leave the school building.~~ Students will receive regular training during the school year to address appropriate care and usage of the iPad, as well as digital citizenship training.

The student iPad is in a case which acts as the insurance policy for the iPad. Student iPads are to remain in the case at all times. If an iPad is removed from the case the student is financially responsible for all damages.

Students will log into their iPad using their school-issued student ID. Students are not to share their account passwords with anyone other than their parent/guardian. **In the event of a compromised account the Columbus Public School Technology Department reserves the right to disable a student's account.**

EMAIL

Students' email access will be through a Google Gmail system managed by the Columbus Public Schools. This email system is monitored by the Columbus Public Schools Technology Department and all messages sent or received through this system are archived and subject to filtering of inappropriate content. Students are expected to use appropriate language when sending emails and are not to transmit language/material that is profane obscene, abusive, or offensive to others. Student email accounts are subject to inspection at any time by school administration, parent/guardian or designee. **In the event of**

noncompliance with appropriate email use, the Columbus Public School Technology department reserves the right to terminate a student's email account.

18.

GOOGLE APPS FOR EDUCATION

The Columbus Public Schools district utilizes Google Apps for Education for students, teachers, and staff. This permission form describes the tools and student responsibilities for using these services. As with any educational endeavor, a strong partnership with families is essential to a successful experience.

As a district, we only authorize the use of tools and applications that support the implementation of our curriculum and have been through a rigorous educational process. Our district utilizes several computer software applications and web-based services, operated not by school district, but by third parties. A complete list of the programs with the privacy policy for each can be found on our district website:

<https://columbuspublicschools.org/coppa>

The following services are available to each student and hosted by Google as part of Columbus Public Schools on-line presence in Google Apps for Educations:

Mail - an individual email account for school use managed by Columbus Public Schools

Calendar – an individual calendar providing the ability to organize schedules, daily activities and assignments

Docs – a word-processing, spreadsheet, drawing, and presentation toolset that is very similar to Microsoft Office

Sites – an individual and collaborative website creation tool

Using these tools, students collaboratively create, edit and share files and websites for school related projects and communicate via email with other students and teachers. These services are entirely online and available 24/7 from any internet-connected computer. Examples of student use include showcasing class projects, building an electronic portfolio of school learning experiences and working in small groups on presentations to share with others.

In order for our students to use these educational programs and services, certain Board Policy approved directory information may be provided to the website operator strictly for educational purposes. This directory information may consist of the student's name, username, district e-mail address, grade level, age and/or date of birth. The need for such information is necessary to utilize software and web-based services as part of the classroom instruction. **A signature on the Student Handbook Signature Page constitutes consent for our school district to provide this directory information.**

TECHNOLOGY USE IN THE COLUMBUS PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT IS GOVERNED BY FEDERAL LAWS INCLUDING:

Children's Online Privacy Protection Act (COPPA)

COPPA applies to commercial companies and limits their ability to collect personal information from children under age 13. By default, advertising is turned off for Columbus Public School's presence in Google Apps for Education. No personal student information is collected for commercial purposes. This permission form allows the school to act as an agent for parents in the collection of information within the school context. The school's use of student information is solely for educational purposes. For more information on COPPA, please visit <http://www.ftc.gov/privacy/coppafaqs.shtml>

Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)

FERPA protects the privacy of student education records and gives parents the rights to review student records. Under FERPA, schools may disclose directory information (refer to Board Policy 507.02), but parents may request the school not disclose this information. Parents are provided the opportunity annually to opt out of disclosing their student's directory information on the District's Enrollment Form. For more information on FERPA, please visit <http://www.ed.gov/policy/gen/guid/fpco/ferpa>

Guidelines for the responsible use of Google Apps for Education by students:

1. **Official Email Address.** All students will be assigned a *username@discoverers.org* email account. This account will be considered the student's official CPS email address until such time as the student is no longer enrolled with Columbus Public Schools.
2. **Prohibited Conduct.** Please refer to student handbook and Acceptable Use Policy.

3. **Access Restrictions.** Access to and use of student email is considered a privilege accorded at the discretion of the Columbus Public School District. The District maintains the right to immediately withdraw the access and use of these services including email when there is reason to believe that violation of law or District policies have occurred. In such cases, the alleged violation will be referred to a building Administrator for further investigation and adjudication.
4. **Security.** Columbus Public Schools cannot and does not guarantee the security of electronic files located on Google systems. Although Google does have a powerful content filter in place for email, the District cannot assure that users will not be exposed to unsolicited information.
5. **Privacy.** The general right of privacy will be extended to the extent possible in the electronic environment. Columbus Public Schools and all electronic users should treat electronically stored information in individuals' files as confidential and private. However, users of student email are strictly prohibited from accessing files and information other than their own. The District reserves the right to access these Google systems, including current and archival files of user accounts when there is reasonable suspicion that unacceptable use has occurred.

TELEPHONE USAGE

The telephone at the school is a business telephone. Therefore, the use is limited to students. If the reason to use the telephone is legitimate, the teacher will give the student permission to use the telephone. These calls should be kept to a minimum and be kept brief. Calling to make arrangements to go to or play at another student's house is not a legitimate reason.

UNNECESSARY STUDENT ITEMS

Students should not bring items to school that may interfere with learning or endanger the health and safety of others. This includes but is not limited to cell phones, fidget spinners, hand-held games, i-pods, trading cards, etc. The school is not responsible for the lost, theft or damage of any unnecessary items brought to school. The teacher or principal may confiscate such items. The return of confiscated items is at the discretion of the teacher or principal. **If an item is not on the school supply list or directly requested by a teacher or staff member, please do not bring it to school.**

The Columbus Public Schools does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national or ethnic origin, sex, marital status, age or handicap in administration or access to, or treatment or employment in, its programs and activities. If you have any special needs request that will assist you in participating in services, program and activities of the Columbus Public School District, please contact your building principal or the superintendent of schools.

2020-2021 Student Handbook Changes

Delete the automated phone extensions

Assistant Principals Press 7

Building Principal Press 8

Change wording

For translation services or assistance:

-- Contact EL Program (402-563-7000) and select option 7.

Updated Page 8 for the new bell schedule

Updated Page 9 with the school calendar

Updated Page 10 with the new high school staff

Updated Board policy on I-E Student Records from 507 to 507.01

Update section II- B Disciplinary Actions That Only Administrators May Assign to include student classwork.

“any student who is suspended pursuant to this section may be given an opportunity to complete any classwork, including, but not limited to, examinations, missed during the period of suspension. Students will be given classwork by either paper or digital format.”

I-C Academic Responsibility

Students are obligated to complete all schoolwork assigned to them by their teachers. Students are also responsible for bringing materials such as pencil, paper, **electronic device** and textbooks,

Update Page 16 with the After School Detention Calendar

Delete the wording “a product of the CHS Orderly Environment School Improvement Committee and is” from section **III-A Dress Code for Students**

III-J Responsibilities of Students When Expressing Themselves

When students express themselves at school, at school-sponsored activities, or in public places away from school, they must abide by the following rules:

- 1) The expression shall not contain words, pictures **and/or actions**

III-B Non-Instructional Areas

Gyms, restrooms, **balconies**, stairwells, and other un-supervised areas are not authorized areas to congregate before, during, or after school.

III-C Loitering

Students may not remain in school buildings, on school grounds, in student and/or faculty parking lots, or at school-sponsored events without the permission of school personnel after school is dismissed or the activity is completed. *Students are to be off the premises no later than 30 minutes following the dismissal of classes or school activities.* Students may not assemble in unauthorized areas or hallways during the school day when classes are in session. **All Columbus High School students shall be prohibited from loitering anywhere within a three-block radius of the outer boundaries of the high school before or after school.**

III-E Contraband / Electronic Devices

Contraband is defined as any item not considered necessary to complete in-class activities and/or any item considered disruptive to the school environment during the instructional day (8:10-3:40). This would include (but is not limited to) any obscene or vulgar material, both electronic and non-electronic, lighters, electronic devices, MP3 player/iPod, earbuds, and portable video games. Contraband may be confiscated from students and turned into the main office.

III-Ea Cell Phone Possession and Use

At Columbus High School, we believe every student is allowed to possess and utilize a personal cell phone. That privilege is limited, however, at the point that the device becomes a distraction or disruption to the school environment

To avoid confrontation, confiscation, and consternation (the 3 C's), students should always ask a supervising adult (teacher, administrator) before using the phone during a restricted time period or in a restricted location. Reasonable requests will be considered by teachers and administration.

III-J Responsibilities of Students When Expressing Themselves

When students express themselves at school, at school-sponsored activities, or in public places away from school, they must abide by the following rules:

- 1) The expression shall not contain words, pictures and/or actions that are considered indecent, lewd, obscene, profane, vulgar

III-Na Parking Lot Expectations

Students should not have items visible or displayed on their vehicles that contain lewd, obscene, vulgar, or indecent material that would otherwise violate the student handbook.

III-P Inappropriate Behavior

Inappropriate behavior in regards to public indecency and indecent exposure will be defined to coincide with Neb. Rev. Stat. § 79-267 (7) and Columbus High School expectations.

- 1) Students engaging in sexual conduct, even if consensual, on school grounds or at a school function or event
- 2) Sexual assault or attempting to sexually assault any person on school grounds or at a school function or event
- 3) Students exposing themselves inappropriately to draw attention to a private area

III-S Unauthorized Entry

When school is in session, students are not to be in the school building before 6:30 AM or 30 minutes after dismissal time unless they are scheduled in activities taking place within the building or unless they have written permission from a staff member. Students should not allow others into the building, or prop doors open, at any unauthorized entrance.

III-Ya Use of Tobacco/Inhalant Products

It is the responsibility of the school to maintain a safe and drug-free educational environment. Columbus High School students are not to possess, use, distribute, or sell tobacco or tobacco-related or "look alike" products on school grounds. **Definition:** Tobacco products include cigarettes, cigars, chewing tobacco, snuff, or any form of tobacco intended to be smoked, chewed, sniffed, dissolved, or inhaled or products intended to replicate tobacco products either by appearance or effect. Possessing or use of e-cigarettes, vape devices and/or vapor liquids in any form at school is in direct violation of this policy. Tobacco or inhalant products confiscated from a student will be turned over to the School Resource Officer or other law enforcement officials. It will be up to the law enforcement officials as to whether an item is returned to a parent/guardian following confiscation at school.

Consequences: Students found guilty of possessing, using, distributing, or selling tobacco or inhalant products will receive the following consequences:

Possession/Use:

- 1st violation:** Students found guilty of a first violation at any time during the school year shall forfeit the contraband to the School Resource Officer and receive **two to three days ISS**. The student must also complete a school-approved smoking/vaping cessation program conducted by the school nurse.
- 2nd violation:** Students found guilty of a second violation at any time during the school year shall forfeit the contraband to the School Resource Officer and receive **two to three days OSS**. The student must also complete a school-approved smoking/vaping cessation program conducted by the school nurse.
- 3rd violation:** Students found guilty of a third violation at any time during the school year shall forfeit the contraband to the School Resource Officer and receive: **five days OSS**.
- 4th and subsequent:** Students found guilty of a fourth and/or subsequent violations at any time during the school year shall forfeit the contraband to the School Resource Officer and receive 6-19 day OSS.

Use:

- 1st violation:** Students found guilty of a first violation at any time during the school year shall forfeit the contraband to the School Resource Officer and receive three or four days ISS. They must complete a school-approved smoking/vaping cessation program conducted by the school nurse.
- 2nd violation:** Students found guilty of a second violation at any time of the school year shall forfeit the contraband to the School Resource Officer and receive three days OSS.
- 3rd violation:** Students found guilty of a third violation violations at any time during the school year shall forfeit the contraband to the School Resource Officer and receive five days OSS and confiscation of the contraband.
- 4th and subsequent:** Students found guilty of a fourth and/or subsequent violations at any time during the school year shall forfeit the contraband to the School Resource Officer and receive 6-19 day OSS.

III-Yb Alcohol and Drugs

Columbus High School prohibits the possession of alcohol or drugs and drug paraphernalia. This includes: distribution, dispensing, manufacturing, possession, use of or being under the influence of alcohol, federally banned or **"look alike"** substances by students while on school grounds, during school hours or school-sponsored events. Items and products covered in this policy will be confiscated from the student and turned over to the School Resource Officer or other investigating law enforcement officials.

Columbus High School reserves the right to utilize breathalyzers and/or drug testing equipment with students who may show signs of being under the influence of drugs or alcohol intoxication **at school or school-sponsored activities**. These tests will be administered by **properly trained school personnel**, School Resource Officers or other law enforcement officials.

III-Za Improper Sharing of Content Spreading Rumors / Text Messaging False Information

Spreading rumors, text messaging or sharing of content, material or false information, either electronic or non-electronic, which results in fear and/or disruption of the school day can be subjected to legal prosecution and suspension, expulsion, and/or mandatory reassignment.

IV-H Tardy to School (Period 1)

Students must sign in with the attendance secretary when they fail to report to school on time. Students will be allowed one (1) excused tardy before being assigned time as a consequence for tardiness, each quarter. Students will serve 30 minutes for each additional tardy. Excessive tardy arrivals to school will be handled by the **dean of students** administration.

IV-J School Response to Student Absences

All students are expected to attend school/class on a consistent basis. Students with unapproved absences will make up the time missed from school. When a student is **deemed excessively** absent or **tardy** from school the following intervention steps **will may** be taken:

A	A collaborative team meeting or meetings between an administrator or designee to include one or more of the following: school counselor, school psychologist, social worker, and/or student advocate with the parent/guardian and the student.
B	Educational counseling to explore schedule /curriculum changes such as alternative educational programs to solve the excessive absenteeism problem.
C	Educational evaluation to assist in determining the specific condition(s) or barriers contributing to the excessive absenteeism problem, supplemented by specific efforts by the school to help remedy any condition diagnosed.
D	Investigation of the problem by a school social worker, counselor, and/or member of the administrative team to identify conditions contributing to the excessive absenteeism. If services for the student and the student's family are determined to be needed, the collaborative team shall meet with the parent/guardian and child to discuss any referral to appropriate agencies, e.g. Juvenile Services Attendance Monitor, Professional Partners, etc. to remedy the conditions.
E	If the student is absent more than twenty days per year, or the percentage equivalency, the administration may shall file a report with the county attorney of the county in which the student resides.

VI-A Activities – Dances/Socials

All organizations must have sponsors present. Events must be scheduled in the activities director's office. Arrangements must be made with the teacher whose room and facilities are to be used. All areas used for meetings or socials must be left in their original condition. Once a student leaves a school activity, he/she is not allowed to return. All students attending dances will be breathalyzed prior to admittance. The school has the right to check purses, coats, etc. for illegal/disruptive items. Behavior of non-CHS students (guests) is the responsibility of CHS partners.

Hours of all school dances are 9:00 p.m. — School dances may start at different times but will be three (3) hours in length and not go past midnight.

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. Students must be in "good standing" and not on any type of social probation.

Social Probation: Students who owe more than 180 minutes (3 hours) of ASD time are considered to have lost their good standing status and are at that point on social probation. Students on social probation are ineligible to participate in CHS dances and social events. In order to return to good standing, the student will have to serve enough time to lower his/her time-owed to below 180 minutes prior to the cut-off of ticket sales for that particular dance. See II-C After-School Detention (ASD). **Students who are alternatively placed, due to behavior reasons, in a setting outside of the regular school building/day, will be considered on social probation.**

- a. **Until 11:00 p.m.,** Rules for dances restrict students and their guests from leaving the dance unless they sign out. Parent/guardian(s) may be contacted in the event that students leave within an hour of the start.
- b. **High school administration reserves the right to withhold the sale of tickets or attendance to dances due to unforeseen reasons.**

VI-Cb Graduation – Mid Term

A student who wishes to graduate from high school in less time than the ordinary eight (8) semesters may request permission to complete graduation requirements on an alternate schedule. The student and parent/guardian will consult with the grade level counselor to develop a graduation plan. The student's intent to accomplish this shall be stated in writing to the school counselor along with a letter of support submitted by the student's parent/guardian at the time of the

request. The request letters are to be submitted no later than 2 weeks after the start of the seventh (7) semester or the date put forth by the district.

VI-F Grade Classification/Grades/Records for Class of 2019 and 2020

Delete the entire section

VI-Fa Grade Classification/Grades/Records for Class of 2021 and Beyond

Students are reminded that incomplete grades received must be made up within a period of ~~two weeks~~ ten (10) school days of the close of the grading period.

VI-H Grade Point Average (GPA) for Class of 2019 and 2020

Delete entire section

VI-Ha Grade Point Average (GPA) for Class of 2021 and Beyond

A cumulative grade point average and class rank will be determined at the end of each semester. All weighted grade courses will be included. Advanced Placement and Honors courses will be the only courses to receive weighted grade status.

Regular Courses (Unweighted)				Weighted Grade Courses			
A+	=	4.0	98 - 100%	A+	=	5.0	98 - 100%
A	=	4.0	90 - 97%	A	=	5.0	90 - 97%
B+	=	3.0	87 - 89%	B+	=	4.0	87 - 89%
B	=	3.0	80 - 86%	B	=	4.0	80 - 86%
C+	=	2.0	77 - 79%	C+	=	3.0	77 - 79%
C	=	2.0	70 - 76%	C	=	3.0	70 - 76%
D+	=	1.0	67 - 69%	D+	=	1.0	67 - 69%
D	=	1.0	60 - 66%	D	=	1.0	60 - 66%
F	=	0.0	Below 60%	F	=	0.0	Below 60%

INCOMPLETE GRADES

Any student who has received an "Incomplete" grade during the Semester 1 grading period must have the "I" removed within 10-school days following the start of Semester 2 classes. The subject teacher is to issue a failing grade for only the work not completed and then compute the grade for the grading period. Any "Incomplete" on the end of the year report card must be changed within 10-days of the last day of school. It is the teacher's responsibility to finalize the incomplete grade during the 10-day grace period. Any extenuating circumstances are to be shared with the grade level administrator for approval of an extension to the deadline date.

— All classes at Columbus High School are used to determine the student's GPA. The GPA is determined by multiplying each letter grade earned by its point value. The sum is determined and then divided by the total number of classes.

Example: A student received seven grades during a semester: 2 A's, 1 B, 1 C+, 1 D, 1 F and 1 B+ for an AP class. The GPA will be calculated as follows:

A = 4.0
A = 4.0
B+ = 3.3
C+ = 2.3
D = 1.0
F = 0.0

18.6 divided by 7 = 2.65 GPA

AP B+ = 4.0

TOTAL: 18.6

VI-I Grades – Transcripts – Transferring out of District

Students transferring to other schools or institutions outside of the Columbus High School are to report to the counseling guidance

VI-M Instructional Media Center

Fines for overdue books will be assessed at the rate of 10 cents per day. A day is counted at 3:45 p.m. each school day. Assessment for lost materials will be based on the cost of the replacement. IMC hours are 7:15 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. will be posted outside of the entrance on a daily basis.

VI-O Lunch Procedures

Students must use their intact student ID with barcode as they go through the lunch line. Students who do not have their student ID card must report to the end of the serving line. Students may deposit money into their account before school, during lunch periods or by using the online option.

VI-Oc Closed-campus Lunch

All students are required to eat lunch at school. All food is to be consumed in the cafeteria. Areas of the building and grounds open to students during lunch periods are the cafeteria and restrooms closest to the cafeteria. across from the office with permission from supervising staff.

VI-Q Care of Building

Every attempt has been made to provide Columbus High students with an attractive, secure learning environment. The care and protection of our building and its furnishings are essential to its quality appearance.

Posters must be approved by the administration before being placed in the building. Poster committees and sponsors are reminded that bulletins or signs must be hung using white Command Performance strips.

VI-R Schedule - Class Loads

Underclassmen must have the equivalent of 7 periods of classes each semester, unless administratively approved. Seniors may be scheduled for late start or early dismissal if the following required qualifications are met:

- The student must have 12th grade credit standing.
- The student must be enrolled in enough classes to cover graduation requirements. This could not include correspondence courses.
- To be eligible, the student must have two consecutive semesters earned a 2.5 (or better) GPA in the previous semester or a cumulative GPA of 3.0.

VI-S Schedule Changes – Prior to the Start of School

Any changes that need to be made in schedules will take place from 9:00 a.m. to noon, one week before school starts.

VI-Y Risk of Facebook, Twitter, Snapchat, Instagram, and other Social Networking Sites

—These sites are public sources of information. Your school administrators, your parents, and law enforcement may see the information contained on these pages or posts. This material is also accessible to people whom you do not 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 in any social networking format may affect you years after the fact.

—What you do and say now on Facebook, Twitter, Snapchat, Instagram, and other social networking sites and apps 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 of it. Criminal charges may be filed against you based on information posted on such sites.

COLUMBUS HIGH SCHOOL

*2019-20
Student Handbook*



Columbus High School

3434 Discoverer Drive
Columbus, NE 68601

402.563.7050 - main phone
402.563.7058 - fax

COLUMBUS HIGH SCHOOL

Office Hours: 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

High School Office Auto-Attendant	.....	402-563-7050
High School Office Fax	.....	402-563-7058
Operator	.....	Press 0
Attendance	.....	Press 1
School Counseling & Career Center	.....	Press 2
Activities	.....	Press 3
Nurse	.....	Press 4
Food Service	.....	Press 5
Assistant Principals	.....	Press 7
Building Principal	.....	Press 8
If you know the extension ...	.....	Press 9
Administration Building	.....	402-563-7000
Director of Student Services	.....	402-563-7000
Superintendent of Schools	.....	402-563-7000

CHS Administration

Mr. David Hiebner	Principal
Ms. Molly Hornbeck	Assistant Principal
Ms. Angela Leifeld	Assistant Principal
Mr. Jason Schapmann	Assistant Principal
Mr. Tim Kwapnioski	Activities Director

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

1. For attendance, prearranged absences, tardy arrivals to school, etc.
-- Contact the Attendance Office - 402-563-7050, Option 1
2. For transcripts, schedules, enrollment, address changes, good student auto discounts, or Social Security benefit verification
-- Contact the School Counseling & Career Center Office - 402-563-7050, Option 2
3. For questions about the school lunch program or the Free/Reduced Lunch Program
-- Contact Food Service 402-563-7050, Option 5
4. For questions about sports, the activity program, or building rental
-- Contact the Activities Director 402-563-7050, Option 3
5. For questions regarding a student's grade
-- Contact the classroom teacher 402-563-7050, Option 0
6. For translation services or assistance:
-- Contact EL Program (402-563-7000) and select option 7.

Your student handbook has been written to assist you in becoming a productive member of Columbus High School. In preparing for various roles at Columbus High School, you must be conscious of your rights and be committed to your duties. Protect these rights by being a responsible citizen in your school community.

Your teachers, counselors, and principals are available to assist you in understanding the important things written in this handbook. Ask them questions if you do not understand the meaning of anything in this handbook.

Disclaimer Notice

The CHS student handbook does not form a contract, and the school reserves the right to interpret and modify the rules listed within the book. Levels of consequences listed or identified in the handbook are consistent with typical school practices; however, the administration reserves the right to assign more serious consequences based upon the frequency and/or severity of the infraction.

Parent/Guardian Involvement and Participation

Columbus Public School's Policy 1005.02 R1 requires that a copy of the student handbook be given to each parent/guardian. This handbook has been prepared to explain and clarify the procedures, policies and regulations of Columbus High School. This student handbook complies with the law that was passed by the Nebraska Legislature, LB503 (1976), which requires every school district to summarize general rules and regulations regarding student conduct. This law further requires such rules and regulations to be available in writing to all students and their parents/guardians. The school district urges students and their parents/guardians to read this handbook carefully. Parents are invited to contact the school office during normal business hours to inquire about access to instructional materials and/or attend and monitor instructional activities. You are urged to contact any high school administrator if you have any questions regarding the contents of this student handbook.

School-Home Communications

Columbus Public Schools does send regular communication to parents regarding upcoming events and activities to keep them informed. Under the Federal Telephone Consumer Protection Act, all calls--whether live, automated, or prerecorded voice calls or text messages--made to cellular phones using an auto-dialer or other automated dialing technology are prohibited unless the calls are made for emergency purposes or with the prior express consent of the cellular phone subscriber.

In order to conform with new rules within the Federal Consumer Protection Act, Columbus High School will need to obtain the "prior express consent" of the parent to call the cellular phone number. The Federal Communications Commission has stated, "people who knowingly release their phone numbers have given permission to be called at the number which they have given, absent instructions to the contrary."

By signing the receipt of this handbook, you are granting Columbus Public Schools permission to call all cell phones registered in PowerSchool for school and student purposes.

COPPA Notification

As a district, Columbus Public Schools only authorizes the use of tools and applications that support the implementation of our curriculum and have been screened through a rigorous educational process.

Our district utilizes several computer software applications and web-based services that are operated not by school but by third parties. A complete list of the programs with the privacy policy for each can be found on our district website: <https://columbuspublicschools.org>.

In order for students to use these third party educational programs and services, certain Board Policy approved directory information, which may consist of the student's name, username, District e-mail address, grade level, age, and/or date of birth, may be provided to the website operator strictly for educational purposes. Under the Children's Online Privacy Protection Act (COPPA), these websites must provide parental notification and obtain parental consent before collecting personal information

from children under the age of 13. For more information on COPPA, please visit <https://www.ftc.gov/enforcement/rules/rulemaking-regulatory-reform-proceedings/childrens-online-privacy-protection-rule>

School law permits schools such as ours to consent to the collection of directory information on behalf of all of its students strictly for educational purposes, thereby eliminating the need for individual parental consent given directly to the website operator. Columbus Public Schools use integrated technology as part of your child's education; the need for such information and permission is necessary to utilize software and web-based services as part of the classroom instruction.

By signing the receipt of this handbook, you are granting Columbus Public Schools permission to provide your child's directory information consisting of first name, last name, an email address, and username.

Notification of Nondiscrimination

Applicants for admission and employment, students, parents of elementary and secondary school students, employees, sources of referral of applicants for admission and employment, and all professional organizations holding collective bargaining or professional agreements with Columbus Public School District #1 are hereby notified that this institution does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or handicap in admission or access to, or treatment or employment in, its programs and activities. Any person having inquiries concerning the Columbus Public School District #1's compliance with the regulations implementing Title VI, Title IX, or Section 504 is directed to contact the Superintendent of Schools, Columbus Public Schools, 2508 27th Street, Columbus, NE 68601, telephone number 402/563-7000. The Superintendent has been designated by Columbus Public School District #1's Board of Education to coordinate the institution's efforts to comply with the regulations implementing Title VI, Title IX, or Section 504. Any person may also contact the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, US Department of Education, regarding the institution's compliance with the regulations implementing Title VI, Title IX, or Section 504.

Notification of Sexual Discrimination

It is the policy of the Columbus Public School District to comply in spirit as well as in fact to the regulations implementing Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972. Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 prohibits sex discrimination in federally assisted education programs. Specifically, Title IX states: "No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving federal financial assistance..." Any student who has a grievance should complete a grievance form and forward it to the Superintendent. Forms are available in all school offices.

Notification of American Disabilities Act

If you have any special needs requests that will assist you in participating in programs, services, or activities of the Columbus Public Schools, please contact the Superintendent of Schools.

Mission Statement of Columbus Public Schools

"Engaging All Learners to Achieve Success"

Vision of the Columbus Public Schools

We will continuously and passionately strive to be a high performing learning community that will effectively meet the unique learning needs of each and every student:

To attain this vision we are:

- committed to a clear and shared focus on student learning.
- committed to a safe and supportive environment for learning and teaching.
- committed to high levels of communication, trust, support and accountability with all stakeholders.

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CHS Bell Schedules

CHS Regular Weekday Bell Schedules

Regular Schedule

Period 1	8:10 - 9:00
Period 2	9:04 - 9:56
	10:00 - 10:32
Period 3	10:36 - 11:26
Period 4	11:30 - 12:58
<i>Lunch A</i>	11:26 - 11:54
<i>Lunch B</i>	11:58 - 12:26
<i>Lunch C</i>	12:30 - 12:58
<i>Lunch D</i>	1:02 - 1:30
Period 5	1:02 - 1:52
Period 6	1:56 - 2:46
Period 7	2:50 - 3:40

Wednesday Schedule

Period 1	8:10 - 8:57
Period 2	9:01 - 9:49
Period 3	9:53 - 10:39
Period 4	10:43 - 12:08
<i>Lunch A</i>	10:39 - 11:06
<i>Lunch B</i>	11:10 - 11:37
<i>Lunch C</i>	11:41 - 12:08
<i>Lunch D</i>	12:12 - 12:39
Period 5	12:12 - 12:57
Period 6	1:01 - 1:46
Period 7	1:50 - 2:35

10:00 Late Start

Period 1	10:00 - 10:38
Period 2	10:42 - 11:22
Period 3	11:26 - 12:04
Period 4	12:08 - 1:34
<i>Lunch A</i>	12:04 - 12:32
<i>Lunch B</i>	12:35 - 1:03
<i>Lunch C</i>	1:06 - 1:34
<i>Lunch D</i>	1:38 - 2:06
Period 5	1:38 - 2:16
Period 6	2:20 - 2:58
Period 7	3:02 - 3:40

Noon Dismissal Schedule

Period 1	8:10 - 8:39
Period 2	8:43 - 9:14
Period 3	9:18 - 9:47
Period 4	9:51 - 10:20
Period 5	10:24 - 10:53
Period 6	10:57 - 11:26
Period 7	11:30 - 12:00

CHS Calendar for the 2020-21 School Year

8/12/19	First Day 10 th , 11 th and 12 th Grades Only (Orientation)
8/13/19	First Day 9 th Grade Only (Orientation)
8/14/19	First Day of Regular Classes
9/2/19	No School – Labor Day
9/14/19	ACT Testing
9/14/19	Homecoming Dance (9-12)
9/25/19	CHS Parent-Teacher Conferences 4:30 to 8:00 PM
9/26/19	No School – Teacher Professional Development AM CHS Parent – Teacher Conferences 1:00 to 3:30 PM, 4:30 to 8:00 PM
10/19	Pre-ACT / Fall MAPs Testing - No School for Seniors
10/17/19	End of 1st Term - 45 Days
10/18/19	No School – Teacher Professional Development
10/26/19	ACT Testing
11/4/19	NHS Induction - 7:00 PM
11/27 – 11/29/19	No School – Thanksgiving Break
12/14/19	ACT Testing
12/20/19	End of 2 nd Term – 42 Days
12/23/19 – 1/3/20	No School – Holiday Break
1/2 – 1/3/20	No School – Teacher Professional Development
1/6/20	Begin 3 rd Term / 2nd Semester
2/1/20	Winter Formal – 9:00 PM
2/8/20	ACT Testing
2/12/20	CHS Parent-Teacher Conferences 4:30 to 8:00 PM
2/13/20	No School -Teacher Professional Development AM CHS Parent-Teacher Conferences 1:00 - 3:30 PM, 4:30 to 8:00 PM
2/20	8th Grade High School Orientation
3/6/20	End of 3 rd Term – 43 Days
3/9 - 3/13/20	No School – Spring Break
3/16/20	No School – Teacher Professional Development
3/17/19	Begin 4th Term
4/7/20	ACT / Spring MAPs Testing - No School for Seniors
4/7/20	ACT Testing
4/10 - 4/13/20	No School - Holiday Break
4/18/20	Junior-Senior Prom
5/14/20	Seniors' final attendance day
5/17/20	Graduation
5/19/20	End of the 4 th Term – 44 Days
5/20/20	No School - Teacher Professional Development
6/13/20	ACT Testing
7/18/20	ACT Testing

2020-21 Columbus High School Faculty

Advantage Program

Ms. Kimberly Ek
Ms. Jill Sorsen

Art

Ms. Cynthia Campbell
Ms. Jaime Stodola

Business Education

Mr. Ryan Baker
Ms. Jeri Otten
Ms. Abby Sayers
Ms. Kari Tunink
Mr. Brady Vancura

District Career Coordinator

Ms. Stephanie Carlson

Family & Consumer Sciences

Ms. Jaclyn Long
Ms. Carrie Loseke

English

Mr. Marc Baue
Mr. Jacob Belvery
Ms. Anne Christensen
Ms. Sharon Hartman
Mr. Alexander Hollister
Ms. Cathy Kwapnioski
Ms. Amber May
Mr. Sean McDonald
Ms. Shannon McDonald
Ms. Chelsea Parker

ELL

Ms. Rebecca Lenser
Ms. Brandy Liston
Mr. Joseph Quinn
Ms. Laura Sprunk

Health Services

Ms. Laurie Swanson

Instructional Media

Ms. Valarie Wallin

JAG

Ms. Erica Gable

Mathematics

Mr. Scott Bethune
Ms. Jacquin Colabello
Ms. Lauren Hollister
Mr. Brandon Jansen
Mr. James Johnson
Ms. Peggy Meyer
Mr. Chris Sander
Ms. Wendy Shotkoski
Ms. Kelli Soltys
Ms. Michelle Watson

Music

Mr. Jeff Peabody
Mr. Jacob Ritter

Health & Physical Education

Mr. Mick Bubak
Ms. Heidi Field
Ms. Stacy Smith
Mr. Bret Thompson
Mr. Craig Williams

School Psychologist

Ms. Jessy Hill

School Counseling

Ms. Kari Drymon
Ms. Kim Loeffelholz
Ms. Guadalupe Marino
Ms. Bethany Seehusen

Science

Mr. Matt Bills
Ms. Beth Coop
Mr. Seth Kirkegaard
Mr. Keegan McGill
Ms. Kelsey Newman
Ms. Trudi Noonan
Mr. Ryan Schroeder
Ms. Andrea Smejkal
Mr. Brian Townsend

Skilled & Technical Sciences

Mr. Tracy Dodson
Mr. Marcus Gillespie
Mr. Ron Haefner
Mr. Joe Krysl
Mr. Ben Loeffelholz
Mr. Adam Whitmore

Social Studies

Mr. Kyle Buckingham
Mr. Patrick Clark
Mr. Nathan Coan
Ms. Amanda Flesner
Mr. Jordan Hitchcock
Ms. Anne Robertson
Mr. Jonathan Shea
Mr. Zack Wayman

Social Worker

Ms. Jill Spale

Special Education

Ms. Valerie Brown
Mr. Ryan Goetsch
Ms. Brenda Huey
Ms. Kate Juranek
Ms. Jennifer Kallweit
Mr. Dave Licari
Mr. Alex Liston
Ms. Margaret Widtfeldt

Speech Pathologist

Ms. Judy Deepe
Ms. Brittany Madden

World Languages

Ms. Victoria Joseph
Ms. Lorena Miya
Ms. Trinia Perigo
Ms. Liliana Velasco

SECTION I

STUDENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES – UNDER NE STATUTES

I-A Responsibilities and Right to an Education

A student's right to an education in Nebraska is granted because of provisions in the state's constitution. There are two very important things a student must faithfully do to protect this constitutional right: attend school regularly and participate in the learning process

There are many other things responsible students do while they are students, but nothing is more important than doing the schoolwork assigned by their teachers and being in school regularly.

The policy of the Columbus Public Schools regarding the right to an education states: The State of Nebraska, as provided for in Article VII, section I, of the Nebraska Constitution, "established public schools to provide a free appropriate public education (FAPE) for students between the ages of five and twenty-one." All residents of the Columbus Public Schools from five through twenty-one are entitled to attend public school without tuition. All students are entitled to equal opportunities. Along with one's rights to equality of educational opportunity, each student has a commensurate responsibility to act in such a way as not to interfere with the rights of others to the same opportunity.

Essential to the fostering and maintaining of educational opportunity is reasonable and necessary order in the schools. A student may forfeit his/her right to educational opportunities when his/her conduct is such that it substantially disrupts the educational process and deprives others of their rights. The most important thing a student must do to protect his/her right to an education are stated as responsibilities. They are as follows:

I-B Attendance Responsibility

All students enrolled in any of the Columbus Public Schools, regardless of how old they are, must attend school regularly and be in all the classes to which they are assigned, unless properly excused by an official of the school. Only authorized officials can excuse a student from school. It is the responsibility of the student and his/her parents(s)/guardian(s) to inform the school of the reason for any absence and to comply with the specified attendance procedure of the particular school in which the student is enrolled. Any student who fails to attend school regularly and/or be in his/her classes on time shall be disciplined. Parents/Guardians of students under eighteen years of age may be held legally negligent if their son/daughter fails to meet this attendance responsibility, according to Nebraska Statute §79-201-211.

According to Columbus School Board Policy 503 and Nebraska Statute §79-209, the school has the right to compel student attendance. If any student has accumulated a total of five unapproved absences per quarter, or a percentage equivalency of five absences, the school shall render all services in its power to compel the student's attendance. If a student is absent more than 20 days per year, or the percentage equivalency, the attendance officer shall file a report with the County Attorney of the county in which the person resides. See **IV – Student Attendance Expectations**

I-C Academic Responsibility

Students are obligated to complete all schoolwork assigned to them by their teachers. Students are also responsible for bringing materials such as pencil, paper, **electronic device** and textbooks to class regularly. Any students who fail to show a sincere and regular effort to complete their assigned work may be disciplined for being academically irresponsible.

I-D Health Examination and Immunizations

State law requires that each student entering school must be protected against measles, mumps, rubella, poliomyelitis, diphtheria, pertussis, and tetanus by immunization. This law further requires that prior to the entrance of a student into the beginner grade and seventh grade, or in the case of a transfer student from an out-of-state school to any other grade, he/she should be examined by a qualified physician. Any student who fails to comply with these health responsibilities shall be excluded from school until such time as he/she is in compliance with these responsibilities. For the current school year, a student must have the following immunizations: three doses of DPT vaccine, three doses of polio vaccine, two doses of the MMR vaccine, and three doses of Hepatitis B vaccine (for students entering for the first time or grades K/1st).

I-E Student Records

CPS Board Policy 507.01 and its accompanying rules govern the maintenance of student records. These records are maintained to assist the instructional, guidance, and educational progress of the student and for legitimate research to better the educational programs of the school district.

The means and methods specified by Policy 507.01 to collect and maintain these important records comply with regulations promulgated in PL 93-380, the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, and various Nebraska Revised Statutes and rules of the State Board of Education. Board Policy 507.01 assures the confidentiality of student records. Under this policy, students, former students, and parents/legal guardians are assured access to student records; the right to challenge information contained in the student record believed to be “inaccurate, misleading or otherwise inappropriate” and the right to a hearing should a conflict result. The student record for each student may include, but is not limited to, such information as identifying information, attendance records, grade levels completed, aptitude test scores and records of achievement, health records, and family background data. Parents, legal guardians, or eligible students may request to review a student’s student record. The only other persons who have access to the information in the student record are school personnel who have a legitimate educational interest, persons complying with a judicial order, and persons representing federal, state, or accrediting agencies. Parents, legal guardians, or eligible students may request in writing that information contained in a student’s student record be released for their purposes. They may also request copies of information classified as a subsidiary student record prior to its required destruction within three years after the student leaves school.

Schools may make public certain non-confidential “directory information” in association with recognition for such things as academic excellence, extracurricular honors and awards, or participation in officially recognized school-sponsored activities. “Directory information” may include such things as name, address, telephone number, date and place of birth, dates of school attendance, and specific information relating to recognition (such as weight, height of athletic team members). Any parent, legal guardian, or student of legal age who does not wish the school to release such “directory information” must notify by September 15 the principal of the school the student presently attends. Student records other than directory information will only be released upon receipt of a written parental permission for students younger than eighteen years of age. Records of students eighteen years and older will be released only with the student’s own written permission. Release forms are available in the Guidance Office.

These statements on student records have been presented in this handbook to emphasize that information about students is kept confidential and to encourage the free flow of information between parent(s)/guardian(s), student, and school.

Students and parent(s)/guardian(s) who have any additional concerns regarding their rights under Policy 507.01 and various federal and state laws are encouraged to contact the building principal of their school. A copy of Policy 507.01 and its accompanying rules may be obtained for the cost of reproduction from the Office of the Superintendent of Schools. Students and parent(s)/guardian(s) may file with the Department of Health, Education and Welfare complaints concerning alleged failures of the school district to comply with federal legislation dealing with student records.

I-F Responsibility and Right to Freedom of Assembly

The Board of Education of the Columbus Public Schools recognizes that Freedom of Assembly is a right protected by the First Amendment of the Constitution of the United States. The exercise of this right must be conducted in a responsible manner so as not to interfere with the educational activities of the school district. [CPS Board Policy 504.07 and 506.02R1]

I-G Search and Seizure

Students possess the right of privacy of person as well as freedom from unreasonable search and seizure of property guaranteed by the Fourth Amendment of the Constitution. This individual right, however, is balanced by the school’s responsibility to protect the health, safety, and welfare of all its students. According to School Policy 504.08, school employees may conduct searches when they have reason to suspect that the health, safety, and welfare of students may be in danger. Any school employee making a search or a seizure will follow these guidelines:

- 1) General searches on school property (including personal items such as lockers, cars, book bags, purses, coats, etc. found on school property) will be conducted at any time when there is reasonable cause for school employees to believe that something that violates a law or school rule is on school property. This search of school property may be made without the student being present.
- 2) Illegal items (firearms, weapons, drugs) or other possessions reasonably determined to be a threat to the safety or security of others or which might possibly interfere with school purposes will be seized by school employees.

- 3) Items which are used to disrupt or interfere with the educational process may be temporarily removed from a student's person.
- 4) A student's person may be searched by school employees when there is reasonable cause to believe that the student has on his/her person illegal items or other items that may interfere with school purposes.

Lockers and desks are the property of the school district and are made available to students for their convenience. Lockers are randomly searched. Each student is responsible for the content or security of his/her locker. Each student is assigned a locker with an individualized lock combination. Students are advised not to disclose the combination to other students. The student solely assigned to the locker is responsible for the locker and will be held accountable for all items in the assigned locker. The school assumes no responsibility for items placed in a shared locker or shared combination. For the security of our students, staff and school grounds, Columbus High School is equipped with security cameras.

Columbus High School has a responsibility for providing a secure educational environment for students and staff. In cooperation with local law enforcement agencies, we work together to maintain a safe and drug-free environment, which includes using appropriate and necessary means to search lockers and the grounds for illegal substances. Canine drug units will be used to search the building and grounds at Columbus High School (Policy 504.15). The canine drug units are trained and handled by law enforcement officers. Such searches will be unannounced during the school day and will last approximately 50 minutes as a deterrent for bringing illegal substances to school. Established procedures will be implemented to facilitate the search and to ensure students and staff are out of the hallway and into their classrooms.

I-H Responsibility and Right of Freedom of Expression

The right to freely express oneself is justifiably tempered with responsibilities to ensure that the expression made does not interfere with the rights of others. The official school policy and the responsibilities students have when expressing themselves are contained in this handbook to promote reasonable communication. This reflects one of the purposes of the Columbus Public Schools. [CPS Board Policy 504.07] That purpose is to encourage the use of good language skills while providing educational experiences for students. The official school policy in regard to Freedom of Expression states: "The Board of Education of the Columbus Public Schools recognizes the First Amendment of the Constitution of the United States of America as being an essential part of the learning process. The Board of Education further recognizes that students need guidance in exercising the right of Freedom of Expression so that they do not interfere with the rights of others." The following statements are made to guide students in exercising their constitutional right of Freedom of Expression.

I-I Oral Expression

Schools must encourage inquiry and expression of ideas. Such expression should include the personal opinion of students relevant to the subject matter being taught, to school activities and policies, to school administration, and to matters of broad social concern and interest. In so expressing themselves, students have the responsibility to refrain from the use of slanderous remarks, obscene language, and language derogatory of race, creed, sexual orientation, national origin, or handicapping condition and to conduct themselves in such a way as to allow all persons the opportunity to express themselves freely if they so desire. [CPS Board Policy 504.07]

I-J Symbolic Expression and Related Activities

Symbolic expression is defined as that type of expression, exclusive of verbal and written expression, which conveys the personal ideas, feelings, attitudes, and opinions of an individual. Length of hair, choice of clothing, buttons, badges, armbands, and physical gestures are some examples of symbolic expression. Each student has the right to express himself/herself by way of symbols subject only to the restrictions that such expression does not result in overt exhibitionism or disruption of the educational process or be obscene, disrespectful, or obviously annoying to others. [CPS Board Policy 504.07]

I-K Rights of Handicapped Students

It is the policy of the Columbus Public Schools to not discriminate against any student who is a resident of the district on the basis of handicap in admission or access to its programs and activities. Any student who may believe the school district is not complying with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 should inform the Superintendent of Schools of his/her complaint.

I-L Pregnant or Parenting Students

The district recognizes that pregnant or 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. The district will educate pregnant or parenting students and will provide reasonable accommodations to support and encourage all pregnant or parenting students to obtain their high school diploma. No student will be excluded from, denied the benefits of, or be discriminated against under any educational program or activity because of pregnancy or parenting responsibilities.

[CPS Board Policy 503.07]

SECTION II DISCIPLINE – UNDER NE STATUTES or CHS POLICY

II-A Disciplinary Actions That a Teacher and/or Administrator Can Administer:

- **Guidance:** a conversation between the student and school personnel. The purpose of this form of counseling is not to lecture the student but to inform him/her that his/her behavior needs to change so that he/she does not violate the rights of others or to help the student improve his/her learning capabilities.
- **Conference:** a meeting of student's parent(s)/guardian(s) and school personnel to discuss the student's behavior or learning process. The school intends to seek the assistance of the student's parent(s)/guardian(s) in helping the student to become a better student.
- **Detention:** requiring that a student remain after or arrive before school for a period of time. It is intended that students serving detention will be doing school-related work assigned by and monitored by classroom teacher for class-related issues.
- **School Clean Up:** requiring a student to clean up certain items of the school that the student failed to care for properly. The student may be required to clean more than just the item(s) damaged by him/her to encourage the student not to damage school property or litter in the future.
- **Use of Force:** Teachers, administrators and other school personnel may use force to protect a student from inflicting physical harm on themselves, other students, or staff members.

II-B Disciplinary Actions That Only Administrators May Assign:

- **Rearrangement of Schedule:** assigning a student to a new schedule of classes and/or in-school suspension when the behavior of the student is such that the student cannot conduct himself/herself in an acceptable manner.
- **Suspension from attending or participating in activities:** action taken by the principal and/or assistant principal(s) as a consequence of his/her behavioral problems and/or actions. Such action will be stipulated by school administration. The length of the suspension will be determined by the frequency and/or severity of the behavior.
- **Loss of Good Standing (Social Probation):** If a student misses an excessive number of days, is carrying over three or more hours disciplinary time, or is placed in an alternative education placement due to disciplinary purposes, that student is automatically considered to have lost "Good Standing." Students that are not in good standing are considered to be on social probation and therefore may not attend CHS social functions such as dances. Students who have lost their good standing status may earn it back by correcting the problem that led to the loss of good standing (improving attendance or serving After School Detention ASD minutes). *Loss of good standing also means the student will be indicated as "Not in Good Standing" on any dance guest form the student may present to an administrator until such time as the matter is resolved and good standing is restored.*
- **Requirement that a student receive counseling/educational evaluation:** an action that may require a student to visit a guidance counselor, medical counselor, or psychological counselor to assist the student in resolving his/her problem **at parental expense.**
- **In-School Suspension (ISS):** Students are placed in the suspension room rather than their regularly scheduled class(es). Students are supervised and expected to carry on their studies as well as abide by the rules set down for ISS. Assigning students to ISS is at the discretion of the administration. Students who experience a high frequency of in-school suspensions can be suspended out of school at the discretion of

the administration up to and including a period of 5-days.

- **After School Detention (ASD):** Takes place on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday afternoons after school. Students are placed in up to a 2-hour detention/academic study period. The purpose is to enable students to fulfill disciplinary and academic obligations. Sessions are held on all available Tuesday and Thursday afternoons from 3:45 to 5:45 pm in the distance education classroom. Sessions will also be held on Wednesday *early release days* from 2:30 to 4:00 pm in the small cafeteria. The only students who will be permitted to leave early will be those owing less than three hours of time. See also “II-C After School Detention” for further information.
- **Suspensions and Emergency Exclusion:**
 - (a) Short term: exclusion of a student from attendance to school for a period not to exceed five school days.
 - (b) Long term: exclusion of a student from attendance to school for a period exceeding five school days but less than twenty school days.
- **Expulsion:** exclusion from school attendance in accordance with Neb. Rev. Stat. § 79-283.
- **Exclusion:** immediate withdrawal of a student from school for
 - (a) presenting 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.
 - (b) a dangerous communicable disease as cited in Neb. Rev. Stat. § 79-4,177.
 - (c) any student who is suspended pursuant to this section may be given an opportunity to complete any classwork, including, but not limited to, examinations, missed during the period of suspension. Students will be given classwork by either paper or digital format.
- **Mandatory Reassignment:** Students may be reassigned to an alternative educational setting to complete instructional units.
- **Legal Action in a Court of Law:** Any disciplinary action taken against a student will comply with existing state laws and CPS Board policies and shall afford the student due process.

II-C After School Detention

Students assigned to serve After School Detention receive time assignments from a grade-level administrator as consequence for misconduct in the building. Students may receive time assignments in as small as 30-minute increments or as large as three-hour time blocks, depending upon the offense. Students will be assigned to attend the next available ASD session to serve earned minutes in a timely fashion. However, up to 180 minutes (3 hours) owed, mandatory attendance at the next session is NOT REQUIRED, simply encouraged. The students are allowed to manage their own minute totals up to 180 minutes.

All students owing more than 180 minutes (3 hours) are REQUIRED to attend the next available After School Detention session. If the student is unable to attend the next ASD session, it is the student’s responsibility to make arrangements with the appropriate grade-level administrator PRIOR to the required After School Detention session. Failure to do so will result in further consequences being imposed by the administrator. **Students owing over three hours of After School Detention minutes are no longer considered to be in good standing.** The loss of good standing status means the student may incur some or all of the following consequences:

- loss of privileges in the building (hallway passes, right to carry cell phone, etc.)
- reduced playing time / activity involvement
- social probation – loss of ability to attend dances/socials such as Homecoming, Winter Formal and Prom

Students should seek a meeting with their grade-level administrator if they are concerned about losing good standing status.

Students who demonstrate an unwillingness to work towards decreasing their time-owed figures and return to good standing status risk more significant building consequences including, but not limited to, restriction of privileges, suspension, or mandatory reassignment to an alternative educational environment.

After School Detention Schedule for the 2020-21 School Year

First Semester

AUGUST / SEPTEMBER				
M	T	W	Th	F
19	20	21	22	23
26	27	28	29	30
2	3	4	5	6
9	10	11	12	13
16	17	18	19	20
23	24	25	26	27

OCTOBER				
M	T	W	Th	F
30	1	2	3	4
7	8	9	10	11
14	15	16	17	18
21	22	23	24	25
28	29	30	31	

NOVEMBER				
M	T	W	Th	F
				1
4	5	6	7	8
11	12	13	14	15
18	19	20	21	22
25	26	27	28	29

DECEMBER				
M	T	W	Th	F
2	3	4	5	6
9	10	11	12	13
16	17	18	19	20

After-School Detention is held on all un-shaded dates.

Second Semester

JANUARY				
M	T	W	Th	F
6	7	8	9	10
13	14	15	16	17
20	21	22	23	24
27	28	29	30	31

FEBRUARY				
M	T	W	Th	F
3	4	5	6	7
10	11	12	13	14
17	18	19	20	21
24	25	26	27	28

MARCH				
M	T	W	Th	F
2	3	4	5	6
9	10	11	12	13
16	17	18	19	20
23	24	25	26	27
30	31			

APRIL / MAY				
M	T	W	Th	F
		1	2	3
6	7	8	9	10
13	14	15	16	17
20	21	22	23	24
27	28	29	30	1
4	5	6	7	8
11	12	13	14	15

After-School Detention is held on all un-shaded dates.

All Tuesday/Thursday After School Detention Sessions will begin PROMPTLY at 3:45 pm and end at 5:45 pm.

All Wednesday After School Detention Sessions will begin PROMPTLY at 2:45 pm and end at 4:00 pm.

Students are to arrive on time and to be prepared to complete schoolwork or read silently. Playing on one's phone or computer is not an appropriate use of After-School Detention time, and any student who does not appear to be busy will be asked to leave.

It is the RESPONSIBILITY OF THE STUDENT to make up time or make alternative arrangements with individual staff members (to be pre-approved by administration) to make up time owed. Remember these criteria:

- Time owed for TARDINESS TO PERIODS 2-7 should be served with your teachers at the teacher's convenience.
- Time owed for TARDINESS in PERIOD 1 must be served in After School Detention (ASD) the day of the infraction or the very next day.
- Time owed for DISCIPLINE matters must be served in After School Detention.

Students who owe over 180 minutes *will be expected to serve a minimum of two hours of the time via the next two appropriate After School Detention sessions.*

Students will NOT be permitted to accumulate more than 400 minutes without more significant discipline consequences being assigned INCLUDING a meeting with parents and administration.

Bonus minutes are assigned at the discretion of the grade-level administrator.

II-D Right to Due Process

CPS Board Policy 504.01 states: “The Board of Education of the Columbus Public Schools views the establishment of rules and responsibilities governing student behavior as a necessary element of the educational process. The rules and responsibilities governing student behavior established pursuant to this policy and other CPS Board Policies affecting student personnel shall be approved by the District’s established procedure prior to their use. All rules and responsibilities established by the School District and any other rules established by individual buildings governing student behavior at school shall be publicized.

The Board recognizes that each classroom teacher needs to establish certain rules governing the educational process of which they are in charge. Any rules established by individual teachers are to be reflective of school policies and rules. Such rules are exempt from Board approval and need only to be made known in each individual class of which they are in charge. Any behavior on the part of the student that violates school policies, rules, or regulations may be subject to disciplinary action. Any disciplinary action shall be administered within the fundamental framework of due process.”

Short-Term Suspension (1-5 days): The essential ingredients of due process afforded the student in a short-term suspension (1-5 days) and set forth in CPS Board Policy 505.02 are as follows:

- 1) notice of the charge against the student
- 2) an explanation of the charge against him/her
- 3) an opportunity for the student’s explanation of the incident(s), issue(s), and/or event(s)
- 4) written notification within 24 hours, or such additional time as is reasonably necessary, to the parents or guardians of the student stating: a) the reason(s) for the short-term suspension and b) dates of the short-term suspension

The decision of the administrator shall be final.

Long-Term Suspension (6-19 days): (This procedure covers Long-Term Suspensions, Expulsion, and Exclusion.) The essential ingredients of due process afforded the student in Long-Term Suspension, Expulsion, and Exclusion are covered in detail in School Policy 505.02 are as follows with written notification to parent(s) or guardian(s) indicating the following:

- 1) the rule(s) or standard(s) of conduct allegedly violated
- 2) the penalty recommended by the school official in charge
- 3) a statement indicating the student has the right to a hearing on the specified charges upon request
- 4) a description of the hearing process and appeal hearing
- 5) a form for parents/guardians to request a hearing; the form must be signed and returned to the Superintendent of Schools.

Nothing in the above procedure precludes the student, student’s parent(s)/guardian(s), or representatives from discussing and settling the matter with the appropriate school personnel prior to the hearing. In the event the school does not receive a request for a hearing within five school days following the receipt of the written notice, the punishment shall go into effect. A hearing can still be requested prior to thirty calendar days after the actual receipt of written notice; however, the punishment imposed may continue in effect, pending final determination. The appeal procedure shall be as set forth in School Policy 505.02.

SECTION III SCHOOL RULES AND EXPECTATIONS

The following rules have been established under the direction of the Board of Education discipline policies, the Student Discipline Act, and Neb. Rev. Stat. § 79-267 for use on school grounds, in a vehicle owned, leased or contracted by a school being used for a school purpose, and at all school-sponsored activities or events. Compliance with the following standards of conduct is mandatory. A referral is defined as a summons or directive to the office due to an administrative rule violation, usually resulting in disciplinary action by an administrator. Repeated instances of receiving office referral may result in ISS, OSS, and/or alternative placement.

All students are expected to acquire the knowledge and skills necessary to perform civic, academic, and behavioral expectations with proficiency. The following sections outline performance expectations and correction measures. Sections III and IV, referred to as Administrative Discipline, relate to student civic and attendance expectations. Section V, referred to as Classroom Discipline, relates to student academic and behavior expectations.

Administrative Discipline – Civic Expectations

All students are expected to perform according to civic expectations. These expectations were established as an instructional tool so students function effectively within the school community.

Civic Expectation #1 - Contribute constructively to community

- Wear clothing that does not offend or disrupt others in the school community at school or school sponsored events.
- Act in a manner that does not offend or disrupt others in the school community.
- Refrain from possessing or using objects that may be disruptive or offensive to the school community.
- Touch and speak in ways that protect the integrity of others.
- Complete your own work and accept responsibility for that work.
- Report accurate and truthful information to members of the school community.

Supporting Guidelines

III-A Dress Code for Students

Columbus Public Schools believe that teaching principles of appropriate dress and appearance, good grooming, and cleanliness are a desirable component of the educational process. We are sensitive to the rapid changes in dress and grooming; however, we cannot accept those changes that depart from the standards of neat and appropriate appearance, good taste, modesty, and decency. Our school administration must weigh community standards along with individual rights. As a general rule, appearance that detracts from the learning environment cannot be permitted. It is our sincerest hope that students of Columbus High School will take pride in their appearance and their school.

Students who dress inappropriately will be given alternative attire (school T-shirt/shorts). Instructional time missed for clothing related issues (minimum of one half hour) will be made up in After School Detention.

The following general statements apply to all students during the instructional day:

- 1) Any article of clothing or other item brought to school by a student should not contain any printed wording or pictures that:
 - a) includes profanity, vulgarity, or is found to be sexually explicit, indecent or lewd, or makes sexual innuendo (sexually suggestive)
 - b) advertises the use or sale of tobacco or controlled substances in any manner
 - c) promotes a business establishment whose primary business is drug paraphernalia or alcohol related
 - d) would be found to be offensive to another ethnic background
 - e) indicates any form of gang affiliation
 - f) espouses questionable meaning or insinuates educationally inappropriate activities.

- 2) Clothing which is too tight or too short, has holes in the hip, thigh, genital or upper chest areas, or unnecessarily *exposes or draws attention to* one of these areas is considered disruptive to the learning environment and is therefore inappropriate school attire.
 - a) Clothing considered proper attire is a garment worn in a manner in which it was designed. Rolled waistbands or sagging waistlines, a full-length shirt with appropriate sleeves, skirts or shorts with a minimum of a 3-inch inseam, covered shoulders, no tank tops, bare midriffs, low cut shirts, bare backs and/or exposed undergarments will not be tolerated. Two-piece outfits must touch at the waist. Sleeveless shirts are permitted only if intact as originally manufactured. Students are not allowed to wear clothing/jewelry that would encourage horseplay or pose a risk to self or other students (i.e. spiked apparel and chains).
 - b) *All pants must be secured at the waistline, at or above the hips even if a long shirt accompanies the pants or shorts are worn under the pants.*
- 3) Appropriate dress for some social situations out of school is not necessarily appropriate for school. The type of clothing worn by a student must not be injurious to self or jeopardize his/her safety or the safety of others (e.g., open-toed shoes, baggy or loose clothing in a STEM class, or dangling chains from clothing or wallets).
- 4) Shoes and shirts are essential for proper *inside-the-building* attire. Hats, sweat bands, stocking hats, bandanas, gloves, and sunglasses will not be considered proper building attire because they can be considered disruptive to the educational environment. Hats may be worn to school and kept in the locker during the academic school day. *Repeated violations will result in confiscation of the clothing item(s) as contraband. They may be held until the end of the school year.*
- 5) Dress identified by outside agencies (police and other law enforcement agencies) as gang-related and/or drug-related apparel is not allowed: e.g. West Side, South Side, East Side, North Side, gang affiliated artist, do-rags or bandanas worn on the head or hung from clothing, long baggy coats, knit gloves or prominent display of gang-affiliated colors, and other clothing which promotes gang activity using slang, symbolism and cartoon caricatures, clothing depicting gloved “Mickey” hands forming gestures, Marilyn Monroe featured shirts/sweatshirts, or altered rosaries.
- 6) Exceptions to the Columbus High School Dress Code detailed above *may* be made for “spirit days.” The administration will work with student organizations to determine this in advance.

The Columbus High School Dress Code is a product of the CHS Orderly Environment School Improvement Committee and is in alignment with CPS Board Policy 504.05. The items detailed in section III-A above are all items individual students may use or possess to express themselves. Columbus High School recognizes this and believes it is the right of each student to have, possess, and even display these items – just not in school.

III-B Non-instructional Areas

Students are only to be in non-instructional areas (such as hallways, bathrooms, cafeteria, commons, school grounds) when authorized. Students are to conduct themselves in a proper and prudent manner and should always clean up after themselves by disposing litter in trash containers. Gyms, restrooms, balconies stairwells, and other un-supervised areas are not authorized areas to congregate before, during, or after school.

III-C Loitering

Students may not remain in school buildings, on school grounds, in student and/or faculty parking lots, or at school-sponsored events without the permission of school personnel after school is dismissed or the activity is completed. *Students are to be off the premises no later than 30 minutes following the dismissal of classes or school activities.* Students may not assemble in unauthorized areas or hallways during the school day when classes are in session. *All Columbus High School students shall be prohibited from loitering anywhere within a three-block radius of the outer boundaries of the high school before or after school.*

III-D School-sponsored Activities - Suspensions

Students who are suspended out of school or suspended from school events will not be allowed to participate in or attend school-sponsored activities until they are reinstated.

III-E Contraband / Electronic Devices

Contraband is defined as any item not considered necessary to complete in-class activities and/or any item considered disruptive to the school environment during the instructional day (8:10-3:40). **This would include (but is not limited to) any obscene or vulgar material, both electronic and non-electronic, lighters,** electronic devices, MP3 player/iPod, earbuds, and portable video games. **Contraband may be** confiscated from students and turned into the main office.

Items confiscated from students may be required to have a parent/guardian pick up the item from the main office. Contraband repeatedly confiscated from a student may be held until the remainder of the school year and a parent/guardian will be required to request in writing, to pick up the item, from an administrator. Contraband held until the end of the current school year will be disposed of following the conclusion. Items deemed necessary to be turned over to law enforcement will have to be requested from law enforcement, by the owner.

III-Ea Cell Phone Possession and Use

At Columbus High School, we believe every student is allowed to possess and utilize a personal cell phone. That privilege is limited, however, at the point that the device becomes a distraction or disruption to the **school environment**, is believed to have been used to harass other students, or the student becomes insubordinate regarding its appropriate use.

Appropriate times for cell phone use at CHS are prior to 8:10 a.m., passing periods on the way to class, lunch and after school. Appropriate locations for cell phone use are in the main office or entry area when checking out of school, the hallways, and the cafeteria. Inappropriate locations for cell phone use are **all locker rooms and restrooms**, any office area without prior permission, the IMC without prior permission, STEM and science lab areas, and any classroom without prior permission. Other areas in which cell phone use is considered inappropriate would be in the auditorium or gymnasium during assemblies or presentations.

To avoid confrontation, confiscation, and consternation (the 3 C's), sStudents should always ask a supervising adult (teacher, administrator) before using the phone during a restricted time period or in a restricted location. Reasonable requests will be considered by teachers and administration.

Staff will **continue to** confiscate cell phones when students receive or make phone calls, text message, or access the phone during the instructional period/~~block~~ **without prior staff permission.** Cell phones or electronic devices must never be used to photograph or record others *with or without their knowledge and/or permission* during the school day, *at any school event or activity*. If a student is found to have violated this rule, particularly if the resulting image or recording was of a verbal or physical altercation or utilized to harass, intimidate or demean another student, would be subject to an investigation procedure that may result in discipline, up to and including suspension and expulsion. (See III-O Harassment/Bullying/Intimidation). A student found to have engaged in bullying and/or harassment by law enforcement may be forced to surrender his/her phone as evidence to the School Resource Officer. Legal Reference: Neb. Stat. § 79-267

Because students are expected to work with their teacher regarding cell phone use/access in the classroom and because students have been granted access to their phones during passing periods and lunch, a refusal to turn over a cell phone to a staff member who requests to hold it for the period will result in a minimum, 2-hour After School Detention consequence for insubordination. A parent/guardian may be required to pick up the confiscated phone in the main office at the conclusion of the instructional day if the student is non-cooperative. Repeat offenses will result in further disciplinary consequences for insubordination and could result in specific cell phone restrictions for that particular student imposed by administration.

CPS Board Policy 504.11 prohibits visible possession of all cell phones in any area where there is an expectation of privacy (locker rooms or restrooms). The school is not responsible for any lost or stolen devices.

Disclaimer: The administration reserves the right to restrict cell phone privileges for any student or all students, at any time, should cell phone use prove to become a distraction to the educational program.

III-F Open Containers / Beverages other than Water

Students are not to have open containers of beverages in the hallways or in their lockers. Clear plastic bottles with screw top lids are only permitted if they contain water. Unopened cans/bottles of juice may be brought from home for lunch but must be kept in students' lockers or bags until the lunch period and only be consumed in the cafeteria. Students are permitted to carry clear bottles of unflavored water. *Students found to be consuming beverages other than water outside of the cafeteria at any time in the school day will be asked to forfeit the item. Failure to do so will result in a referral for insubordination.*

III-G Vandalism

Students are not to damage or to write, draw, or mark on school property in any way. Doing so will result in consequences including restitution, detention, suspension in or outside school and/or mandatory reassignment. Legal Reference: Neb. Rev. Stat. § 79-267

III-H Skateboards

Due to the potential danger to skateboarders and to other people who might be on the site, the Board of Education bans the use of skateboards on school property or property under the control of the School District.

III-I Display of Affection

Students are not to exhibit excessive displays of affection which would be considered embarrassing or distracting to others on school grounds or at school-sponsored activities. (See also VII-A Dance Guidelines)

III-J Responsibilities of Students When Expressing Themselves

When students express themselves at school, at school-sponsored activities, or in public places away from school, they must abide by the following rules:

- 1) The expression shall not contain words, pictures **and/or actions** that are considered indecent, lewd, obscene, profane, vulgar, off-color; fighting or gutter words (four letter words); phrases which contain threats; physical gestures which are offensive or threatening to anyone seeing or hearing the expression; or expressions which undermine or are disrespectful to school personnel.
- a) The use of hand signals, graffiti, or the presence of any apparel, jewelry (e.g. altered rosaries), accessory (e.g. black gloves), or manner of grooming which, by virtue of its color, arrangement, trademark, symbol, or any other attribute which indicates or implies membership or affiliation with a certain group, is disruptive to a positive learning environment and will not be tolerated. [CPS Board Policy 504.13]
- 2) The expression of the student shall not contain words, phrases, or gestures that ridicule or belittle.
- 3) The expression of the student shall not encourage other persons to violate school rules.
- 4) The expression of the student shall not be unusually loud or interfere with or obstruct any lawful mission, process, function, or purpose of the school.
- 5) The expression of the student shall not be slanderous.
- 6) The expression of the student shall not be libelous.
- 7) The expression of the student cannot be about, or directed at, any teacher, administrator, or other school employee at any time, in a public manner and incorporate any of the six previously identified inappropriate student expression. (Example: Any student who refers to a teacher in a public place at any time by a lewd or obscene manner that the teacher and/or others hear/see the insult may be disciplined by school authorities.)

Any student who fails to meet these requirements when expressing himself/herself may be disciplined [CPS Board Policy 504.07]. The Columbus High School administration reserves the right to deem excessive expressionism as disruptive to the school environment. This will be addressed on a case-by-case basis.

III-K Academic Dishonesty (Cheating)

Students caught cheating/plagiarizing on major assignments such as tests, quizzes or performance assessments will be reported to the office. The parents will be notified by the classroom teacher. The student will have the option to redo the work or retake the assignment/assessment at 50% value. Administrative consequences will be assigned based on frequency and severity.

III-L Altering School Records, Reports, Grades, Etc.

Students are forbidden to change and/or falsify school records, reports, grades, etc. Any tampering with such documents shall result in disciplinary actions.

Civic Expectation #2 – Interact effectively with others

- Respond without complaint to staff member or administrative directives.
- Follow staff member or administrative directives in a timely manner.
- Demonstrate respect for individuals responsible for school safety.
- Respect the right of others to make choices without verbal/physical coercion or intimidation.

Supporting Guidelines

III-M Insubordination

Students are to comply without complaint to reasonable directions given by all school personnel. **Definition:** Any student who fails to comply with reasonable directions or requests of school personnel will be considered insubordinate. Other acts of insubordination include, but are not limited to, inappropriate responses or use of inappropriate language and/or disrespectful behavior toward a staff member, failure to turn over contraband or other distractions such as a phone or failure to attend assigned periods of After-School Detention.

Consequence: Restriction of privileges, schedule change, activities suspension/expulsion (where appropriate), ISS, OSS, alternative placement, and/or expulsion.

III-N Parking

The privilege of driving to school and parking on school grounds comes with certain expectations. Students are expected to obtain and prominently display a CHS-issued parking permit in the front windshield of their vehicles. Students are also expected to park in the appropriate parking lots. Failure to do so may result in a parking fine, office referral, and/or placement of a boot on the vehicle. **It should be noted that ALL FINES COLLECTED ARE RETURNED TO THE STUDENT BODY in the form of student incentive and reward programs/ activities.**

Major Violations (Fine and/or Parking Boot)

Parking in the fire lane
Parking in incorrect lot or area
Parking in bus lanes and driving lanes
Unattended vehicle in bus and driving lane
Parking in grassy areas
Frequent minor violations

Minor Violations (Fine and/or Referral)

Parking tag does not match designated area
Failure to display parking tag
Parking in two stalls at one time

- Parking tickets will be issued; students will be fined and could have a parking boot placed on the car for parking violations. A **\$10 fine** will be assessed for the first offense; **\$15** for the second offense. **Upon the third offense, the violation will be considered insubordination and referred to an administrator.** Failure to have one's car registered with the main office will be an **additional \$5 fee**. Parking fines will not be allowed to accrue greater than \$30.00. Student privileges will be restricted until the fine balance is paid.
- Parking in driving lanes or blocking bus-turning lanes is an **automatic \$15 fine** because it obstructs traffic. Violators will be required to move their vehicles and make up missed instructional time in After School Detention.

III-Na Parking Lot Expectations

The privilege that comes with driving a vehicle to school also comes with certain behavioral expectations. These expectations support the safety of all who utilize the parking lots as well as preserve the orderly environment. Any student who violates these expectations is not only inconsiderate of others but also puts his/her safety at risk as well as the safety of others. This behavior will not be tolerated and can result in discipline ranging from After-School Detention to the removal of the right to operate a vehicle on the school property.

The following is a list of basic parking lot expectations:

- The utilization of appropriate trash receptacles in the parking lot is expected.
 - Students caught littering in the parking lot are inconsiderate of others and may receive consequences that may include parking lot litter collection for an appropriate period of time.
- The parking lot is CPS property. To that end, vaping, smoking, etc. are prohibited behaviors that will receive appropriate consequences when observed or reported.
- Students should demonstrate patience and consideration when entering or exiting the parking lots.
 - Accelerating past others who are waiting their turn in line is reckless endangerment and will receive administrative consequences when observed or reported. Doing so often puts the driver in the lane of oncoming traffic and puts him/her, as well as others, at risk of an accident.
- Students should never accelerate across seemingly open areas of the parking lot.
 - Utilizing the established traffic lanes makes all traffic in the lot predictable for other drivers and pedestrians, thus reducing the risk of accidents.
 - Driving over “islands” or curbs in the parking lot is not appropriate and can result in damage to the concrete as well as the landscaping, trees, light fixtures and your own vehicle.
 - Driving over, onto or through snow piles in the parking lot is not appropriate. See previous bullet.
- Excessive torque (burnouts), “cookies,” and other forms of exhibition driving should never occur in the school parking lot. This will be considered reckless endangerment and result in appropriate consequences.
 - Besides the obvious dangers to bystanders, noise from loud vehicles disrupts activities taking place within the school building as well as projects negatively on teen drivers to our neighbors.
- Student vehicles are to occupy ONE parking stall. No student has the right to claim more than one parking stall for his/her vehicle. To do so is inconsiderate of others and a ticketable offense. Students who are concerned about others parking near to them should consider parking at the farthest ends of the lot or very near a parking lot camera.
- Students should not have items visible or displayed on their vehicles that contain lewd, obscene, vulgar, or indecent material that would otherwise violate the student handbook.
- Students who violate these parking lot expectations should be reported to administration by name and/or vehicle description, parking permit number and/or license plate number. The report can be made via email and will be considered anonymous.
- If you sustain damage or suspect a break-in to your vehicle, report it immediately to the Columbus Police Department. You should also notify CHS administration. CHS administration will work in cooperation with Columbus Police to utilize the parking lot surveillance cameras in the hope of identifying the offending party. Any information gathered will be shared directly with the investigating officer(s).

All students driving motorized vehicles to school must operate them in a safe and lawful manner. **Students observed operating a motor vehicle in an unsafe, reckless, or unlawful manner will be subject to disciplinary action and will be reported to the police.** Parking permits may be confiscated or revoked at administrative discretion. All cars parked on school property must be registered and display a school parking tag. Failure to display a proper parking permit in CHS lots will result in a ticket.

III-O Harassment/Bullying/Intimidation

Harassment of students, staff or visitors by CHS students or staff will not be tolerated. This policy is in effect while students or staff are on school grounds, school district property, or on property within the jurisdiction of the school district; while on school-owned and/or school-operated transportation; while attending or engaged in school activities; and while away from school grounds if the misconduct directly affects the good order, efficient management and welfare of the school or school district.

Harassment may be reported by anybody including students, parents, teachers, the student nurse, or other staff. Teachers, counselors and administrators will be involved in the investigation of incidents of harassment.

Definition: Harassment as set forth above may include, but is not limited to, the following:

- verbal, physical, written harassment, texted or posted abuse
- repeated remarks of a demeaning nature
- implied or explicit threats concerning one’s safety, well-being, grades, achievements, etc
- demeaning jokes, stories, or activities directed at an individual or group of individuals
- any ongoing pattern of physical, verbal, or electronic abuse

Students or individuals who feel that they have been harassed by other students should communicate to the harasser that the individual expects the behavior to stop, if the individual is comfortable doing so. If the individual needs assistance communicating with the harasser, he/she should ask a teacher, counselor or administrator to help.

If the harassment does not stop, or the individual does not feel comfortable confronting the harasser, he/she should:

- report the matter to a teacher or counselor.
- write down exactly what happened, keep a copy, and give another copy to the counselor;
 - what, when and where it happened
 - who was involved
 - exactly what was said or what the harasser did
 - witnesses to the harassment
 - what the individual said or did, either at the time or later
 - how the individual felt and
 - how the harasser responded
 - provide screenshots and/or printouts of the alleged abuse (when appropriate)
- The counselor will then investigate the matter by interviewing witnesses and the alleged harasser and report the results of the investigation to the appropriate grade-level administrator.
- If the administrator determines that harassment is indeed occurring, appropriate consequences will be assigned as necessary based upon frequency and severity of the behavior.

Consequences: Students whose behavior is found to be in violation of this policy will be subject to the investigation procedure that may result in discipline, up to and including, suspension, and expulsion.

Retaliation against an individual because the individual has filed a harassment complaint or who may have assisted or participated in a harassment investigation or proceeding is also prohibited. A student who is found to have retaliated against an individual in violation of this policy will be subject to discipline, up to and including, suspension, and expulsion. [CPS Board Policy 504.17, 504.17R1] Legal Reference: Neb. Rev. Stat. § 79-267(8), § 79-2,137.

III-Oa Hazing

Definition: Hazing is an abusive, often humiliating form of initiation into or affiliation with a group, including any willful action taken or situation created which recklessly or intentionally endangers the mental or physical health of another.

No student shall do anything to physically or psychologically harm another student or staff member at school, on school grounds, or at school-sponsored events or on their way to and from school.

Consequence: Restriction of privileges, schedule change, activities suspension/expulsion (where appropriate), ISS, OSS, alternative placement and/or expulsion.

- 1) Hazing activities that occur outside the school day, outside school activities, and/or off school grounds should be reported by the victim to law enforcement. Columbus High School administration will become involved if/when the matter spills over to the regular school day or at school activities.
- 2) Intimidation, extortion, or verbal or physical threats will result in suspension or expulsion from school.
- 3) It should be noted that hazing is a Class II misdemeanor punishable by up to six months in jail and \$1000.00 fine. The School Resource Officer will be consulted on all matters of hazing.

III-P Inappropriate Behavior

Inappropriate behavior in regards to public indecency and indecent exposure will be defined to coincide with Neb. Rev. Stat. § 79-267 (7) and Columbus High School expectations.

- 1) Students engaging in sexual conduct, even if consensual, on school grounds or at a school function or event
- 2) Sexual assault or attempting to sexually assault any person on school grounds or at a school function or event
- 3) Students exposing themselves inappropriately to draw attention to a private area

Consequence: Restriction of privileges, schedule change, activities suspension/expulsion (where appropriate), ISS, OSS, alternative placement and/or expulsion. Students may also face a citation for indecent exposure. [Columbus City Ordinance 130.091 Indecent Exposure].

III-Pa Sexual Harassment

Sexually harassing student(s) or school personnel is prohibited at school, on school grounds, at school-sponsored events, or on the way to and from school.

Sexual Harassment

The Columbus High School is committed to maintaining an educational setting that is free of sexual harassment. Sexual harassment is an illegal action relevant to Title IX, Title VII, and Nebraska State Statute, Columbus Board Policy 404.06 and Columbus Board Policy 504.17. Sexual harassment will not be tolerated, and the Columbus High School administration will take immediate and appropriate action upon notification of offense.

At Columbus High School, sexual harassment will be defined as any unwelcome advances, a request for sexual favors, or verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature by a student toward another student when the conduct has an effect of interfering with academic performance of the student or creates an intimidating, hostile, offensive or unsafe learning environment. This procedure and definition of sexual harassment will also include unwanted advances by a student toward an employee. As used in this policy the word "student" shall mean any resident student of the district, any student being served by contract with another educational agency, or any other person of school age attending the district for educational reasons. The word "employee" shall mean any person who is employed by the district.

The following procedure shall be followed to report any violation of this policy.

- 1) Student will report the incident to the appropriate assistant principal. The administrator will require the student to submit a written statement containing location, time, incident details, witnesses and student reaction. The administrator will investigate the incident by speaking to other students or staff who were identified as witnesses to the incident. A written statement will be obtained by these individuals, as well.
- 2) The administrator will then speak with the alleged harasser as part of their due process rights. Information obtained from step 1 above will be kept confidential. This alleged student will be given the opportunity to provide a written statement on his/her behalf as well as a list of students who may speak on his/her behalf..
- 3) The administrator will continue to investigate the incident based upon this new information.
- 4) The administrator may share information with other building administrators to determine the outcome of the investigation through a collaborative approach.
- 5) Consequences that may be imposed by the administration: verbal warning with conference regarding inappropriate behavior, parental conference, short-term suspension (1-5 days), long-term suspension (6-19 days), or expulsion from school.
- 6) The same procedures will be used with student harassment of a staff member.

Columbus High School will not tolerate any retaliatory behavior against any person(s), the harasser or person(s) encouraged by the harasser who have submitted information to the high school administration. The consequences will be the same as the above list.

The administration of Columbus High School will cooperate fully with the appropriate law enforcement agency if the harassed student/employee would file any charges through the court system. All written statements and documentation will be turned over to any investigative unit, if requested.

The Grievance Office (Title IX) of the Columbus Public Schools is the Superintendent of Schools, Columbus Public School District #1, 2508 27th Street, Columbus; phone: 402-563-7050.

Sex Offender Law

The Student Discipline Act allows for a student to be expelled from school when the student is criminally charged with certain sexual assaults even though the sexual assault occurs off school grounds. Sexual assault means sexual assault in the first or second degree or a sexual assault of a child in the first, second or third degree. Legal Reference: Neb. Rev. Stat. § 79-267(8)

Dating Violence

Columbus Public Schools strives to provide physically safe and emotionally secure environments for all students and staff. Positive behaviors are encouraged in the educational program and are required of all students and staff. Dating violence will not be tolerated.

Definition: For purposes of this policy, “dating violence” means a pattern of behavior in which one person threatens, or actually uses, physical, sexual, verbal, or emotional abuse to control his or her current or former dating partner. “Dating partner” means any person, regardless of gender, involved in an intimate relationship with another person primarily characterized by the expectation of affectionate involvement whether casual, serious, or long term.

Consequence: Restriction of privileges, schedule change, activities suspension/expulsion (where appropriate), ISS, OSS, alternative placement, and/or expulsion.

Incidents of dating violence involving students at school will be addressed as the administration determines appropriate, within the scope and subject to the limits of the District’s authority.

[CPS Board Policy 504.20] Legal Reference: Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 79-2,139 to 79-2,142

Date of Adoption: May 17, 2010

Civic Expectation #3 – Fulfill legal requirements

All students are expected to perform according to the stated civic expectations and objectives.

- Act responsibly to maintain the physical safety of self and others.
- Respect the right of individuals or school officials to protect personal or public property from unwanted use or handling.
- Respect the right of the school to govern the use of technology or equipment.
- Only touch fire alarms/security equipment in case of an emergency.
- Respect the responsibility of the school to deny the possession/use of tobacco products, alcohol, or drugs.
- Respect the right of individuals to learn in a safe environment free of harassment/bullying.
- Act and speak responsibly to protect the school community from irreversible harm.
- Protect the school community from real or perceived weapons and/or explosives.

Supporting Guidelines

III-Q Reckless Endangerment

Students shall not engage in acts that create a substantial risk of physical injury to another person.

Consequence: After-School Detention, restriction of privileges, schedule change, activities suspension/expulsion (where appropriate), ISS, OSS, alternative placement and/or expulsion.

III-Qa Snowballs

Students are not to throw snowballs while on school grounds, or on their way to and from school, or while attending school events.

Consequence: After-School Detention, restriction of privileges, schedule change, activities suspension/expulsion (where appropriate), ISS, OSS, alternative placement, and/or expulsion.

III-Qb Unauthorized Games / Activities

Students are not permitted to participate in unauthorized games involving kicking, hitting, or throwing an object within the school building or on school grounds. Objects utilized in such games will be confiscated, and consequences involving contraband and reckless endangerment can be enforced.

Students are to know that gaming or other unauthorized use of the student device (streaming music or videos, etc.) during academic periods can result in disciplinary consequences including suspension of Internet privileges or access to the student device. Appropriate times for students to use the student device for recreational purposes would include during breakfast or lunch *in the cafeteria*.

III-R Theft/Stealing

Students are prohibited from borrowing without permission or stealing personal or public (school) property. Students found to have stolen the property of others will be subject to restitution and will be reported to the School Resource Officer. The theft of a student device, charging cords, or storage bags will result in disciplinary action including, but not limited to, suspension and expulsion.

Any student device or equipment that is misplaced or suspected to be stolen must be reported immediately to the CHS Technology Office. All found devices or equipment should be immediately returned to the CHS Technology Office along with a detailed explanation of where and when the item was found; any other *found* items should be returned to the main office. Legal Reference: Neb. Rev. Stat. § 79-267

III-S Unauthorized Entry

When school is in session, students are not to be in the school building before 6:30 AM or 30 minutes after dismissal time unless they are scheduled in activities taking place within the building or unless they have written permission from a staff member. **Students should not allow others into the building, or prop doors open, at any unauthorized entrance.**

III-T Fighting / Assaults

Students may not engage in verbal or physical altercations in school buildings, on school grounds, or when traveling in school vehicles/busses or at school-sponsored events. Students hitting, striking, kicking or in any other way harming another student or school personnel will be **suspended and may be recommended for expulsion**. Students may be liable for suspension or expulsion if they bring into the schools any object or substance which, when reasonable standards are applied and circumstances warrant, it is determined that the primary purpose is to cause bodily harm or property damage as set forth in CPS Board Policy 505.02 and 505.03. Columbus High School will comply with Nebraska State Statute relative to assaults by reporting incidents to law enforcement officials. Legal Reference: Neb. Rev. Stat. § 79-267

III-U Aiding and Abetting

Any student who aids, abets (encourages inappropriate behavior), or causes another to commit any offense may receive consequences as if he/she were the principal offender. The student could also face criminal charges if the offense merits a report to law enforcement officials. For example, a student who records a student altercation with a cell phone instead of reporting it to staff, is aiding and abetting the offending individuals.

III-V Computers / Technology Integration & Internet Use

Throughout this section of the handbook, reference will be made to a student's *district-issued device*. A district-issued device could take the form of a laptop, tablet, or other mobile device provided by the school district to the student for educational use.

Computer network/Internet access is available to students and teachers in Columbus Public Schools. We believe that an Internet/network access offers valuable, diverse, and unique resources to both students and teachers. Our goal in providing this service is to promote educational excellence in the district by facilitating resource sharing, innovation and communication.

Access to the Internet enables students to explore thousands of libraries, databases, and bulletin boards while exchanging messages with users across the globe. In addition, the system is used to increase school and district communication, enhance productivity, and assist teachers in upgrading their skills through greater exchange of information with their peers. The system also assists us in sharing information with the local community, including parents, social service agencies, government agencies, and businesses.

With access to computers and people from around the world also comes the availability of material that may not be considered to be of educational value in the context of the school setting. Families should be warned that some material obtained via the Internet might contain items that are illegal, defamatory, inaccurate, or potentially offensive. We have taken precautions to restrict access to controversial materials through the installation of an Internet filtering device. However, on a global network, it is impossible to control all materials, and an industrious user may discover controversial information, either by accident or deliberately. We firmly believe, however, that the benefits to students from online access far outweigh the possibility that users may procure material that is not consistent with our

educational goals. We strive to ensure that use of Internet/network resources is consistent with our stated mission, goals, and objectives.

The smooth operation of the network relies upon the proper conduct of the students and faculty, who must adhere to strict guidelines and proper ethical behavior when using the Internet/network. To use our computers, network, and Internet connection, all students must conduct themselves in a manner consistent with our educational focus. **If the student fails to do so, he/she will be subjected to disciplinary sanctions by the administration and by law enforcement. CPS does not allow any unauthorized video or audio recording during the school day.**

Students have access to computers throughout the building for educational use, whether it be their district-issued device or individual classroom, lab or IMC workstations. Student access to technology will be subject to change at the discretion of the administration or staff responsible for the supervision of these areas. Use of the Internet at school is available to research areas directly related to specific classroom assignments. **The district network may NOT be used for personal email, chat rooms, games, streaming video/music, sharing accounts, or accessing any material deemed inappropriate for school.** Students are subject to the Nebraska State Statute on “hacking,” in addition to the Columbus Public Schools Board of Education Policies 504.09, 606.05, 606.06, & 606.07. The terms and conditions of use are identified on the parental permission form for Internet access.

No district-issued devices may leave the United States for any reason, such as during student travel.

All teachers may confiscate student-issued devices when the device is being used inappropriately. Whether the device is returned to the student at the end of the period or is turned over to the grade-level administrator requiring the student to meet with the administrator prior to the return of the device will depend upon the frequency and severity of the offense. The administrator may choose to block the student’s access to the Internet or otherwise limit the device use for a specified period of time as part of the consequence.

All CHS students will be required to complete digital literacy training before access to the school district devices/network will be permitted. The issuance of and revocation of access to school district technology and networks will be handled by building-level administration.

Specific details about student use of the district-issued student devices is covered in detail in a document entitled Columbus Public Schools Student Acceptable Use Agreement, provided at the time of device roll-out .

Specific Internet-use guidelines are listed below:

The computers, networks, hardware, software, peripherals, and configurations in any school classroom are the property of Columbus Public Schools and are not to be altered, modified, damaged, or degraded in any manner.

- Do not install, upgrade, or modify any software operating system, application, or service.
- Do not use a school workstation or device to search for or view any material that would assist in bypassing the Internet filter, gaining unauthorized access to the network, or other attempts to “hack” past the access limits that are in place.
- Do not view, print, distribute, display, send, or receive images, text, or graphics of obscene materials or material that violates laws relating to child pornography.
- Do not use an Internet workstation or student device to view, print, distribute, display, send, or receive images, text, or graphics that contain hate speech, threatening, or harassing material.
- Do not engage in any activity that is deliberately offensive or creates an intimidating or hostile environment.
- Do not violate copyright or software licensing agreements. Do not download or exchange audio and video files, including MP3 files and other similar files.
- Do not gain unauthorized access to any computing, information, or communication devices or resources.
- Do not copy, download, design, or create any software or component intended to damage, alter, or degrade software applications or network architectures.
- Do not use a workstation or device to conduct a business or participate in online buying or selling.
- Any violations of these rules, or the NE state statute on “hacking” will be considered a violation of the Acceptable Use Agreement and will result in loss of Internet access, disciplinary action, AND assessment of monetary damages (when appropriate).
- Do not use email or any other communication platform to threaten, harass, demean, or provoke another student.

III-Va Google Accounts

The Columbus Public Schools district utilizes Google Apps for Education for students, teachers, and staff. This section describes the tools and student responsibilities for using these services. As with any educational endeavor, a strong partnership with families is essential to a successful experience.

As a district, we only authorize the use of tools and applications that support the implementation of our curriculum and have been through a rigorous educational process. Our district utilizes several computer software applications and web-based services, operated not by school district but by third parties. A complete list of the programs with the privacy policy for each can be found on our district website: <http://columbuspublicschools.org/coppa/>

The following services are available to each student and hosted by Google as part of Columbus Public Schools' online presence in Google Apps for Education:

Classroom - a collaborative cloud-computing environment where teachers can post class assignments and through which students can turn work into their teachers

Mail - an individual email account for school use managed by Columbus Public Schools

Calendar - an individual calendar providing the ability to organize schedules, daily activities, and assignments

Drive - a collection of apps for word-processing, spreadsheet, drawing, and presentation that is very similar to Microsoft Office but also contains within it a cloud-storage area for student assignments and projects

Using these tools, students collaboratively create, edit, and share files and websites for school related projects and communicate via email with other students and teachers. These services are entirely online and available 24/7 from any Internet-connected computer. Examples of student use include showcasing class projects, building an electronic portfolio of school learning experiences, and working in small groups on presentations to share with others.

In order for our students to use these educational programs and services, certain Board Policy approved directory information may be provided to the website operator strictly for educational purposes. This directory information may consist of the student's name, username, district e-mail address, grade level, age and/or date of birth. The need for such information is necessary to utilize software and web-based services as part of the classroom instruction. **A signature on the Student Handbook Signature Page constitutes consent for our school district to provide this directory information.**

Technology use in the Columbus Public Schools District is governed by federal laws including the following:

Children's Online Privacy Protection Act (COPPA)

COPPA applies to commercial companies and limits their ability to collect personal information from children under age 13. By default, advertising is turned off for Columbus Public School's presence in Google Apps for Education. No personal student information is collected for commercial purposes. This permission form allows the school to act as an agent for parents in the collection of information within the school context. The school's use of student information is solely for educational purposes. -- COPPA <http://www.ftc.gov/privacy/coppafaqs.shtm>

Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)

FERPA protects the privacy of student education records and gives parents the right to review student records. Under FERPA, schools may disclose directory information (refer to Board Policy 507.02), but parents may request the school not disclose this information. Parents are provided the opportunity annually to opt out of disclosing their student's directory information on the District's Enrollment Form. That form can be found at the following site: <http://www.ed.gov/policy/gen/guid/fpco/ferpa>

Guidelines for the responsible use of Google Apps for Education by students:

1. Official Email Address. All students will be assigned a username@discoverers.org email account. This account will be considered the student's official CPS email address until such time as the student is no longer enrolled with Columbus Public Schools.
2. Prohibited Conduct. Please refer to the Acceptable Use Agreement in Appendix B at the end of this handbook..
3. Access Restrictions. Access to and use of student email is considered a privilege accorded at the discretion of the Columbus Public Schools District. The District maintains the right to immediately withdraw the access and use of these services, including email when there is reason to believe that a violation of law or District policies has occurred. In such cases, the alleged violation will be referred to a building administrator for further investigation and adjudication.
4. Security. Columbus Public Schools cannot and does not guarantee the security of electronic files located on Google systems. Although Google does have a powerful content filter in place for email, the District cannot assure that users will not be exposed to unsolicited information.
5. Privacy. The general right of privacy will be extended to the extent possible in the electronic environment. Columbus Public Schools and all electronic users should treat electronically stored information in individuals' files as confidential and private. However, users of student email are strictly prohibited from accessing files and information other than their own. The District reserves the right to access these Google systems, including current and archival files of user accounts when there is reasonable suspicion that unacceptable use has occurred.

By signing off on the student handbook, the parent(s) and student confirm that they have read and understand the following:

Under FERPA and corresponding Nebraska law, a student's education records are protected from disclosure to third parties. They understand that the student's education records stored in Google Apps for Education may be accessible to someone other than the student and the Columbus Public School District by virtue of this online environment. By signing off on the student handbook, the parent(s) and student confirm their consent to allow the student's education records to be stored by Google.

The parent(s) understand that by participating in Google Apps for Education, information about the student will be collected and stored electronically. The parent(s) has/have read the privacy policies associated with the use of Google Apps for Education (<http://www.google.com/a/help/intl/en/edu/privacy.html>).

The parent(s) understand that they may ask for their child's account to be removed at any time.

III-W Damage of School or Private Property

Students are not to participate in any activity not properly supervised by school personnel that could damage, deface, or alter the school or private property of another individual or entity on school grounds. This includes tampering with or otherwise damaging building safety or security equipment. If a student damages, defaces, or alters Columbus High School property or the private property of another individual or entity, he/she is financially responsible for all damages and will be subject to disciplinary actions, including a referral to law enforcement.

CHS students are expected to behave in a manner that is respectful of the property of another school. Students found to have participated in the damaging or defacing of property of another school in a manner that draws an association with Columbus High School will be subject to disciplinary procedures including, but not limited to, restitution, suspension from school activities, loss of privileges, and/or suspension from school.

Students are responsible for the cost of repair or replacement of any student device, charging cords/power adapter, and protective storage sleeve issued to them. If a student device or peripherals are believed to be stolen, this information must be reported *immediately* to the CHS Technology Office during the school day. After school hours and on weekends or holidays, call the **CPS Technology Hotline 402-563-7069** and leave a detailed message including the name of the student, student ID number, and circumstances resulting in the missing computer. Legal Reference: Neb. Rev. Stat. § 79-267

III-X False Alarms

It is a violation of NE Statute for students to falsely set off fire alarms. Any student who deliberately sets off a false fire alarm will be reported to legal authorities and subject to suspension from school.

III-Y Alcohol-Tobacco-Drugs [CPS Board Policies 504.14 and 504.14R1, Legal Reference: Neb. Rev. Stat. § 79-267]

III-Ya Use of Tobacco/Inhalant Products

It is the responsibility of the school to maintain a safe and drug-free educational environment. Columbus High School students are not to possess, use, distribute, or sell tobacco or tobacco-related or "look alike" products on school grounds.

Definition: Tobacco products include cigarettes, cigars, chewing tobacco, snuff, or any form of tobacco intended to be smoked, chewed, sniffed, dissolved, or inhaled or products intended to replicate tobacco products either by appearance or effect. Possessing or use of e-cigarettes, vape devices and/or vapor liquids in any form at school is in direct violation of this policy. Tobacco or inhalant products confiscated from a student will be turned over to the School Resource Officer or other law enforcement officials. It will be up to the law enforcement officials as to whether an item is returned to a parent/guardian following confiscation at school.

Consequences: Students found guilty of possessing, using, distributing, or selling tobacco or inhalant products will receive the following consequences:

Possession/Use:

- 1st violation:** Students found guilty of a first violation at any time during the school year shall forfeit the contraband to the School Resource Officer and receive two to three days ISS. The student must also complete a school-approved smoking/vaping cessation program conducted by the school nurse.
- 2nd violation:** Students found guilty of a second violation at any time during the school year shall forfeit the contraband to the School Resource Officer and receive two to three days OSS. The student must also complete a school-approved smoking/vaping cessation program conducted by the school nurse.
- 3rd violation:** Students found guilty of a third violation at any time during the school year shall forfeit the contraband to the School Resource Officer and receive: five days OSS.
- 4th and subsequent:** Students found guilty of a fourth and/or subsequent violations at any time during the school year shall forfeit the contraband to the School Resource Officer and receive 6-19 day OSS.

Use:

- ~~**1st violation:** Students found guilty of a first violation at any time during the school year shall forfeit the contraband to the School Resource Officer and receive three or four days ISS. They must complete a school-approved smoking/vaping cessation program conducted by the school nurse.~~
- ~~**2nd violation:** Students found guilty of a second violation at any time of the school year shall forfeit the contraband to the School Resource Officer and receive three days OSS.~~
- ~~**3rd violation:** Students found guilty of a third violation violations at any time during the school year shall forfeit the contraband to the School Resource Officer and receive five days OSS and confiscation of the contraband.~~
- ~~**4th and subsequent:** Students found guilty of a fourth and/or subsequent violations at any time during the school year shall forfeit the contraband to the School Resource Officer and receive 6-19 day OSS.~~

Distribution:

- 1st violation:** Students found guilty of a first violation at any time during the school year shall forfeit the contraband to the School Resource Officer and receive three days OSS.
- 2nd violation:** Students found guilty of a 2nd violation at any time of the school year shall forfeit the contraband to the School Resource Officer and receive five days OSS.
- 3rd violation:** students found guilty of a 3rd violation violations at any time during the school year shall forfeit the contraband to the School Resource Officer and receive 6-19 day OSS.
- 4th and subsequent:** Students found guilty of a fourth and/or subsequent violations at any time during the school year shall forfeit the contraband to the School Resource Officer and receive an emergency exclusion OSS with placement to be determined following a team meeting.

III-Yb Alcohol and Drugs

Columbus High School has a responsibility for providing a safe and secure educational environment for its students and staff. Misuse of drugs is a danger to the health and well being of the members of the school community. The school

strives to work with parents to create a helpful, caring environment where learning can occur. Although parents have the ultimate, primary responsibility for their children's health, the school's responsibility is to maintain a drug-free educational environment.

Columbus High School prohibits the possession of alcohol or drugs and drug paraphernalia. This includes: distribution, dispensing, manufacturing, possession, use of or being under the influence of alcohol, federally banned substances or "look alike" substances by students while on school grounds, during school hours or school-sponsored events. Items and products covered in this policy will be confiscated from the student and turned over to the School Resource Officer or other investigating law enforcement officials.

Columbus High School reserves the right to utilize breathalyzers and/or drug testing equipment with students who may show signs of being under the influence of drugs or alcohol intoxication **at school or school-sponsored activities**. These tests will be administered by **properly trained school personnel**, School Resource Officers or other law enforcement officials.

Students violating the district's drug policy during the school day or at school-sponsored activities will be assigned disciplinary consequences and, if appropriate, activity consequences as explained in the Student Handbook. Consequences will begin when the administration has determined that a violation has occurred and due process has taken place. **The school may require that students obtain drug/alcohol tests at parental expense in order to determine if a violation has occurred.** Disciplinary consequences will vary according to the severity of the violation and the number of times a student has committed violations. Students who violate the district tobacco, alcohol, and drug policy will be referred to law enforcement officials.

Consequences: Students under the influence of drugs/alcohol shall receive the following:

1. First violation at any time during the school year shall be 19 days OSS. However, upon the presentation to the school administration of an appointment for an evaluation done by a professional substance abuse counselor with information provided to the school, the administration may reduce this consequence to three days OSS and three days ISS. The evaluation/counseling shall be at parental expense and must be completed within the time limits set by the school administration. The substance abuse counselor must be approved by the building principal prior to the student's seeking services, and the student's parent(s) and/or guardian(s) and the substance abuse counselor must agree to the exchange of all pertinent information between school officials and the substance abuse counselor. This evaluation must be accompanied by specific recommendations. Should this student, at any time during the remainder of his/her attendance, fail to comply with any of the given recommendations, the original suspension can be imposed.
2. Second or subsequent violations during the school year may result in expulsion and mandatory reassignment at the Alternative School or an educational placement deemed appropriate by the administration. [CPS Board Policy 504.14]

Students possessing, distributing, or selling drugs/alcohol shall receive the following:

1. First violation at any time during the school year shall be 19 days OSS. However, upon the presentation to the school administration of an appointment for an evaluation done by a professional substance abuse counselor with information provided to the school, the administration may reduce this consequence to five days OSS and five days ISS.
2. Second or subsequent violations during the school year may result in expulsion and mandatory reassignment at the Alternative School or an educational placement deemed appropriate by the administration.

III-Yc Prescription Drugs

Definition: any drug or chemical that is prescribed for a particular individual by a doctor and intended for use only by the individual named on the prescription bottle.

Columbus High School reserves the right to exercise control of the misuse, misrepresentation, distribution, or selling of prescription drugs. Students are not to misuse, misrepresent, distribute, or sell prescription drugs. No prescription drugs can be administered by anyone other than the nurse or other designated persons. Students using prescription drugs shall bring them to school in properly labeled prescription containers, and said prescriptions shall be accompanied by written parental verification.

Exception: With written permission that parents accept the responsibility for the student taking his/her own medications, high school students may carry their own prescriptions and medicate themselves in accordance with Policy 504.14. Prescription drugs for asthma and diabetes are also excluded as per policy.

III-Yd Non-Prescriptions Medications / Vitamins

Definition: any drug or chemical that can be purchased without a prescription and that does not fall under state or federal limitations. Columbus High School reserves the right to exercise control over the misuse, misrepresentation, distributing, or selling non-prescription medications or edible items. Students are not to misuse, misrepresent, distribute, or sell non-prescription medication or edible items.

Consequences: Students found guilty of misusing, misrepresenting, distributing or selling non-prescription medications or edible items shall receive the following: **1st violation:** up to 5 days OSS, **2nd violation:** up to 19 days OSS, **3rd violation:** expulsion from school for the remainder of the semester or 19 days OSS, whichever is longer.

The high school nurse has a limited supply of non-prescription medications (Tylenol, ibuprofen, cough drops and Tums or a generic equivalent). Students may have access to these medications if the parent has signed the Non-Prescription Medication Release Form. Students may bring and carry their own supply of the above listed medications ONLY if the release form is signed by the parent and on file in the CHS Nurse's Office. In the event that another form of non-prescription medication would be needed during the school day, a Medication Release Form will need to be signed and the medication will be stored in the nurse's office. Students are forbidden from sharing any medication with another student.

III-Ye Records of Violations and Consequences

Anecdotal notes or violations of the district tobacco and drug policies will be shared between administrators from one year to another and from one attendance center to another, and disciplinary action may carry over from one year to another and from one attendance center to another if the consequence was not completed. However, violations of the tobacco, alcohol and drug policy are not cumulative from one year to another or from one attendance center to another unless the student is a participant in extracurricular activities.

III-Z Rumors, Threats, and Prohibited Items

Columbus High School takes the possibility of a real crisis very seriously as does the Columbus Police Department. Working closely together, these two entities strive to ensure, as much as is humanly possible, the safety of all students. School closure due to rumors, threats and/or the possession of prohibited items will result in additional school time to be made up by all students, as directed by the Superintendent and/or the Board of Education.

III-Za Improper Sharing of Content Spreading Rumors / Text Messaging False Information

Spreading rumors, text messaging or sharing of content, material or false information, either electronic or non-electronic, which results in fear and/or disruption of the school day can be subjected to legal prosecution and suspension, expulsion, and/or mandatory reassignment.

III-Zb Threatening Statements Concerning Student/Building Safety

When a threatening statement concerning student/building safety is received, these steps will be followed:

- The principal is informed of the threat.
- Parents of the student making the threat are called.
- The SRO or police are called to assist with conducting the initial investigation. The SRO/Police may bring other agencies in to investigate (HHS, etc.)
- The student is suspended from school under an emergency exclusion as per Nebraska statute.
- The student may return to school after a psychologist has evaluated the student to determine the level of threat to the safety of the student and others. This evaluation is at parent cost. A readmission plan may be written if determined by the school administrator prior to returning to school. Ultimately, it is the school's decision based upon the information provided by all parties and the investigation as to whether the student is readmitted. The student may be reassigned to a different placement or program.
- The central office administration will be informed of the situation throughout the process.

III-Zc Bomb Threats

The false reporting of bomb threats will be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law. School closure due to rumors, threats, and/or the possession of prohibited items will result in additional school time to be made up by all students as

directed by the Superintendent and/or the Board of Education.

III-Zd Firearms, Weapons, Explosives, and Material that Can be Ignited

Firearms, weapons, explosives, and material that can be ignited (e.g. fireworks) are prohibited on school property, or at school-sponsored events, unless authorized by the proper school authorities. A student shall not knowingly possess, handle, or transmit any object or material that is ordinarily or generally considered a weapon or that has the appearance of a weapon, including, but not limited to, a starter gun, paintball gun, Airsoft gun, stun gun, taser, or pellet gun or bringing or possessing any explosive device, including fireworks. A student in possession of a firearm will be expelled from school for a period of one calendar year, as stated in Neb. Rev. Stat. § 79-263. Legal Reference: Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 79-263, 79-267

III-Ze Concealed Handgun Law

It is unlawful for an individual to carry a concealed handgun at school. The law stipulates that handguns may not be carried into school buildings, on school grounds, in school-owned vehicles, and/or at school-sponsored activities or athletic events. The intent of the law (1) assures employees, students, and parents that no one will be permitted to carry a handgun at their school notwithstanding the law and (2) provides permit holders with the understanding that they are not to carry their handguns to school, as stated in Neb. Rev. Stat. § 69-2441.

III-Zf Activities Forbidden by the Laws of the State of Nebraska, the City of Columbus, or the United States of America

Students, as citizens of the United States and the State of Nebraska, are to obey all laws established by these respective governmental agencies. Students who violate these laws during the school hours or at school-sponsored events may be disciplined by the school in addition to any action taken by law enforcement agencies. Any activity/behavior which violates Nebraska Criminal Code constitutes a danger to other students or interferes with school purposes and which becomes known or suspected by the administration will be referred to law enforcement authorities. Legal Reference: Neb. Rev. Stat. § 79-267

SECTION IV ADMINISTRATIVE DISCIPLINE – STUDENT ATTENDANCE EXPECTATIONS

- 1. Attend school on a regular basis.**
- 2. Be aware of absence procedures.**
- 3. Be on time and present in assigned classes.**

To assure that students acquire the knowledge and skills necessary to fulfill the school mission, all students are expected to attend school on a consistent basis. This means all students enrolled in any of the Columbus Schools, regardless of how old they are, must attend school regularly and be in all the classes to which they are assigned, unless properly excused by an official of the school. *The ultimate responsibility for keeping track of the number of days absent from a particular class rests with the student and his/her parent or guardian.*

School Attendance Expectation #1 – Attend school on a regular basis

Supporting Guidelines

IV-A Attendance – Student Absences

Any student who misses more than ten (10) days in a semester is in violation of Nebraska statute and the Columbus Public Schools Attendance Policy. Students who miss more than 10 times in a semester seriously jeopardize their ability to receive credit for such classes.

Regular attendance by students 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.

Student absences approved by the principal shall be considered allowable absences. Approved absences shall count as days in attendance for purposes of addressing excessive absenteeism, except for notification of the county attorney. These absences include, but are not limited to, medically documented illnesses or appointments, pandemic occurrences

identified by local clinics, recognized religious observances, and school-sponsored or approved activities.

It shall be the responsibility of the parent to notify the high school attendance office as soon as the parent knows the student will not be attending school on that day. For a student absence to be considered excused, the parent/guardian shall provide notice to the school prior to, during, or immediately upon the return of the student to school. This notice may take the form of an email, hand-written note, or voice message to the attendance secretary. In the event of multiple absences, the **dean of students or** grade-level administrator may request evidence or written verification of the student's reason for absence. **[CPS Board Policy 503.03 and Neb. Rev. Stat. § 79-209]**

IV-Aa Attendance - Extended Absences

A family may, from time to time require their student(s) to miss school for an extended period of time (more than three consecutive days). This may be for the purpose of a vacation or international travel. When this occurs, it creates a significant strain on the student's ability to stay caught up with classroom activities. Such absences should carefully be considered while consulting the school calendar to minimize lost class time.

In the event a student will miss more than three consecutive days, we ask that the student meet with his/her school counselor and complete a CHS Extended Vacation Form. The form will list work to be completed by the student for each of his/her teachers and signed by an administrator, ensuring that all have been made aware of the student's need to be absent. The timeframe for the absence and the expected completion date for all classwork upon return from the absence will also appear on the form. If the extended absence results in the student exceeding the statutory limit on allowable absences for the school year (20), the student may be required to make up time due to excessive absenteeism.

In the event of international travel, the student device must be checked into the CHS technology office, prior to departure.

IV-B Attendance – Activity Participation

On the day of a contest, performance, or other activity, a student who is not in attendance the full day is ineligible for the contest, performance, or activity. **[CPS Board Policy 503.03]**

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

Exceptions may be made for extenuating circumstances such as medical or dental appointments or family emergencies. The athletic director must approve any exceptions to this policy.

IV-C Attendance - Following Activities

Students participating in school-sponsored activities during the school week are expected to report to school on time the following day. Students tardy or absent may forfeit the opportunity to participate in the next contest/game. The high school administration has the sole authority to excuse students on the day following a competition/activity.

IV-D Attendance – Seniors' Final Month

Any senior who is unexcused during his/her final four weeks of school will be required to make up his/her time prior to graduation. Failure to do so will jeopardize his/her participation in the graduation ceremony. If the unexcused absence occurs on the seniors' final day of attendance, those in violation will not be permitted to participate in the graduation ceremony and will be required to attend school the week after graduation. Diplomas will not be issued until this responsibility is fulfilled.

Seniors **must attend** graduation practice in order to participate in the graduation ceremony.

Student Attendance Expectation #2 – Be aware of absence procedures

Supporting Guidelines

IV-E Absence Verification

All parent notes must include the parent's daytime phone number to verify the absence. This procedure applies to family obligations, college visits arranged through the guidance office, state tournament attendance when approved by the school administration, or pre-arranged appointments with a health care provider.

IV-F Sign-Out Procedure

Students must sign out whenever they leave the building, except for activities. Students leaving the building with a pre-arranged absence will be counted as unexcused if they fail to sign out in the office. **Important:** Students must sign in upon their return to school. Students must provide a note from parents, dentist, doctor, etc. before the absence will be counted as **allowed**. School officials reserve the right to call parents if it appears the note procedure is being abused.

IV-G Makeup Time - Approved Absence

Students are responsible for making up all work missed because of allowable absences. **Students will be allowed one day to collect work, plus one additional day for every day they were allowed absent to make up missed work.** *For instance, if a student was allowed absent for two days, a total of three days will be allowed to pick up missed work, complete assignments and missed tests.* Special arrangements can be made with individual teachers for unusual circumstances. Students on suspension are expected to have work completed upon their return to class. If students are absent for more than one day due to illness, parents may request prior to 10 a.m. to pick up assignments after 4:00 p.m.

Students whose absences are approved shall make up the work missed and receive full credit for the missed school work, within the guidelines set forth above. It shall be the responsibility of the student to initiate a meeting with teachers to establish a plan to handle work missed during approved absences.

Student Attendance Expectation #3–Be on time and present in assigned classes

Supporting Guidelines

Tardy Policy ~ Student tardies to school and/or class will be consequence using a “tardy to school or class” reference. Student tardiness in excess of 3 tardies to period 1 will be calculated separately.

Student Accountability ~ It is the responsibility of each student to make up assigned time in After-School Detention, with individual teachers and/or through approved in-school and/or community service projects (only by PRIOR arrangement with an administrator).

Failure to make up time can result in suspension of hallway privileges, suspension from activities, and suspension from school.

Accumulated time-owed will be capped at 400 minutes (the equivalent of three After School Detention sessions). Students accumulating 400 minutes will be required to attend the next ENTIRE After School Detention session *unless prior arrangements have been made with that student's grade-level administrator*. Failure to do so can result in 2 days of Out-of-School Suspension for insubordination. A parent meeting will be scheduled with the grade-level administrator, and a contract will be created to resolve the matter of time-owed. Failure to complete the terms of the contract may result in placement in an alternative educational setting until the matter has been resolved. **See II-C After School Detention (ASD)**

IV-H Tardy to School (Period 1)

Students must sign in with the attendance secretary when they fail to report to school on time. Students will be allowed one (1) excused tardy before being assigned time as a consequence for tardiness, each quarter. Students will serve 30 minutes for each additional tardy. Excessive tardy arrivals to school will be handled by the **dean of students** administration.

IV-I Tardy to Class (other than Period 1)

Students are expected to be in their assigned classrooms when the bell signaling the beginning of the instructional period ends. Students are considered tardy at this point unless they have a signed pass from a teacher or an admit slip from the office. Students are considered tardy if they are up to 10 minutes late to class without a pass. Students who are more than 10 minutes late to class will be allowed to enter class with a pass from the office. Students will be assigned an appropriate consequence based on the frequency and/or severity of the offense.

IV-J School Response to Student Absences

All students are expected to attend school/class on a consistent basis. Students with unapproved absences will make up the time missed from school. When a student is deemed excessively absent or tardy from school the following intervention steps will may be taken:

A	A collaborative team meeting or meetings between an administrator or designee to include one or more of the following: school counselor, school psychologist, social worker, and/or student advocate with the parent/guardian and the student.
B	Educational counseling to explore schedule/curriculum changes such as alternative educational programs to solve the excessive absenteeism problem.
C	Educational evaluation to assist in determining the specific condition(s) or barriers contributing to the excessive absenteeism problem, supplemented by specific efforts by the school to help remedy any condition diagnosed.
D	Investigation of the problem by a school social worker, counselor, and/or member of the administrative team to identify conditions contributing to the excessive absenteeism. If services for the student and the student's family are determined to be needed, the collaborative team shall meet with the parent/guardian and child to discuss any referral to appropriate agencies, e.g. Juvenile Services Attendance Monitor, Professional Partners, etc. to remedy the conditions.
E	If the student is absent more than twenty days per year, or the percentage equivalency, the administration may shall file a report with the county attorney of the county in which the student resides.

[Reference CPS Board Policy

503.04]

SECTION V ESTABLISHING A POSITIVE LEARNING EXPERIENCE

Big 6 Classroom Expectations

1. Arrive to class prepared and on-time.
2. Use work time appropriately.
3. Complete assigned tasks on time.
4. Demonstrate respect for people and property.
5. Respond appropriately to staff directives.
6. Demonstrate academic proficiency.

Classroom teachers are responsible for establishing a positive learning environment with the assistance of student assistance team facilitators, administrators, school counselors, school psychologists, and outside agencies when necessary. To maintain a quality-learning environment, students are expected to abide by the six (6) expectations listed above.

Supporting Guidelines

V-Classroom Behavioral Expectations

Teachers are to establish reasonable rules in their classrooms to assist them in maintaining a productive and safe environment for learning. Students are to follow these rules without complaint in a timely manner.

Classroom/Teacher Response

It is expected that all students at Columbus High School will perform according to the six academic and performance expectations listed above. If a student chooses to perform according to these goals, he/she will retain the freedom to interact with teachers and students under normal supervision. However, if a student chooses not to perform according to these basic expectations, he/she will be held accountable through a problem solving approach. The intensity of response is matched to the frequency of unacceptable performance. Through a defined problem solving approach and increased home-school interaction, our goal is to improve student performance both academically and behaviorally.

SECTION VI GENERAL INFORMATION

VI-A Activities – Dances/Socials

All organizations must have sponsors present. Events must be scheduled in the activities director's office. Arrangements must be made with the teacher whose room and facilities are to be used. All areas used for meetings or socials must be left in their original condition. Once a student leaves a school activity, he/she is not allowed to return. All students attending dances will be breathalyzed prior to admittance. The school has the right to check purses, coats, etc. for illegal/disruptive items. Behavior of non-CHS students (guests) is the responsibility of CHS partners.

Hours of all school dances are 9:00 p.m.—School dances may start at different times but will be three (3) hours in length and not go past midnight.

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. Students must be in “good standing” and not on any type of social probation.

Social Probation: Students who owe more than 180 minutes (3 hours) of ASD time are considered to have lost their good standing status and are at that point on social probation. Students on social probation are ineligible to participate in CHS dances and social events. In order to return to good standing, the student will have to serve enough time to lower his/her time-owed to below 180 minutes prior to the cut-off of ticket sales for that particular dance. See II-C After-School Detention (ASD). Students who are alternatively placed, due to behavior reasons, in a setting outside of the regular school building/day, will be considered on social probation.

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 Columbus High School and their guests may attend.
 - a. Students currently attending Columbus High School or another Nebraska high school and who have not been restricted from attending extracurricular activities at Columbus High School or their own school are generally considered appropriate dates or invited guests.
 - b. Approval of all guests at CHS dances is at administrative discretion. Students seeking approval of a guest over the age of 19 must appeal to CHS Administration in person no fewer than 30 days prior to the dance. Middle school-aged students or younger are not considered to be appropriate age for Columbus High School dances.
 - c. CHS students who choose to bring non-CHS students as invited guests must fill out and return a “Guest Permission Form” by noon no fewer than 7 days prior to the dance.
 - i. It is the responsibility of the CHS student to make sure the following individuals sign this form: the invited guest, the guest's parent/guardian (if 18 or younger), and an administrator from the

- guest's school (if still in school). It is the responsibility of the CHS student to inform his/her guest of the dress code expectations and rules of the dance/school.
- ii. The invited guest will not be admitted to the dance without a valid ID that verifies the guest's date-of-birth.
 - iii. A new Guest Permission Form must be completed for each dance. The forms DO NOT carry over from one dance to the next.
 - d. Prom will be restricted to Columbus High School junior and senior students and their invited guests.
 - e. Students who have been suspended from school or from extracurricular activities may not attend.
 - f. 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.
 - g. Students who have dropped out of Columbus High School and failed to enroll at another accredited public or private school are generally considered to be inappropriate guests and likely would not receive administrative approval.
 - h. **Until 11:00 p.m., Rules for dances restrict students and their guests from leaving the dance unless they sign out. Parent/guardian(s) may be contacted in the event that students leave within an hour of the start.**
 - i. Appropriate style of dance is as follows: Couples should be facing each other, and at no time should one partner's legs end up between the other partner's legs. Grinding, straddling, thrusting, or bending a partner over is inappropriate. (See also III-I Display of Affection)
 - j. Students or their guests who engage in inappropriate behavior or dance, whether on or off of the dance floor, may face possible disciplinary action and will be asked to leave.
 - k. **High school administration reserves the right to withhold the sale of tickets or attendance to dances due to unforeseen reasons.**
2. Prohibited substances: Alcoholic beverages, illegal drugs, and tobacco/inhaled products are prohibited.
- a. Anyone using these or showing the effects of use will not be allowed admission or, if discovered after admission, be removed from the dance. Law enforcement will be contacted.
 - b. Students and their dates will 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. Building principals 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 a building principal or staff sponsor for the event if you are uncertain about your attire.

VI-B Activities - Meetings

Each Wednesday night is reserved for church activities. No meetings, practices, rehearsals, or programs are scheduled for this night without prior administrative approval.

VI-C Graduation and Seniors' Final Week

Students who have met the requirements for graduation as established by the board of education will be allowed to participate in the commencement proceedings provided they abide by the proceedings organized by the school district. It shall be the responsibility of the principal to solicit input from each graduating class regarding the proceedings for their commencement. Students opting out of participating in commencement will still be provided their transcript and diploma certifying the student's completion of high school. [CPS Board Policy 611.09]

Seniors must be passing all classes to qualify for check-out on the posted date for the senior's final day of classes. Seniors who fall short of this requirement will continue to attend classes through Friday of the final week of senior attendance. A student not in *good standing* may forfeit the opportunity to participate in the graduation ceremony.

VI-Ca Graduation Ceremony Expectations

The Columbus High School graduation ceremony is a celebration of the tremendous accomplishments of the members of the graduating class. It is important that each graduate understand that while this is his/her big day, it is also a big day for hundreds of other CHS graduates. As the hosts of the ceremony, Columbus High School has set forth the following expectations for all members of the senior class opting to participate in this *optional event*:

- seniors must successfully complete all graduation requirements during their final semester
- senior students must have served all disciplinary and attendance minutes prior to that senior's last day of attendance
- all fines and fees must be settled through the CHS office prior to the seniors' last day of attendance
- all student devices, class equipment and athletic or extra-curricular uniforms must be returned prior to the seniors' last day of attendance
- proper attire for the ceremony will include dress shoes, socks, dress pants and shirt with collar for the boys and a dress, dress pants or skirt of school-appropriate length, blouse and dress shoes for the girls
- proper attire for the ceremony also dictates no tennis shoes and no flip flops - footwear should be appropriate for a formal event and is subject to administrative discretion on a case-by-case basis
- no possession or use of a cell phone during the ceremony will be permitted
- no messages or symbolism will be permitted on the mortar boards (hats)
- only honorary adornments *provided by Columbus High School* will be permitted to be worn by graduates (e.g. honor cords, NHS medals, etc.)
- leis, stoles (other than the official CHS graduating class stole) and other visible adornments *will not be permitted* to be worn by any member of the graduating class
- behavior during the ceremony should reflect the highest standards of Columbus High School student respect and responsibility
- students who fail to meet the behavioral expectations by drawing undue attention to themselves or their actions during the ceremony *may have their diploma held* at administrative discretion, until appropriate consequences have been served

VI-Cb Graduation – Mid Term

A student who wishes to graduate from high school in less time than the ordinary eight (8) semesters may request permission to complete graduation requirements on an alternate schedule. The student and parent/guardian will consult with the grade level counselor to develop a graduation plan. The student's intent to accomplish this shall be stated in writing to the school counselor along with a letter of support submitted by the student's parent/guardian at the time of the request. **The request letters are to be submitted no later than 2 weeks after the start of the seventh (7) semester or the date put forth by the district.**

A student who graduates early must complete all graduation requirements established by the Board of Education. The student who chooses early graduation will be allowed to participate in prom, Honors Night, and graduation unless they choose to receive their diploma upon completion of the seventh (7) semester. For all other school activities, the early-out graduate will be treated as a graduated student unless given special permission by CHS administration. [CPS Board Policy 611.08]

VI-D Fees, Fines and Charges [CPS Board Policy 505.04]

Students may be assessed fines, charges, or fees for damage beyond normal wear to the materials needed in a course, for overdue school materials, for participating in or attendance at extracurricular activities, or for misuse of school property. Charges not to exceed the actual cost of materials may be assessed for projects, which become the property of the students following completion. Any fines/fees or charges will be set prior to the start of the school year.

Class Fees: Each August during orientation, Columbus High students will be charged a class fee as shown below:

- Students in Grades 9 and 10 will be charged a \$5.00 fee.
- Students in Grade 11 will be charged a \$7.00 fee.
- Students in Grade 12 will be charged a \$10.00 fee.

Fees collected annually from students in August during orientation will be used to defray costs associated with providing students with the monthly school newspaper, yearbook class pictures, senior specialty pages, prom, and graduation.

VI-E Fundraising

All fundraising projects must first be approved by the activities director. Each group wishing to raise funds will be permitted two per year (one per semester). Charitable giving campaigns for non-school purposes must be approved by the Board of Education in September or January of the current school year.

VI-F Grade Classification/Grades/Records for Class of 2019 and 2020

At the high school level, credits toward graduation are based on attendance and grades. Within the 260 credits required for graduation, there are 160 required credits that all Nebraska students must successfully complete.

Grade classification will be based on the following minimum credit requirements:

Grade 10 status	65 credits
Grade 11 status	130 credits
Grade 12 status	195 credits*

* In future years, the credit requirements will change based upon the new 7-period class schedule.

Daily grades may be recorded in percentages or on an *A* to *F* scale. Semester grades will be recorded on an *A* to *F* basis.

Incomplete grades are assigned in cases in which the student's work is incomplete at the end of the grading period. This may be the result of absence caused by illness or other excused reasons.

Students are reminded that incomplete grades received must be made up within a period of two weeks of the close of the grading period. Incompletes are changed to an *F* after this time. Staff may use incompletes as conditional grades at the end of the first semester when a student's work is judged below passing but the instructor feels that credit may be earned if the student produces a passing grade in the second semester with the principal's permission.

A+	=	99	=	100%
A	=	95	=	98%
A-	=	93	=	94%
B+	=	91	=	92%
B	=	88	=	90%
B-	=	86	=	87%
C+	=	84	=	85%
C	=	80	=	83%
C-	=	78	=	79%
D+	=	76	=	77%
D	=	72	=	75%
D-	=	70	=	71%
F	=	Below 70%		
WP = Withdraw Passing				
WF = Withdraw Failing				
INC = Incomplete				

VI-Fa Grade Classification/Grades/Records for Class of 2021 and Beyond

At the high school level, credits toward graduation are based on attendance and grades. Grade classification will be based on the following minimum credit requirements:

Grade 10 status	60 credits
Grade 11 status	120 credits
Grade 12 status	180 credits

Daily grades may be recorded in percentages or on an *A* to *F* scale. Semester grades will be recorded on an *A* to *F* basis. Within the credits required for graduation, there are 160 required credits that all Nebraska students must successfully complete.

Incomplete grades are assigned in cases in which the student's work is incomplete at the end of the grading period. This may be the result of absence caused by illness or other excused reasons.

Students are reminded that incomplete grades received must be made up within a period of **two weeks ten (10) school days** of the close of the grading period. Incompletes are changed to an "F" after this time. Staff may use incompletes as conditional grades at the end of the first semester when a student's work is judged below passing but the instructor feels that credit may be earned if the student produces a passing grade in the second semester with the principal's permission.

A+	=	98	-	100%
A	=	90	-	97%
B+	=	87	-	89%
B	=	80	-	86%
C+	=	77	-	79%
C	=	70	-	76%
D+	=	67	-	69%
D	=	60	-	66%
F	=	Below 60%		
WP = Withdraw Passing				
WF = Withdraw Failing				
INC = Incomplete				

VI-G Class Ranking and Grade Point Average

The student's official high school grade point average (GPA) is based on a minimum of eight (8) semesters of studies in order to allow students sufficient opportunity for demonstrating achievement.

Temporary GPA calculations are used in determining Top 10% for recognition annually by the Board of Education and are sent to colleges requesting information for admission.

Students approved and who complete early graduation requirements will receive their official GPA based on seven (7) completed semesters. [CPS Board Policy 611.06]

VI-H Grade Point Average (GPA) for Class of 2019 and 2020

The cumulative grade point average is computed at the end of each semester beginning with grade 9. The final class rank and final GPA after graduation are entered on the student's transcript to be filmed for permanent record.

Regular Courses (Unweighted)

A+	=	4.0
A	=	4.0
A-	=	3.0
B+	=	3.0
B	=	3.0
	=	2.7
	=	2.3
C	=	2.0
C-	=	1.7
D+	=	1.3
D	=	1.0
D-	=	0.7
F	=	0.0

Advanced Placement Classes ONLY:

A+	=	5.2
A	=	5.0
A-	=	4.7
B+	=	4.3
B	=	4.0
B-	=	3.7
C+	=	3.3
C	=	3.0
C-	=	2.7
D+	=	1.3
D	=	1.0
D-	=	0.7
F	=	0.0

All classes at Columbus High School are used to determine the student's GPA. The GPA is determined by multiplying each letter grade earned by its point value. The sum is determined and then divided by the total number of classes.

Example: A student received seven grades during a semester: 2 A's, 1 B-, 1 C+, 1 D, 1 F and 1 B+ for an AP class. The GPA will be calculated as follows:

	A = 4.0	
	A = 4.0	
	B- = 2.7	
	C+ = 2.3	
	D = 1.0	
	F = 0.0	
AP	B+ = 4.3	
TOTAL: 18.3		18.3 divided by 7 = 2.61 GPA

VI-Ha Grade Point Average (GPA) for Class of 2021 and Beyond

A cumulative grade point average and class rank will be determined at the end of each semester. All weighted grade courses will be included. Advanced Placement and Honors courses will be the only courses to receive weighted grade status.

Regular Courses (Unweighted)				Weighted Grade Courses			
A+	=	4.0	98 - 100%	A+	=	5.0	98 - 100%
A	=	4.0	90 - 97%	A	=	5.0	90 - 97%
B+	=	3.0	87 - 89%	B+	=	4.0	87 - 89%
B	=	3.0	80 - 86%	B	=	4.0	80 - 86%
C+	=	2.0	77 - 79%	C+	=	3.0	77 - 79%
C	=	2.0	70 - 76%	C	=	3.0	70 - 76%
D+	=	1.0	67 - 69%	D+	=	1.0	67 - 69%
D	=	1.0	60 - 66%	D	=	1.0	60 - 66%
F	=	0.0	Below 60%	F	=	0.0	Below 60%

INCOMPLETE GRADES

Any student who has received an "Incomplete" grade during the Semester 1 grading period must have the "I" removed within 10-school days following the start of Semester 2 classes. The subject teacher is to issue a failing grade for only the work not completed and then compute the grade for the grading period. Any "Incomplete" on the end of the year report card must be changed within 10-days of the last day of school. It is the teacher's responsibility to finalize the incomplete grade during the 10-day grace period. Any extenuating circumstances are to be shared with the grade level administrator for approval of an extension to the deadline date.

All classes at Columbus High School are used to determine the student's GPA. The GPA is determined by multiplying each letter grade earned by its point value. The sum is determined and then divided by the total number of classes.

Example: A student received seven grades during a semester: 2 A's, 1 B-, 1 C+, 1 D, 1 F and 1 B+ for an AP class. The GPA will be calculated as follows:

A = 4.0
A = 4.0
B+ = 3.3

	C+ = 2.3	18.6 divided by 7 = 2.65 GPA
	D = 1.0	
	F = 0.0	
AP	B+ = 4.0	
TOTAL: 18.6		

VI-I Grades – Transcripts – Transferring out of District

Students transferring to other schools or institutions outside of the Columbus High School are to report to the **counseling guidance** office to get the necessary paperwork. Students must properly check out of school, return all books, computer, case and charger, and all instructional materials, and pay all fines. Additional fines will be assessed for books and materials not returned. All fines are to be paid in full before transcripts and student records will be released to other institutions, students, parent(s)/guardian(s), or other sources requesting them.

VI-J Grades - Honor Roll

Honor roll is computed at the end of each semester.

A Honor Roll 4.0 or higher

B Honor Roll 3.5 or better with no grade below *B*

Students in the top 10% of their class are recognized in the spring by the Board of Education. Students must be enrolled in 20 credits per semester to be eligible for Honor Roll.

VI-K National Honor Society

Eligibility Requirements for National Honor Society

Students in Grades 10, 11, and 12 who have achieved a 3.5 cumulative grade point average are eligible to apply for membership to the Discoverer Chapter of the National Honor Society. Selection to National Honor Society is based on scholarship, leadership, service, and character by a vote of the Faculty Council, appointed annually by the building principal. Application information will be mailed to qualifying students on or before September 30th of each year. All applications must be completed in their entirety and submitted by the fall deadline to be considered for membership. New members will be provided with a written list of chapter obligations. Membership to the Discoverer Chapter of National Honor Society is continuous as long as members adhere to chapter's standards and remain in good standing throughout their high school career.

Good Standing, Discipline and Dismissal Due Process Guidelines

Chapter advisors will periodically review member performance and academic record for compliance and fulfillment of chapter obligations as described in the chapter bylaws. Should a member's conduct be in violation of chapter guidelines, it is the responsibility of the chapter advisor to inform the member in writing of the nature of the violation, the time period given for improvement, and a warning of the possible consequences for non-resolution of the deficiency. The student, advisor, parent, and administrator will follow up the letter with a conference. If the student does not satisfactorily make improvement in the specified time period, that student is subject to disciplinary measures considered appropriate by the Faculty Council. The Faculty Council can elect to place the member on inactive status (sometimes referred to as suspension or probation), during which time the member is considered to be "not in good standing" with the chapter, although technically the member still retains his/her NHS membership.

A member is never dismissed automatically from NHS for failing to maintain standards, not meeting member obligations, or even being found guilty of violating school rules or the law. In the case of a flagrant violation of school rules or the law, the Faculty Council may conduct a dismissal hearing. Prior to any vote on dismissal, the Faculty Council will investigate thoroughly before any action is taken.

Graduation Ceremony Recognition

To be recognized as a member of the Discoverer Chapter of National Honor Society at graduation, seniors must be active members in good standing. Generally, the phrase "in good standing" means that the member is maintaining the standards by which he or she was selected, has fulfilled or is fulfilling all obligations of membership including applicable dues, meeting attendance requirements, service obligations, etc., and has not gotten into trouble where school rules or the law are concerned. Eligibility for acknowledgement at graduation will be confirmed by April 15th of each

year by the chapter advisor to the building principal. National Honor Society seniors in good standing will have their names published in the graduation program and wear a NHS medallion at the graduation ceremony.

VI-L Student ID

All students need to display a current, intact CHS student ID card for lunch, checking out materials in the IMC, and for the purpose of identification. All students must identify themselves with their ID card when requested to do so. Failure to comply is insubordination. Students will be issued their first card free of charge. Duplicate IDs may be obtained in the main office for a \$5 replacement fee.

VI-M Instructional Media Center

Fines for overdue books will be assessed at the rate of 10 cents per day. A day is counted at 3:45 p.m. each school day. Assessment for lost materials will be based on the cost of the replacement. IMC hours are **7:15 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.** will be posted outside of the entrance on a daily basis.

VI-N Lost and Found

All lost and found articles should be taken to and claimed in the main office.

VI-O Lunch Procedures

Students must use their intact student ID with barcode as they go through the lunch line. Students who do not have their student ID card must report to the end of the serving line. Students may deposit money into their account before school, during lunch periods or **by using the online option.**

The Columbus Public Schools requests that no student may bring in or have delivered commercially prepared food (e.g., McDonald's, Burger King, Subway, Pizza Hut, Taco John's, etc.) Students may bring an appropriate sack lunch prepared at home. Any student requiring a special medical diet can bring a sack lunch prepared at home and gain permission to use school refrigeration for cooling purposes. Students are responsible for maintaining a clean cafeteria environment including their immediate table area. Breakfast is served daily from 7:00 to 8:00 a.m. in the cafeteria.

Nondiscrimination Statement: In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity in any program or activity conducted or funded by the USDA.

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 Agency (State or local) where they applied for benefits. 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.

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, 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 the USDA by one of these methods:

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
3. Email: program.intake@usda.gov

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

VI-Oa Cafeteria Guidelines – Student Responsibilities

1. Sit properly at your table, using acceptable table manners.
2. Handle food and drink appropriately.
3. A maximum of eight (8) chairs/students at each round table and four (4) chairs/students at each square table are allowed.
4. Return chairs to the “in” position at the end of the breakfast or lunch period.
5. School rules for student conduct apply during the breakfast or lunch period.
6. Maintain order and cleanliness around your table area.
7. Respect the space of those around you. This includes avoiding loud talking and physical and/or verbal acts of aggression.
8. Clean up after yourself. Dispose of food and paper at the tray return area.
9. Students requesting restroom privileges are to use the restroom closest to the cafeteria.
10. Students may spend only one period in the lunchroom each day.

Students who fail to abide by the designated cafeteria guidelines and student responsibilities may forfeit their right to dine in the cafeteria with their peers at administrative discretion.

VI-Ob CPS Unpaid Meal Policy

The purpose of this policy is to establish limitations on the number of breakfasts or lunches a student may receive when the account balance is not sufficient to cover those costs, to provide for alternate meals to be served to students when account balances reach certain limits, and to protect the District from such unpaid financial obligations.

Families are encouraged to keep account balances in the positive at all times. Deposits are accepted at each school building and at the Administration Building. Deposits may be made by cash or check. Account balances may be obtained through the parent access portal in PowerSchool. If online access is not available, the District Food Service office may be contacted at (402) 563-7055.

Each day that a student eligible for reduced price or paid meals brings the actual amount of the cost of the meal, that student will be provided a breakfast and/or lunch, and the amount received will be applied to the cost of that meal rather than to reduce a prior negative balance.

In the event that a student's account balance reaches -\$15.00, the student will be offered an alternate meal meeting reimbursable requirements of the USDA school nutrition program. The District will also provide the necessary forms for the student's parent or guardian to apply for free or reduced price meals. Such benefits may be applied for at any time during the school year.

To the extent possible, all actions pertaining to students with negative account balances will be handled as confidentially as possible. Communications regarding account balance concerns will be provided in writing by an assigned District Food Service staff member and/or by automated phone calls. Students will not be used as couriers of such information.

This policy shall be provided in writing on an annual basis to students and parents through the District website and also in the annual back to school mailing and in school handbooks. The policy shall also be provided in writing to households transferring into the District during the school year. It shall also be provided to school administrators and others charged with the enforcement of this policy.

This policy shall be reviewed and adopted on an annual basis. [CPS Board Policy 802.06]

VI-Oc Closed-campus Lunch

All students are required to eat lunch at school. All food is to be consumed in the cafeteria. Areas of the building and grounds open to students during lunch periods are the cafeteria and restrooms **closest to the cafeteria**. ~~across from the office with permission from supervising staff~~. All other areas are off limits to students during the lunch periods. No restaurant prepared food may be delivered for the purpose of consumption during a CHS lunch period.

VI-P Passes

Students in the hall during the instructional period must have a signed orange pass from a staff member and must be wearing their student ID. Students who fail to comply with this rule will have their pass privileges suspended for an amount of time based on frequency and severity of the offense. **Unless for a medical emergency and/or an issue of**

safety, all student pass privileges will not be permitted during the first and last 10 minutes of each instructional period.

VI-Pa Passes to the Nurse

During the instructional day, **which includes lunch, homeroom, and individual study periods**, students are not allowed in the nurse's office unless first receiving a signed pass from a staff member. Students will be allowed to sign out to the nurse's office, at teacher discretion, only for medical, emergency and/or health related needs. If a student has a chronic medical condition (diabetes, asthma, hypoglycemia, etc.) a Red Pass can be obtained from the nurse with administrative approval to permit the student immediate access to the nurse, if medically necessary.

Students who have a substitute teacher must receive permission from the nurse's office prior to receiving a pass to the nurse. The substitute teacher will phone the nurse's office before the student is permitted to leave the classroom. A student with a Red Pass will be permitted to leave for the nurse's office immediately.

VI-Q Care of Building

Every attempt has been made to provide Columbus High students with an attractive, secure learning environment. The care and protection of our building and its furnishings are essential to its quality appearance.

Posters must be approved by the administration before being placed in the building. **Poster committees and sponsors are reminded that bulletins or signs must be hung using white Command Performance strips.** The group displaying the posters should remove the poster the first day of school following the advertised event. Three commercial flyers are permitted per event with the approval of an administrator in designated community announcement areas. Office officials will hang these flyers. Posters or displays should not be taped or posted on painted or varnished surfaces. Students must use the appropriate white board surfaces available for displays.

It is the responsibility of all students to keep the school and its grounds clean and attractive. Students who deliberately create a mess will be held responsible by administrative disciplinary action, restitution for damages, and clean-up cost.

VI-R Schedule - Class Loads

Underclassmen must have the equivalent of 7 periods of classes each semester, unless administratively approved. Seniors may be scheduled for late start or early dismissal if the following required qualifications are met:

- The student must have 12th grade credit standing.
- The student must be enrolled in enough classes to cover graduation requirements. This could not include correspondence courses.
- To be eligible, the student must have **two consecutive semesters earned a 2.5 (or better) GPA in the previous semester or a cumulative GPA of 3.0.**
- The student must not have failed a class the previous semester.
- The student must submit a parent permission form to guidance before the first full day of classes in August or January. Due to scheduling issues, late forms cannot be accepted. Parent signatures will be verified through a telephone call.

VI-S Schedule Changes – Prior to the Start of School

~~Any changes that need to be made in schedules will take place from 9:00 a.m. to noon, one week before school starts.~~ The last opportunity to make any schedule changes for the 1st semester will be made during the first three days of classes. Students who make changes during those three days may, at the teacher's discretion, have to make up work for the new course. Any schedule change will require parental approval. Students are expected to accept responsibility for their decisions and remain accountable for these decisions. Any exceptions to this time frame must have school counselor AND administrative approval.

Because of all the complexities of the scheduling process, the following guidelines have been devised for making schedule changes:

- New students will be scheduled before any existing schedule is changed.
- Student needs will be met as mandated by their IEPs and/or Section 504 Plans, if applicable. The needs of these students will be monitored and reviewed.

- Freshmen and sophomore schedule changes will be considered only after juniors and seniors. The counselors will check teacher-student loads before adding students to classes.
- **No lunch or study hall changes will be made except for internships or by administrative request.**
- Extenuating circumstances must be present for an administrative request to occur.

VI-Sa Schedule Changes – After School Starts

Schedule Change Form REQUIRED:

Registration in the spring determines the classes and number of sections that are offered during the next school year. As a result, students who select year-long classes at registration will have to continue in those classes unless their first semester coursework resulted in a failing grade and/or their teacher recommends a schedule change. Students failing a semester of a year-long course must have done the following for a schedule change to occur:

- 1) met with the teacher to develop a corrective plan of assistance;
- 2) followed the plan of assistance;
- 3) attended a conference which included the teacher, counselor, and parent; and
- 4) completed all assignments, quizzes, and tests to the best of their ability.

With courses that contain varying levels (e.g. Accelerated Algebra II and Algebra II), students cannot move to an easier level if they have maintained a B or higher-grade average. Students who have a grade average lower than a B must have done the following for a schedule change to occur:

- 1) met with the teacher to develop a corrective plan of assistance;
- 2) followed the plan of assistance;
- 3) attended a conference which included the teacher, counselor, and parent; and
- 4) completed all assignments, quizzes, and tests to the best of their ability.

If a student continues to have difficulty after these interventions have occurred, the student will be allowed to move to an easier level of coursework. Exceptions to these procedures will only be considered if extenuating circumstances are evident.

Students who request to drop a year-long elective class, including the fourth year of math or science, but are not failing must have filled out a schedule change request by the course mid-point. In the request, the student must indicate why he/she wants to change the class. The teacher will have to indicate the current grade, level of effort, and/or any behavior issues. The counselors will review the schedule change requests with the appropriate administrator and see that there is space in the new class. Independent Study and requests to be a teacher aide are NOT options for dropping a class. The counselors will also contact parents regarding these requests.

VI-Sb Schedule Changes – Administrative

Students who drop a class due to academic or behavior issues will be assigned In-class Suspension and will receive a WP (withdrawn passing) or WF (withdrawn failing) as determined by the administrator. The withdrawal grade will appear on the transcript as a semester grade but will not be used to compute the student's GPA.

VI-T School Resource Officer

Columbus Public Schools will have the services of a School Resource Officer during school hours. Columbus High School works closely with the officers of the court and will use the School Resource Officer in matters relative to federal, state, and local violations. The School Resource Officer and police/sheriff's officers are allowed to interview students during the school day in the presence of a school official. Diversion, trackers, probation and parole officers are also in regular contact with school officials.

VI-U Visitors

Students may not bring visitors with them to classes during the regular school day. All other visitors to the building must have approval from a building administrator to remain in the building. All visitors to the building must check in at the front office and wear a visible visitor badge.

VI-V Parent/Guardian Involvement and Participation

- The Parent/Guardian and Student Handbook shall include Policy 1005.02 and provide parents/guardians with the information as to when and how they can access instructional materials.

- The Parent/Guardian and Student Handbook shall be mailed to the home sent home with students. If sent home with students, parents/guardians shall return to the school a signed form indicating that they have received the Parent/Guardian and Student Handbook.
- Parent/guardian permission is required for out-of-town field trips. Parent/guardian notification is required for in-town field trips. See also Policy 607.05.
- The Parent/Guardian and Student Handbook shall include an invitation to parents/guardians to attend and monitor instructional activities.
- Administrators shall notify parents/guardians in advance of special activities, such as assemblies, unless time does not permit.
- If a principal denies a parent's/guardian's request to attend and monitor instructional and/or special activities, the principal shall notify the parent/guardian of his/her rights of appeal as described in this regulation. Also, a full report including, but not limited to, the circumstances and rationale for the denial shall be sent to the Superintendent.
- Administrators shall notify parents/guardians if a substitute teacher will teach their child for four or more weeks.
- Administrators shall have available for parent/guardian access and review the curriculum, instructional materials, and school climate surveys used in their schools.
- Administrators shall provide additional opportunities for parents/guardians to review the materials listed above. Parents/guardians shall be notified in advance of such opportunities. Administrators shall take advantage of these opportunities to inform parents/guardians of how they can be more involved in the schools by contacting school staff and/or the Volunteer Coordinator at the Administration Building.
- Parents/guardians may obtain copies of curriculum for review by checking them out from the professional library located at the Administration Building. Parents/guardians may obtain a personal copy of materials at their own expense.
- Parents/guardians shall be notified in the Parent/Guardian and Student Handbook that lessons may be taught by a school counselor in the classroom setting. Lessons shall follow the district's curriculum.
- Parent/guardian permission is required for student participation in topical counseling groups or individual counseling sessions conducted by school counselors unless the student's safety is in question.
- Parents/guardians are encouraged to notify teachers if there are topics of concern to them. Teachers shall notify the parents/guardians in advance if these topics are to be used in planned lessons. The administrator shall be responsible for annually advising staff in August that there are subjects which may be sensitive or of concern to parents/guardians as part of classroom discussion. Such subjects which may arise that are not in the District curriculum may include, but are not limited to, death and dying; religious events and holidays; magic, witches, and sorcery. Teachers are also to be reminded by principals that any classroom discussion of a controversial topic should be in accordance with current Board Policy.
- Parents/guardians shall be notified in advance of family life instruction involving human sexuality (grades 5-12). Permission slips will be included with the notification. If the notification is mailed to the home, the school shall require a parental/guardian response only if the parent/guardian does not give permission for the student to participate. If notification is sent home with the students, the school shall require a parent/guardian response indicating whether the student will or will not participate.
- If a parent/guardian has an objection to any instructional material or school experience, the school shall provide the parent/guardian with an appropriate form which may be used to express his or her objection. Forms and appeal procedures may be obtained from building secretaries.
- It shall be the responsibility of the administrator to notify parents/guardians in advance when their children will be taking standardized tests.
- It shall be the responsibility of the administrator to notify parents/guardians in advance of school sponsored surveys beyond the school climate surveys. If the notification is mailed to the home, the school shall require a parent/guardian response only if the parent/guardian does not give permission for the student to participate. If notification is sent home with the students, the school shall require a parent/guardian response indicating whether the student will or will not participate.
- The Board of Education shall hold an annual public hearing on Parent/guardian involvement and participation in accordance with the statute.

VI-W Non-school Sponsored Travel

On occasion, students have the opportunity to participate in trips outside the identified school calendar year that have an apparent connection to the District but which in fact are not school-sponsored. Some examples are (1) travel with a club sport team, even though the club team may be coached by our high school coach; (2) a band traveling to an out-of-state band contest that is arranged by a booster club; and (3) a world languages language teacher taking students abroad during the summer.

These opportunities are often worthwhile and beneficial to students. The message we want to make clear, however, is that these opportunities are not school-sponsored activities. All arrangements for such trips, including costs, travel, supervision, and safety are the responsibility of the group or person making the trip available to students. Columbus Public Schools has no responsibility for such trips. Anyone who is uncertain as to whether or not a particular opportunity is school-sponsored should contact the superintendent, building principal or activities director.

Every effort should be made to restrict summer travel to in-state camps and competitions. Special circumstances may arise where an event or opportunity for students is not offered within the state for certain activities. Under these circumstances, travel should be limited to regional travel that would include states that border Nebraska (i.e. Kansas, Iowa, South Dakota, and Colorado).

VI-X Social Media

In an effort to better inform parents and the community, Columbus Public Schools will be using social media to share information. Social media includes, but is not limited to, Facebook, Twitter, blogging, and podcasting. When posting information on social networks sites (such as Facebook), the District will only post group photos/videos with no names of students being used. If a student's name is used, there will be no photo. Students will not be allowed to post on any social media pages from the district. Social media will be monitored by each building principal and be used only with their approval.

VI-Y Risk of Facebook, Twitter, Snapchat, Instagram, and other Social Networking Sites

These sites are public sources of information. Your school administrators, your parents, and law enforcement may see the information contained on these pages or posts. This material is also accessible to people whom you do not 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 in any social networking format may affect you years after the fact.

What you do and say now on Facebook, Twitter, Snapchat, Instagram, and other social networking sites and apps 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 of it. Criminal charges may be filed against you based on information posted on such sites.

VI-Y Concussions

FACTS FOR STUDENTS & ATHLETES

What is a concussion?

A concussion is a brain injury that:

- is caused by a bump, blow, or jolt to the head or body.
- can change the way your brain normally works.
- can occur during practices or games in any sport or recreational activity.
- can happen even if you haven't been knocked out.
- can be serious even if you've just been "dinged" or "had your bell rung."

All concussions are serious. A concussion can affect your ability to do schoolwork and other activities (such as playing video games, working on a computer, studying, driving, or exercising). Most people with a concussion get better, but it is important to give your brain time to heal.

What are the symptoms of a concussion?

You can't see a concussion, but you might notice one or more of the symptoms listed below or that you "don't feel right" soon after, a few days later, or even weeks after the injury.

- headache or "pressure" in head
- nausea or vomiting
- balance problems or dizziness
- double or blurry vision

- sensitivity to light or noise
- feeling sluggish, hazy, foggy, or groggy
- difficulty paying attention
- memory problems
- confusion

What should I do if I think I have a concussion?

- Tell your coaches and your parents. Never ignore a bump or blow to the head even if you feel fine. Also, tell your coach right away if you think you have a concussion or if one of your teammates might have a concussion.
- Get a medical check-up. A doctor or other healthcare professional can tell if you have a concussion and when it is OK to return to play.
- Give yourself time to get better. If you have a concussion, your brain needs time to heal. While your brain is still healing, you are much more likely to have another concussion. Repeated concussions can increase the time it takes for you to recover and may cause more damage to your brain. It is important to rest and not return to play until you get the OK from your health care professional that you are symptom-free.

How can I prevent a concussion?

Every sport is different, but there are steps you can take to protect yourself.

- Use the proper sports equipment, including personal protective equipment. In order for equipment to protect you, it must be the following:
 - the right equipment for the game, position, or activity
 - worn correctly and the correct size and fit
 - used every time you play or practice
- Follow your coach's rules for safety and the rules of the sport.
- Practice good sportsmanship at all times.

If you think you have a concussion:

Don't hide it. Report it. Take time to recover. It's better to miss one game than the whole season.

For more information and to order additional materials free-of-charge, visit: www.cdc.gov/Concussion.

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

2010

FACTS FOR PARENTS

Parents, if your teen reports one or more symptoms of concussion listed below, or if you notice the symptoms yourself, keep your teen out of play and seek medical attention right away.

Signs Observed by Parents or Guardians	Symptoms Reported by Student
• appears dazed or stunned • is confused about assignment or position • forgets an instruction • is unsure of game, score, or opponent • moves clumsily • answers questions slowly • loses consciousness (even briefly) • shows mood, behavior, or personality changes • can't recall events prior to hit or fall • can't recall events after hit or fall	• headache or "pressure" in head • nausea or vomiting • balance problems or dizziness • double or blurry vision • sensitivity to light or noise • feeling sluggish, hazy, foggy, or groggy • concentration or memory problems • confusion • just not "feeling right" or is "feeling down"

How can you help your teen prevent a concussion?

Every sport is different, but there are steps your teens can take to protect themselves from concussion and other injuries.

- Make sure they wear the right protective equipment for their activity. It should fit properly, be well maintained, and be worn consistently and correctly.
- Ensure that they follow their coach's rules for safety and the rules of the sport.
- Encourage them to practice good sportsmanship at all times.

What should you do if you think your teen has a concussion?

1. Keep your teen out of play. If your teen has a concussion, her/his brain needs time to heal. Don't let your teen return to play the day of the injury and until a healthcare professional, experienced in evaluating for concussion, says your teen is symptom-free and it's OK to return to play. A repeat concussion that occurs before the brain recovers from the first—usually within a short period of time (hours, days, or weeks)—can slow recovery or increase the likelihood of having long-term problems. In rare cases, repeat concussions can result in edema (brain swelling), permanent brain damage, and even death.
2. Seek medical attention right away. A health care professional experienced in evaluating for concussion will be able to decide how serious the concussion is and when it is safe for your teen to return to sports.
3. Teach your teen that it's not smart to play with a concussion. Rest is key after a concussion. Sometimes athletes wrongly believe that it shows strength and courage to play injured. Discourage others from pressuring injured athletes to play. Don't let your teen convince you that s/he's "just fine."
4. Tell all of your teen's coaches and the student's school nurse about ANY concussion. Coaches, school nurses, and other school staff should know if your teen has ever had a concussion. Your teen may need to limit activities while s/he is recovering from a concussion. Things such as studying, driving, working on a computer, playing video games, or exercising may cause concussion symptoms to reappear or get worse. Talk to your health care professional, as well as your teen's coaches, school nurses, and teachers. If needed, they can help adjust your teen's school activities during her/his recovery.

If you think your teen has a concussion:

Don't assess it yourself. Take him/her out of play.

Seek the advice of a healthcare professional.

It's better to miss one game than the whole season.

For more information and to order additional materials free-of-charge, visit: www.cdc.gov/Concussion.

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Centers For Disease Control And Prevention. June 2010

SECTION VII

COLUMBUS PUBLIC SCHOOLS HS STUDENT ACCEPTABLE USE AGREEMENT

VII-A Lost-Missing-Stolen Device

If a parent or student determines that the student's device is lost, missing or stolen, please follow the appropriate procedure below:

While at school: Call or report to the High School Office (402-563-7050) if Ms. Lynne Shonka (CHS Technology Associate) is in the building, the call will be transferred to the Technology Office who will then notify Mr. Jason Schapmann (Assistant High School Principal) and Mr. Jeff Uchtman (CPS Network Administrator).

If Ms. Shonka (CHS Technology Associate) is not in the building, the information will then be shared directly to Mr. Schapmann (Assistant High School Principal), Mr. Uchtman (CPS Network Administrator), and Mr. Corey Underdahl (CPS Technology Associate).

Outside the school day: Call the CPS Technology Hotline at 402-563-7069.

When calling in to report a lost or stolen device, please be prepared to provide the following information (If after hours, please leave the information on the answering machine):

- Student's name
- Person's name making report
- Location where computer was when it went missing

- Contact number to be called back

*Parents: If you believe the computer is stolen, please contact the Police Department's non-emergency number 402-564-3201 immediately.

If at any point the computer is located, please contact CPS Technology Hotline (402-563-7069) and report it as "FOUND."

VII-B Receiving and Returning your Device

1. Receiving Your Device

Parent/Guardian Orientation (Required for all new students)

All parents/guardians and their student are required to sign the Columbus Public Schools Acceptable Use Agreement (AUA) before a device can be issued to their student.

It is highly recommended one or both parent(s)/guardian(s) attend the Parent/Guardian Digital Device Orientation. The session typically lasts about an hour and covers new issues or items to which parents ought to be aware regarding Internet communication and access. All students will be required to take part in digital citizenship lessons and activities during the school year. Any student who misses the activities will be required to make up the lessons or face loss of access to his/her student device.

Returning Students to CHS

Returning students should bring their fully charged Chromebook to school on the first day of classes.

Device Distribution / Transfer and New Students to CHS

Students and parents must sign the Acceptable Use Agreement (AUA) in advance of receiving their device. All students new to CHS or those who were unable to attend orientation will be able to pick up their device from the Columbus High Technology Office located in the high school media center. Both students and their parents/guardians must complete the Digital Device/ Digital Citizenship requirements and sign the AUA prior to picking up a student device.

2. Returning Your Device

End of Year

Graduating seniors will turn in their device AND all peripherals.

Failure to turn in a device will result in the student's being charged the full replacement costs.

At the discretion of the superintendent, the district may also file a report of stolen property with the Columbus Police Department for any device and/or issued peripherals which are not returned.

Transferring/Withdrawing Students

Students who transfer out of or withdraw from the Columbus Public Schools must turn in their device and all peripheral items to the High School Technology Office on their last day of attendance as part of the high school check-out procedure (Pink Form).

Failure to turn in the device will result in the parent/guardian's being charged the full replacement costs for the device and peripherals. Unpaid fines and fees of students leaving the Columbus Public Schools may be turned over to a collection agency.

At the discretion of the superintendent, the district may also file a report of stolen property with the Columbus Police Department within 48 hours of the student's verified final day of attendance.

3. Equipment Repair and Replacement protection plan

Columbus Public Schools highly recommends that families purchase the Damage Protection Plan prior to the deployment of the device to students. The cost is \$25.00 annually for each device. Each claim covered by the protection plan will be assessed with the district covering 85% of the repair cost and the student/parent/guardian covering 15% of the repair cost, on a per incident basis, during the 2020-2021 school year.

If a student withdraws from Columbus High School and then re-enrolls later in the current school year, the coverage purchased at the student's initial registration will be reinstated.

Disclaimer: Recurring incidents of a similar nature that result in damage to the device will be reviewed and may not continue to be covered by the Damage Protection Plan.

4. Training

Students will receive regular training during the school year to address care and usage of the device as well as usage of Google Apps (Discoverer Accounts).

Regular digital citizenship training will also be provided to address respectful, responsible, and ethical use of the Internet and digital tools.

VII-C Taking Care of Your Device

1. Responsibility [See Section III-W Damage of School or Private Property]

Students are responsible for the general care of the device they have been issued by the school. Devices that are broken or fail to work properly must be taken to the CHS Technology Office. If a loaner Chromebook is needed, one will be issued to the student if available.

- Use the CPS Technology Hotline to report a lost/stolen device: 402-563-7069.
- It is recommended that you keep your Chromebook clean.
 - Approved cleaning supplies and appropriate procedures are available in the high school media center.
- Keep food and drink away from your device while it is in use.
- Cords, cables, and removable storage devices must be inserted carefully into the device.
- Never carry your device while the screen is open.
- Keep pets away from your device and peripherals.
- Student devices must remain free of any writing, drawing, and inappropriate stickers, or labels. See guidelines on “Personalizing the Device” on the next page.
- Devices will be examined for cleanliness and wear at the time of check in.
- It is recommended that your device be shut down when not in use to conserve battery life.
- Shoving your device into a locker or wedging it into a book bag may damage the screen. The device should always be placed in a bookbag or backpack that has a specific pouch designed to protect digital devices.
- Heavy objects should never be placed on top of your student device.
- Exposing your student device to extreme hot or cold temperatures or direct sunlight for extended periods of time may cause damage to the device.
 - DO NOT leave the device in a vehicle overnight or over prolonged periods of hot or cold temperatures.
 - We recommend that you bring your device to room temperature prior to turning it on.
- Leaving your device unattended or unsecured could result in damage or theft for which you will be liable.

2. Device Protection

Each student will provide his/her own bag for his/her device. It should be used whenever the device is being transported or not in use.

The CPS-issued hard shell plastic covers are must be in place on a student device for the damage protection plan to be considered in force.

3. Carrying Your Device

Always transport your device with care and in a manner that protects the device from damage.

- Never lift or carry your device by the screen.
- Never carry your device with the screen open.

4. Screen Care

The device screen can be easily damaged if subjected to heavy objects, rough treatment, some cleaning solvents, and other liquids. The screens are particularly sensitive to damage from excessive pressure.

- Do not put pressure on the top of the device when it is closed.
- Do not store a device with the screen open.
- Make sure there is nothing on the keyboard before closing the screen (e.g. pens, pencils, or disks).
- Clean the screen only with a soft, dry microfiber cloth or anti-static cloth.
 - Appropriate cleaning supplies are located at the IMC cleaning station.

VII-D Using Your Device

Students are expected to bring a fully charged device to school every day and bring their device to all classes unless specifically advised not to do so by their teacher.

1. Device Being Repaired

- A loaner device may be issued to students when they leave their school-issued device for repair.
- A student borrowing a device will be responsible for any damage to, or loss of, the loaned device.
- A device on loan to a student having his/her device repaired must be checked out and checked in daily at the technology counter located in the IMC. If student/parent agrees to assume responsibility for a second device, the student may take the loaner computer from the building. (A signed checkout document is required.)
- Students will be contacted when their device is ready for pick-up from the CHS Technology Office.
- During holiday or spring breaks, students may contact the high school main office to arrange for assistance regarding their device.

2. Charging the Device

- The device should be brought to school each day with a full charge.
- Students should charge their device at home every evening.
- A complimentary charging station with power adapter is available to students in the High School IMC on a first-come-first-served basis.
- Students may also charge their device before school in the cafeteria at the counter.

3. Personalizing the Device

- Appropriate personalization will be permitted. Personalization of your device must adhere to the symbolic expression guideline as stated in Section I-J of the student handbook.
- Students may add school appropriate music, photos, and videos to their device. Columbus Public Schools reserves the right to limit and/or deny access to any non-educational application or file found on the device.
- Concerns regarding compliance with technology guidelines may result in spot checks of the device by teachers, administrators and/or technology support staff at any time.

4. Sound

- Sound must be muted at all times unless permission is obtained from a teacher
- Headphones/earbuds may be used at the discretion of the classroom teacher.

5. Logging into the Device

- Students will log into their Chromebook using their school-issued student ID.
- Students are not to share their account passwords with anyone other than their parent/guardian.
- In the event of a compromised account, the Columbus Public Schools Technology Department reserves the right to disable a student's account.

6. Using Your Device Outside of School

- Students are encouraged to use their device at home and other locations outside of school.
- A WiFi Internet connection will be necessary for device use; however, some applications can be used while not connected to the Internet.
- Students are bound by the Columbus Public Schools Use of Technology Policy, the Columbus High School Student Handbook, and this Acceptable Use Agreement (AUA).

VII-E Operating System and Security

Students may not use or install any operating system on their device other than the current version of Chrome OS that is supported and managed by the district.

1. No Expectation of Privacy

- Neither students nor their parents have any expectation of confidentiality or privacy with respect to any usage of a district device, regardless of whether that use is for District-related or personal purposes, other than as specifically provided by law. By using a District-provided device, students agree to such access, monitoring, and recording of their use.
- The District may, without prior notice or consent, log into, supervise, access, view, monitor, and record use of the student device at any time for any reason. By using a District-provided device, students agree to such access, monitoring, and recording of their use.

2. Monitoring Software

- Teachers, school administrators, and the technology department staff may use monitoring software that allows them to view the screens and activity on any student device. This software is designed to help students stay engaged and for teachers to provide guidance within the lessons. This software is not available outside of the classroom.

3. Updates

- Updating the device Operating System will be handled by District Tech via our software management system. Updating of the device will be done at the district level.

4. Virus Protection

- There is no need for additional virus protection on the current district device - Google Chromebook.

5. Content Filter

- The District utilizes an Internet content filter that is in compliance with the federally mandated Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA). All Chromebooks, regardless of physical location (in or out of school), will have all Internet activity protected and monitored by the district. When a student comes across a website that is blocked in school, it will most likely be blocked out of school.
- If an educationally valuable site is blocked, students should contact the classroom teacher or media specialist who will, in turn, submit a Helpdesk ticket to request the site be unblocked.

6. Inspection

- Students may be selected at random to provide their device for inspection. The purpose for inspection will be to check for proper care and maintenance as well as inappropriate content being carried into the school.

VII-F Software on Your Device

1. Originally Installed Software

- Chromebook software is delivered via the Chrome management console and web store. These are web-based applications that do not require installation space on a hard drive. The software originally installed on the Chromebook must remain on the Chromebook in usable condition and be easily accessible at all times.
- All Chromebooks are supplied with the latest version of Chrome (OS) and other applications useful in an educational environment. District Technology staff will periodically install updates when the computer is idle or restarted.

2. Google Apps for Education (Discoverer Accounts)

- Chromebooks integrate with the Google Apps for Education suite of productivity and collaboration tools. This suite includes Google Docs (word processing), Sheets (spreadsheets), Slides (presentations), Drawings, Forms, Sites, Gmail, Groups and Blogger. All work is stored within Google Drive.
- Google accounts not in our @discoverers.org domain will not be able to sign into the device. (Example gmail.com accounts)

VII-G Repairing or Replacing Your Device

Technical Support

All Chromebooks in need of repair must be brought to the Columbus High School Technology Office as soon as possible.

1. Vendor Warranty

- The device includes a three-year hardware warranty from the vendor.
- The vendor warrants the Chromebook from defects in materials and workmanship.
- The limited warranty covers normal use, mechanical breakdown, and faulty construction. The vendor will provide normal replacement parts necessary to repair the device or, if required, a device replacement.
- The vendor warranty does not warrant against damage caused by misuse, abuse, or accidents.
- All repair or warranty work must be performed through the CHS Technology Office.
 - Estimated Costs (See Appendix A)

2. Accidental Damage Protection

- Columbus Public Schools strongly encourages families to purchase the damage protection plan prior to the deployment of the device to your child. The cost is \$25.00 annually for each student device. Each claim covered by the protection plan will be assessed on a per incident basis during the current school year at a rate of 85% liability to the district and 15% liability to the student.
- The Columbus Public Schools will require that a police report be submitted in cases of theft. Fraudulent reporting of theft will be turned over to the police for prosecution. A student making a false report will also be subject to disciplinary action as outlined in the Columbus High School Student Handbook.
- Columbus Public Schools will assess device damage and repair or replace the device if the damage is determined to be accidental and within the protection guidelines. The damage protection plan does not cover for loss of the device and/or its accessories or damages caused by misuse and abuse.
- **Parents/Students will be charged for the full replacement cost of a device that has been damaged due to misuse or abuse as determined by the certified technicians.**

3. Chromebook Technical Support

- The CHS Technology Office will be the first point of contact for repair/troubleshooting of the device.
- Services provided include:
 - password recovery
 - user account support
 - coordination of warranty repair
 - distribution of replacement device
 - hardware maintenance and repair
 - restoring the device to factory default
 - OS updates

VII-H Safe and Acceptable Use of Your Device

1. Appropriate Uses and Digital Citizenship

- School-issued devices should be used for educational purposes, and students are to adhere to this Acceptable Use Agreement (AUA) and all of its corresponding administrative procedures at all times.
- Students may be required to annually pass Digital Literacy curriculum. Violations of the Acceptable Use Agreement (AUA) may result in Internet use privileges being revoked or restricted until the student recertifies through the digital literacy.
- While working in a digital and collaborative environment, students should always conduct themselves as good digital citizens by adhering to the following guidelines:
 - **Respect yourself.** I will show respect for myself through my actions. I will select online names that are appropriate. I will use caution with the information, images, and other media that I post online. I will carefully consider what personal information about my life, experiences, or relationships I post. I will not be obscene. I will act with integrity.
 - **Protect yourself.** I will ensure that the information, images, and materials I post online will not put me at risk. I will not publish my personal details, contact details, or a schedule of my activities. I will report any attacks or inappropriate behavior directed at me while online. I will protect passwords, accounts, and resources.
 - **Respect others.** I will show respect to others. I will not use electronic mediums to antagonize, bully, harass, or stalk people. I will show respect for other people in my choice of websites; I will not visit sites that are degrading to others, pornographic, racist, or inappropriate.
 - **Protect others.** I will protect others by reporting abuse and not forwarding inappropriate materials or communications. I will avoid unacceptable materials and conversations.
 - **Respect intellectual property.** I will request permission to use copyrighted or otherwise protected materials. I will suitably cite all use of websites, books, media, etc. I will acknowledge all primary sources. I will validate information. I will use and abide by the fair use rules.
 - **Protect intellectual property.** I will request to use the software and media others produce. I will purchase, license, and register all software or use available free and open source alternatives rather

than pirating software. I will purchase my music and media and refrain from distributing these in a manner that violates their licenses.

2. Columbus Public Schools Internet Use, Safety, and Computer Use Policy

- Columbus Public Schools Internet Access is to be used only for classroom related activities. This policy applies when using either school equipment or personal equipment on the district network.
- The administration reserves the right to refuse access to the Internet by Columbus Public Schools to anyone when it deems it necessary in the public interest.
- The school district's Internet access and all school-issued technology are considered "school grounds" under the Nebraska Student Discipline Act and all other provisions of state and federal law.

3. Compliance with the Law and Use of Computers / Internet [See Section III-K Academic Dishonesty (Cheating)]

- Students using the Internet will follow all laws, policies, and rules governing computers. This includes (but is not limited to) copyright laws, software publisher's rights, license agreements, acts of terrorism, assault, threats, and expectations for student and parent privacy.
- Students at Columbus Public Schools shall receive instruction in Internet safety. This curriculum will include material related to appropriate access to the Internet by minors, appropriate use of social networking sites, cyber-bullying, and other topics as are relevant in encouraging digital citizenship.
- A copy of the scope and sequence or other outline of the Internet Safety Curriculum may be found in the district Curriculum Office and each school media center.

4. Access to the Internet by Minors (individuals under the age of 18) or Adults (or individuals over the age of 18) [See Section III-V Computers / Technology Integration & Internet Use]

- Minors or adults shall:
 - not access or transmit materials that is considered obscene, pornography, harmful to minors, or otherwise inappropriate for education and/or may be considered illegal activity.
 - not use Columbus Public Schools technology or Internet resources to engage in hacking or attempts to otherwise compromise any computer or network system's security.
 - not engage in any illegal activities on the Internet.
 - only use electronic mail, chat rooms, social networking sites, and other forms of direct electronic communications for the purposes related to education within the context of a Columbus Public Schools-related assignment or activity.
 - not attempt to override or bypass any protection measure that has been put in place by Columbus Public Schools to block and/or filter access to Internet sites that are not in accordance with policies of Columbus Public Schools.
 - not disclose personal identification information on the Internet.

5. Policy Violations [See Section III-V Computers / Technology Integration & Internet Use]

- Any violation of this policy may result in the loss of access to the Internet by the student/adult involved. Additional disciplinary action may be determined in accordance with existing policies of the Columbus Public Schools, including applicable state and federal laws.
- Details and definitions of the full Columbus Public Schools Acceptable Use Policy 504.09 & 606.06 can be reviewed at any media center in the Columbus Public Schools or online at <http://columbuspublicschools.org>.
- Students shall be granted permission to access the Internet under the direction of a teacher upon proof of completion of the digital literacy curriculum from an administrator or media specialist.

6. Acceptable Use [See Section III-V Computers / Technology Integration & Internet Use]

- We believe that access to the Internet is an important educational resource for our students.
- We understand that although there are many valuable educational resources available, there are also unacceptable and offensive materials available on the Internet.
- We require efficient, ethical, courteous and legal utilization of the equipment, computers, and network resources.
 - As a safety precaution, full names or addresses are not to be revealed online.
 - Computer and network resources have been provided for educational purposes; game playing and commercial uses are prohibited.

- Sharing of individual accounts is prohibited.
 - Electronic mail (email) and other computer use or storage is not guaranteed to be private or confidential. Network or other computer use or storage areas are and will be treated as school property.
 - Computers, files, and communications may be accessed and reviewed by district personnel and may be accessed by other computer users.
 - Chain letters and inter-relay chat are misuses of the system.
 - Vandalism or "hacking" of any kind is prohibited.
 - The security of the system and the rights of other users are to be respected at all times.
 - Students or staff knowingly violating the terms of the agreement will be dealt with according to the discipline policies of the individual school building and Columbus Public Schools and/or civil authorities.
 - Such activities may result in termination of their account/access and/or expulsion from school and/or legal prosecution.
 - Any problems which arise from the use of an account are the liability or responsibility of the user. By using the computers or network system, participants agree to indemnify and hold Columbus Public Schools harmless from any claims or damages arising from such use. Columbus Public School District makes no warranties for the information or the services provided.
- 7. Privacy and Safety** [See Section III-V Computers / Technology Integration & Internet Use]
- Do not go into any chat rooms or discussion pages other than those set up by your teacher or mandated in other distance education courses.
 - Do not open, use, or change computer files that do not belong to you.
 - Do not reveal your full name, phone number, home address, social security number, credit card numbers, passwords, or passwords of other people.
 - Remember that network storage is not guaranteed to be private or confidential. District administration reserves the right to inspect your files at any time and will take the necessary steps if files are in violation of the district's Acceptable Use Policy.
 - If you inadvertently access a website that contains obscene, pornographic, or otherwise offensive material, notify a teacher, administrator and/or tech support staff immediately so that such sites can be blocked from further access.
- 8. Legal Propriety** [See Section III-K Academic Dishonesty (Cheating)]
- All students and staff must comply with trademark and copyright laws and all license agreements. Ignorance of the law is not immunity. If you are unsure, ask the Media Specialist or the Executive Director of Technology & Operations if you are in compliance with the law.
 - Plagiarism is a violation of the Columbus High School code of conduct. Give credit to all sources used, whether quoted or summarized. This includes all forms of media on the Internet, such as graphics, movies, music, and text.
- 9. Email** [See Section III-V Computers / Technology Integration & Internet Use]
- Students' email access will be through a Google Gmail system managed by the Columbus Public Schools. This email system is monitored by the Columbus Public Schools Technology Department, and all messages sent or received through this system are archived and subject to filtering of inappropriate content.
 - Always use appropriate language.
 - Do not transmit language/material that is profane, obscene, abusive, or offensive to others.
 - Do not send mass emails, chain letters, or spam.
 - No private chatting during class is allowed without permission.
 - Email is subject to inspection at any time by school administration, parent/guardian or designee.
- 10. Discipline Consequences** [See Section III-V Computers / Technology Integration & Internet Use]
- The student whose name, system account and/or computer hardware is issued will be responsible at all times for its appropriate use. Non-compliance with the policies of the CHS Student Handbook or the Columbus Public School's Acceptable Use Policy will result in disciplinary action as outlined by the student code of conduct and/or other school policies for the user unless there is proof that another is responsible.

- Electronic mail, network usage, and all stored files shall not be considered confidential and may be monitored at any time by the Columbus Public Schools Technology Department to ensure appropriate use. The Columbus Public Schools cooperates fully with local, state, and federal officials in any investigation concerning or relating to violations of computer crime laws.
- As a response to chronic absenteeism or truancy (5 or more documented/consecutive days of truancy), the parent will be contacted to return the device to the principal's office. The student will be converted to daily check-out/check-in status through the remainder of the semester. If the student demonstrates improved and acceptable attendance through the remainder of the semester, the student's computer take-home status will be restored.

Appendix A Estimated Cost of Repair/Replacement

* All prices were current at the time this document was published. (July 18, 2018)

Part Number	Part Description	Self-Maintainer price
917725-855	ASSY-BATT 2C 47Wh 6.15Ah LI GM02047XL-PL	\$56.19
928840-001	HEATSINK, UMA	\$9.18
934739-850	GNRC-45W ADPTR nPFC USB-PD 3PIN	\$23.40
L07235-001	GNRC WC 1p Fix DM USB2 HD 720p VSEB BL	\$20.15
L14359-001	SPS-USB BRACKET	\$6.28
L14901-001	SPS-BASE ENCLOSURE - CBG	\$18.20
L14904-001	SPS-BASE ENCLOSURE - DCO	\$18.20
L14905-001	SPS-BATTERY TAPE	\$6.28
L14906-001	SPS-CABLE KIT	\$13.65
L14907-001	SPS-HINGE L&R	\$11.86
L14908-001	SPS-LCD BACK COVER W/ANT CBG	\$18.85
L14911-001	SPS-LCD BACK COVER W/ANT DCO	\$18.85
L14912-001	SPS-LCD BEZEL	\$8.92
L14913-001	SPS-LCD BRACKET	\$6.28
L14914-001	SPS-LCD CABLE NON-TS	\$8.82
L14915-001	SPS-LCD CABLE TS - AUO	\$9.30
L14916-001	SPS-LCD CABLE TS - LG	\$9.30
L14917-001	SPS-RAW PANEL LCD 11.6 HD AG LED SVA	\$64.35
L14918-001	SPS-PNL LCD 11.6 HD BV LED UWVA AUO TCH	\$133.90
L14919-001	SPS-SCREW KIT	\$6.84
L14920-001	SPS-SPEAKER	\$11.25
L14921-001	SPS-TOP CVR W/KB - US	\$24.70
L14922-001	SPS-TOUCHPAD	\$9.58
L14923-001	SPS-USB BD	\$9.15
L15851-001	SPS-MB UMA Cel N3350 4GB 32GeMMC	\$172.90
L18300-001	SPS-TOUCHPAD SUPPORT BRACKET	\$5.85
L19367-001	SPS-CORD C5 1.0M STK Conv NA	\$12.19
L20220-001	SPS-RUBBER BASE PADS	\$5.85

Appendix B CPS Chromebook Acceptable Use Agreement

The Columbus Public Schools Student Acceptable Use Agreement (AUA) is for your review. Your signature on this document states that you have read, understand, and agree to abide by the compliance requirements of Columbus Public Schools regarding the use of computers and the Internet in the Columbus Public Schools. Your signature also states that you authorize Columbus Public Schools to create and utilize “cloud services” accounts that will be under the control of Columbus Public Schools but which reside elsewhere on the Internet. (Certain cloud services require parental permission for students regardless of the level of control over the account granted to CPS.)

Additionally, as part of the digital literacy/Chromebook initiative at Columbus High School, the Columbus Public Schools is highly recommending the purchase of a Damage Protection Plan prior to the check-out of the Chromebook to your child. Columbus Public Schools will assess the Chromebook damage and repair or replace the device if the damage is determined to be accidental and within the protection plan guidelines.

This damage protection plan does not cover for loss of the Chromebook and/or its accessories or damages caused by intentional misuse and abuse. Under this agreement, the Chromebook is protected to 85% of incurred cost from accidental damage. The Columbus Public Schools will require that a police report be submitted in cases of theft. Fraudulent reporting of theft will be turned over to the police for prosecution. A student making a false report will also be subject to disciplinary action as outlined in the Columbus High School Student Handbook.

Parents/Students will be charged for damage due to intentional misuse or abuse at current replacement cost of the device coverage.

Acceptance of Liability

* Please INITIAL ONE of the options below.

_____ PLAN #1:

My student and I accept and will abide by the Columbus High School Chromebook Acceptable Use Agreement and I am purchasing the damage protection plan through Columbus Public Schools in the amount of \$25. (Cash or check made payable to Columbus Public Schools)

_____ PLAN #2

My student and I accept and will abide by the Columbus High School Chromebook Acceptable Use Agreement and I am NOT purchasing the damage protection plan through Columbus Public Schools and I will assume responsibility for 100% of the cost of any repairs or replacement cost.

This form is an example copy of the actual Acceptable Use Agreement form which must be on file in the CHS Technology Office.

_____	_____
Print Full Student Name Here	Grade
_____	_____
Student Signature	Date
_____	_____
Parent/Guardian Signature (REQUIRED)	Date

Print Full Parent/Guardian Name Here (REQUIRED)

Columbus High School

Student Handbook

2020-21



3434 Discoverer Drive | Columbus, Nebraska 68601 | Ph: 402.563.7050 | Fx: 402.563.7058

ColumbusPublicSchools.org

COLUMBUS HIGH SCHOOL

Office Hours: 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

High School Office Auto-Attendant	402-563-7050
High School Office Fax	402-563-7058
Operator	Press 0
Attendance	Press 1
School Counseling & Career Center	Press 2
Activities	Press 3
Nurse	Press 4
Food Service	Press 5
If you know the extension	Press 9
Administration Building	402-563-7000
Director of Student Services	402-563-7000
Superintendent of Schools	402-563-7000

CHS Administration

Mr. David Hiebner	Principal
Ms. Molly Hornbeck	Assistant Principal
Ms. Angela Leifeld	Assistant Principal
Mr. Jason Schapmann	Assistant Principal
Mr. Tim Kwapnioski	Activities Director

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

1. For attendance, prearranged absences, tardy arrivals to school, etc.
-- Contact the Attendance Office - 402-563-7050, Option 1
2. For transcripts, schedules, enrollment, address changes, good student auto discounts, or Social Security benefit verification
-- Contact the School Counseling & Career Center Office - 402-563-7050, Option 2
3. For questions about the school lunch program or the Free/Reduced Lunch Program
-- Contact Food Service 402-563-7050, Option 5
4. For questions about sports, the activity program, or building rental
-- Contact the Activities Director 402-563-7050, Option 3
5. For questions regarding a student's grade
-- Contact the classroom teacher 402-563-7050, Option 0
6. For translation services or assistance:
-- Contact EL Program (402-563-7000) and select option 7.

Your student handbook has been written to assist you in becoming a productive member of Columbus High School. In preparing for various roles at Columbus High School, you must be conscious of your rights and be committed to your duties. Protect these rights by being a responsible citizen in your school community.

Your teachers, counselors, and principals are available to assist you in understanding the important things written in this handbook. Ask them questions if you do not understand the meaning of anything in this handbook.

Disclaimer Notice

The CHS student handbook does not form a contract, and the school reserves the right to interpret and modify the rules listed within the book. Levels of consequences listed or identified in the handbook are consistent with typical school practices; however, the administration reserves the right to assign more serious consequences based upon the frequency and/or severity of the infraction.

Parent/Guardian Involvement and Participation

Columbus Public School's Policy 1005.02 R1 requires that a copy of the student handbook be given to each parent/guardian. This handbook has been prepared to explain and clarify the procedures, policies and regulations of Columbus High School. This student handbook complies with the law that was passed by the Nebraska Legislature, LB503 (1976), which requires every school district to summarize general rules and regulations regarding student conduct. This law further requires such rules and regulations to be available in writing to all students and their parents/guardians. The school district urges students and their parents/guardians to read this handbook carefully. Parents are invited to contact the school office during normal business hours to inquire about access to instructional materials and/or attend and monitor instructional activities. You are urged to contact any high school administrator if you have any questions regarding the contents of this student handbook.

School-Home Communications

Columbus Public Schools does send regular communication to parents regarding upcoming events and activities to keep them informed. Under the Federal Telephone Consumer Protection Act, all calls--whether live, automated, or prerecorded voice calls or text messages--made to cellular phones using an auto-dialer or other automated dialing technology are prohibited unless the calls are made for emergency purposes or with the prior express consent of the cellular phone subscriber.

In order to conform with new rules within the Federal Consumer Protection Act, Columbus High School will need to obtain the "prior express consent" of the parent to call the cellular phone number. The Federal Communications Commission has stated, "people who knowingly release their phone numbers have given permission to be called at the number which they have given, absent instructions to the contrary."

By signing the receipt of this handbook, you are granting Columbus Public Schools permission to call all cell phones registered in PowerSchool for school and student purposes.

COPPA Notification

As a district, Columbus Public Schools only authorizes the use of tools and applications that support the implementation of our curriculum and have been screened through a rigorous educational process.

*Our district utilizes several computer software applications and web-based services that are operated not by school but by third parties. A complete list of the programs with the privacy policy for each can be found on our district website:
<https://columbuspublicschools.org>.*

*In order for students to use these third party educational programs and services, certain Board Policy approved directory information, which may consist of the student's name, username, District e-mail address, grade level, age, and/or date of birth, may be provided to the website operator strictly for educational purposes. Under the Children's Online Privacy Protection Act (COPPA), these websites must provide parental notification and obtain parental consent before collecting personal information from children under the age of 13. For more information on COPPA, please visit
<https://www.ftc.gov/enforcement/rules/rulemaking-regulatory-reform-proceedings/childrens-online-privacy-protection-rule>*

School law permits schools such as ours to consent to the collection of directory information on behalf of all of its students strictly for educational purposes, thereby eliminating the need for individual parental consent given directly to the website

operator. Columbus Public Schools use integrated technology as part of your child's education; the need for such information and permission is necessary to utilize software and web-based services as part of the classroom instruction.

By signing the receipt of this handbook, you are granting Columbus Public Schools permission to provide your child's directory information consisting of first name, last name, an email address, and username.

Notification of Nondiscrimination

Applicants for admission and employment, students, parents of elementary and secondary school students, employees, sources of referral of applicants for admission and employment, and all professional organizations holding collective bargaining or professional agreements with Columbus Public School District #1 are hereby notified that this institution does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or handicap in admission or access to, or treatment or employment in, its programs and activities. Any person having inquiries concerning the Columbus Public School District #1's compliance with the regulations implementing Title VI, Title IX, or Section 504 is directed to contact the Superintendent of Schools, Columbus Public Schools, 2508 27th Street, Columbus, NE 68601, telephone number 402/563-7000. The Superintendent has been designated by Columbus Public School District #1's Board of Education to coordinate the institution's efforts to comply with the regulations implementing Title VI, Title IX, or Section 504. Any person may also contact the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, US Department of Education, regarding the institution's compliance with the regulations implementing Title VI, Title IX, or Section 504.

Notification of Sexual Discrimination

It is the policy of the Columbus Public School District to comply in spirit as well as in fact to the regulations implementing Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972. Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 prohibits sex discrimination in federally assisted education programs. Specifically, Title IX states: "No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving federal financial assistance..." Any student who has a grievance should complete a grievance form and forward it to the Superintendent. Forms are available in all school offices.

Notification of American Disabilities Act

If you have any special needs requests that will assist you in participating in programs, services, or activities of the Columbus Public Schools, please contact the Superintendent of Schools.

Mission Statement of Columbus Public Schools

"Engaging All Learners to Achieve Success"

Vision of the Columbus Public Schools

We will continuously and passionately strive to be a high performing learning community that will effectively meet the unique learning needs of each and every student:

To attain this vision we are:

- committed to a clear and shared focus on student learning.
- committed to a safe and supportive environment for learning and teaching.
- committed to high levels of communication, trust, support and accountability with all stakeholders.

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CHS Bell Schedules

CHS Regular Weekday Bell Schedules

Regular Schedule

Period 1	8:10 - 9:00
Period 2	9:04 - 9:56
	10:00 - 10:32
Period 3	10:36 - 11:26
Period 4	11:30 - 12:58
<i>Lunch A</i>	11:26 - 11:54
<i>Lunch B</i>	11:58 - 12:26
<i>Lunch C</i>	12:30 - 12:58
<i>Lunch D</i>	1:02 - 1:30
Period 5	1:02 - 1:52
Period 6	1:56 - 2:46
Period 7	2:50 - 3:40

Wednesday Schedule

Period 1	8:10 - 8:57
Period 2	9:01 - 9:49
Period 3	9:53 - 10:39
Period 4	10:43 - 12:08
<i>Lunch A</i>	10:39 - 11:06
<i>Lunch B</i>	11:10 - 11:37
<i>Lunch C</i>	11:41 - 12:08
<i>Lunch D</i>	12:12 - 12:39
Period 5	12:12 - 12:57
Period 6	1:01 - 1:46
Period 7	1:50 - 2:35

10:00 Late Start

Period 1	10:00 - 10:38
Period 2	10:42 - 11:22
Period 3	11:26 - 12:04
Period 4	12:08 - 1:34
<i>Lunch A</i>	12:04 - 12:32
<i>Lunch B</i>	12:35 - 1:03
<i>Lunch C</i>	1:06 - 1:34
<i>Lunch D</i>	1:38 - 2:06
Period 5	1:38 - 2:16
Period 6	2:20 - 2:58
Period 7	3:02 - 3:40

Noon Dismissal Schedule

Period 1	8:10 - 8:39
Period 2	8:43 - 9:14
Period 3	9:18 - 9:47
Period 4	9:51 - 10:20
Period 5	10:24 - 10:53
Period 6	10:57 - 11:26
Period 7	11:30 - 12:00

2020-21 Columbus High School Faculty

Advantage Program

Ms. Kimberly Ek
Ms. Jill Sorsen

Art

Ms. Cynthia Campbell
Ms. Jaime Stodola

Business Education

Mr. Ryan Baker
Ms. Jeri Otten
Ms. Abby Sayers
Ms. Kari Tunink
Mr. Brady Vancura

District Career Coordinator

Ms. Stephanie Carlson

Family & Consumer Sciences

Ms. Jaclyn Long
Ms. Carrie Loseke

English

Mr. Marc Baue
Mr. Jacob Belvery
Ms. Anne Christensen
Ms. Sharon Hartman
Mr. Alexander Hollister
Ms. Cathy Kwapnioski
Ms. Amber May
Mr. Sean McDonald
Ms. Shannon McDonald
Ms. Chelsea Parker

ELL

Ms. Rebecca Lenser
Ms. Brandy Liston
Mr. Joseph Quinn
Ms. Laura Sprunk

Health Services

Ms. Laurie Swanson

Instructional Media

Ms. Valarie Wallin

JAG

Ms. Erica Gable

Mathematics

Mr. Scott Bethune
Ms. Jacquin Colabello
Ms. Lauren Hollister
Mr. Brandon Jansen
Mr. James Johnson
Ms. Peggy Meyer
Mr. Chris Sander
Ms. Wendy Shotkoski
Ms. Kelli Soltys
Ms. Michelle Watson

Music

Mr. Jeff Peabody
Mr. Jacob Ritter

Health & Physical Education

Mr. Mick Bubak
Ms. Heidi Field
Ms. Stacy Smith
Mr. Bret Thompson
Mr. Craig Williams

School Psychologist

Ms. Jessie Hill

School Counseling

Ms. Kari Drymon
Ms. Kim Loeffelholz
Ms. Guadalupe Marino
Ms. Bethany Seehusen

Science

Mr. Matt Bills
Ms. Beth Coop
Mr. Seth Kirkegaard
Mr. Keegan McGill
Ms. Kelsey Newman
Ms. Trudi Noonan
Mr. Ryan Schroeder
Ms. Andrea Smejkal
Mr. Brian Townsend

Skilled & Technical Sciences

Mr. Tracy Dodson
Mr. Marcus Gillespie
Mr. Ron Haefner
Mr. Joe Krysl
Mr. Ben Loeffelholz
Mr. Adam Whitmore

Social Studies

Mr. Kyle Buckingham
Mr. Patrick Clark
Mr. Nathan Coan
Ms. Amanda Flesner
Mr. Jordan Hitchcock
Ms. Anne Robertson
Mr. Jonathan Shea
Mr. Zack Wayman

Social Worker

Ms. Jill Spale

Special Education

Ms. Valerie Brown
Mr. Ryan Goetsch
Ms. Brenda Huey
Ms. Kate Juranek
Ms. Jennifer Kallweit
Mr. Dave Licari
Mr. Alex Liston
Ms. Margaret Widtfeldt

Speech Pathologist

Ms. Judy Deepe
Ms. Brittany Madden

World Languages

Ms. Victoria Joseph
Ms. Lorena Miya
Ms. Trinia Perigo
Ms. Liliana Velasco

SECTION I

STUDENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES – UNDER NE STATUTES

I-A Responsibilities and Right to an Education

A student's right to an education in Nebraska is granted because of provisions in the state's constitution. There are two very important things a student must faithfully do to protect this constitutional right: attend school regularly and participate in the learning process

There are many other things responsible students do while they are students, but nothing is more important than doing the schoolwork assigned by their teachers and being in school regularly.

The policy of the Columbus Public Schools regarding the right to an education states: The State of Nebraska, as provided for in Article VII, section I, of the Nebraska Constitution, "established public schools to provide a free appropriate public education (FAPE) for students between the ages of five and twenty-one." All residents of the Columbus Public Schools from five through twenty-one are entitled to attend public school without tuition. All students are entitled to equal opportunities. Along with one's rights to equality of educational opportunity, each student has a commensurate responsibility to act in such a way as not to interfere with the rights of others to the same opportunity.

Essential to the fostering and maintaining of educational opportunity is reasonable and necessary order in the schools. A student may forfeit his/her right to educational opportunities when his/her conduct is such that it substantially disrupts the educational process and deprives others of their rights. The most important thing a student must do to protect his/her right to an education are stated as responsibilities. They are as follows:

I-B Attendance Responsibility

All students enrolled in any of the Columbus Public Schools, regardless of how old they are, must attend school regularly and be in all the classes to which they are assigned, unless properly excused by an official of the school. Only authorized officials can excuse a student from school. It is the responsibility of the student and his/her parents(s)/guardian(s) to inform the school of the reason for any absence and to comply with the specified attendance procedure of the particular school in which the student is enrolled. Any student who fails to attend school regularly and/or be in his/her classes on time shall be disciplined. Parents/Guardians of students under eighteen years of age may be held legally negligent if their son/daughter fails to meet this attendance responsibility, according to Nebraska Statute §79-201-211.

According to Columbus School Board Policy 503 and Nebraska Statute §79-209, the school has the right to compel student attendance. If any student has accumulated a total of five unapproved absences per quarter, or a percentage equivalency of five absences, the school shall render all services in its power to compel the student's attendance. If a student is absent more than 20 days per year, or the percentage equivalency, the attendance officer shall file a report with the County Attorney of the county in which the person resides. See **IV – Student Attendance Expectations**

I-C Academic Responsibility

Students are obligated to complete all schoolwork assigned to them by their teachers. Students are also responsible for bringing materials such as pencil, paper, electronic device and textbooks, to class regularly. Any students who fail to show a sincere and regular effort to complete their assigned work may be disciplined for being academically irresponsible.

I-D Health Examination and Immunizations

State law requires that each student entering school must be protected against measles, mumps, rubella, poliomyelitis, diphtheria, pertussis, and tetanus by immunization. This law further requires that prior to the entrance of a student into the beginner grade and seventh grade, or in the case of a transfer student from an out-of-state school to any other grade, he/she should be examined by a qualified physician. Any student who fails to comply with these health responsibilities shall be excluded from school until such time as he/she is in compliance with these responsibilities. For the current school year, a student must have the following immunizations: three doses of DPT vaccine, three doses of polio vaccine, two doses of the MMR vaccine, and three doses of Hepatitis B vaccine (for students entering for the first time or grades K/1st).

I-E Student Records

CPS Board Policy 507.01 and its accompanying rules govern the maintenance of student records. These records are maintained to assist the instructional, guidance, and educational progress of the student and for legitimate research to better the educational programs of the school district.

The means and methods specified by Policy 507.01 to collect and maintain these important records comply with regulations promulgated in PL 93-380, the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, and various Nebraska Revised Statutes and rules of the State Board of Education. Board Policy 507.01 assures the confidentiality of student records. Under this policy, students, former students, and parents/legal guardians are assured access to student records; the right to challenge information contained in the student record believed to be “inaccurate, misleading or otherwise inappropriate” and the right to a hearing should a conflict result. The student record for each student may include, but is not limited to, such information as identifying information, attendance records, grade levels completed, aptitude test scores and records of achievement, health records, and family background data. Parents, legal guardians, or eligible students may request to review a student’s student record. The only other persons who have access to the information in the student record are school personnel who have a legitimate educational interest, persons complying with a judicial order, and persons representing federal, state, or accrediting agencies. Parents, legal guardians, or eligible students may request in writing that information contained in a student’s student record be released for their purposes. They may also request copies of information classified as a subsidiary student record prior to its required destruction within three years after the student leaves school.

Schools may make public certain non-confidential “directory information” in association with recognition for such things as academic excellence, extracurricular honors and awards, or participation in officially recognized school-sponsored activities. “Directory information” may include such things as name, address, telephone number, date and place of birth, dates of school attendance, and specific information relating to recognition (such as weight, height of athletic team members). Any parent, legal guardian, or student of legal age who does not wish the school to release such “directory information” must notify by September 15 the principal of the school the student presently attends. Student records other than directory information will only be released upon receipt of a written parental permission for students younger than eighteen years of age. Records of students eighteen years and older will be released only with the student’s own written permission. Release forms are available in the Counseling Office.

These statements on student records have been presented in this handbook to emphasize that information about students is kept confidential and to encourage the free flow of information between parent(s)/guardian(s), student, and school.

Students and parent(s)/guardian(s) who have any additional concerns regarding their rights under Policy 507.01 and various federal and state laws are encouraged to contact the building principal of their school. A copy of Policy 507.01 and its accompanying rules may be obtained for the cost of reproduction from the Office of the Superintendent of Schools. Students and parent(s)/guardian(s) may file with the Department of Health, Education and Welfare complaints concerning alleged failures of the school district to comply with federal legislation dealing with student records.

I-F Responsibility and Right to Freedom of Assembly

The Board of Education of the Columbus Public Schools recognizes that Freedom of Assembly is a right protected by the First Amendment of the Constitution of the United States. The exercise of this right must be conducted in a responsible manner so as not to interfere with the educational activities of the school district. [CPS Board Policy 504.07 and 506.02R1]

I-G Search and Seizure

Students possess the right of privacy of person as well as freedom from unreasonable search and seizure of property guaranteed by the Fourth Amendment of the Constitution. This individual right, however, is balanced by the school’s responsibility to protect the health, safety, and welfare of all its students. According to School Policy 504.08, school employees may conduct searches when they have reason to suspect that the health, safety, and welfare of students may be in danger. Any school employee making a search or a seizure will follow these guidelines:

- 1) General searches on school property (including personal items such as lockers, cars, book bags, purses, coats, etc. found on school property) will be conducted at any time when there is reasonable cause for school employees to believe that something that violates a law or school rule is on school property. This search of school property may be made without the student being present.

- 2) Illegal items (firearms, weapons, drugs) or other possessions reasonably determined to be a threat to the safety or security of others or which might possibly interfere with school purposes will be seized by school employees.
- 3) Items which are used to disrupt or interfere with the educational process may be temporarily removed from a student's person.
- 4) A student's person may be searched by school employees when there is reasonable cause to believe that the student has on his/her person illegal items or other items that may interfere with school purposes.

Lockers and desks are the property of the school district and are made available to students for their convenience. Lockers are randomly searched. Each student is responsible for the content or security of his/her locker. Each student is assigned a locker with an individualized lock combination. Students are advised not to disclose the combination to other students. The student solely assigned to the locker is responsible for the locker and will be held accountable for all items in the assigned locker. The school assumes no responsibility for items placed in a shared locker or shared combination. For the security of our students, staff and school grounds, Columbus High School is equipped with security cameras.

Columbus High School has a responsibility for providing a secure educational environment for students and staff. In cooperation with local law enforcement agencies, we work together to maintain a safe and drug-free environment, which includes using appropriate and necessary means to search lockers and the grounds for illegal substances. Canine drug units will be used to search the building and grounds at Columbus High School (Policy 504.15). The canine drug units are trained and handled by law enforcement officers. Such searches will be unannounced during the school day and will last approximately 50 minutes as a deterrent for bringing illegal substances to school. Established procedures will be implemented to facilitate the search and to ensure students and staff are out of the hallway and into their classrooms.

I-H Responsibility and Right of Freedom of Expression

The right to freely express oneself is justifiably tempered with responsibilities to ensure that the expression made does not interfere with the rights of others. The official school policy and the responsibilities students have when expressing themselves are contained in this handbook to promote reasonable communication. This reflects one of the purposes of the Columbus Public Schools. [CPS Board Policy 504.07] That purpose is to encourage the use of good language skills while providing educational experiences for students. The official school policy in regard to Freedom of Expression states: "The Board of Education of the Columbus Public Schools recognizes the First Amendment of the Constitution of the United States of America as being an essential part of the learning process. The Board of Education further recognizes that students need guidance in exercising the right of Freedom of Expression so that they do not interfere with the rights of others." The following statements are made to guide students in exercising their constitutional right of Freedom of Expression.

I-I Oral Expression

Schools must encourage inquiry and expression of ideas. Such expression should include the personal opinion of students relevant to the subject matter being taught, to school activities and policies, to school administration, and to matters of broad social concern and interest. In so expressing themselves, students have the responsibility to refrain from the use of slanderous remarks, obscene language, and language derogatory of race, creed, sexual orientation, national origin, or handicapping condition and to conduct themselves in such a way as to allow all persons the opportunity to express themselves freely if they so desire. [CPS Board Policy 504.07]

I-J Symbolic Expression and Related Activities

Symbolic expression is defined as that type of expression, exclusive of verbal and written expression, which conveys the personal ideas, feelings, attitudes, and opinions of an individual. Length of hair, choice of clothing, buttons, badges, armbands, and physical gestures are some examples of symbolic expression. Each student has the right to express himself/herself by way of symbols subject only to the restrictions that such expression does not result in overt exhibitionism or disruption of the educational process or be obscene, disrespectful, or obviously annoying to others. [CPS Board Policy 504.07]

I-K Rights of Handicapped Students

It is the policy of the Columbus Public Schools to not discriminate against any student who is a resident of the district on the basis of handicap in admission or access to its programs and activities. Any student who may believe the school district is not complying with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 should inform the Superintendent of Schools of his/her complaint.

I-L Pregnant or Parenting Students

The district recognizes that pregnant or 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. The district will educate pregnant or parenting students and will provide reasonable accommodations to support and encourage all pregnant or parenting students to obtain their high school diploma. No student will be excluded from, denied the benefits of, or be discriminated against under any educational program or activity because of pregnancy or parenting responsibilities.

[CPS Board Policy 503.07]

SECTION II DISCIPLINE – UNDER NE STATUTES or CHS POLICY

II-A Disciplinary Actions That a Teacher and/or Administrator Can Administer:

- **Guidance:** a conversation between the student and school personnel. The purpose of this form of counseling is not to lecture the student but to inform him/her that his/her behavior needs to change so that he/she does not violate the rights of others or to help the student improve his/her learning capabilities.
- **Conference:** a meeting of student's parent(s)/guardian(s) and school personnel to discuss the student's behavior or learning process. The school intends to seek the assistance of the student's parent(s)/guardian(s) in helping the student to become a better student.
- **Detention:** requiring that a student remain after or arrive before school for a period of time. It is intended that students serving detention will be doing school-related work assigned by and monitored by classroom teacher for class-related issues.
- **School Clean Up:** requiring a student to clean up certain items of the school that the student failed to care for properly. The student may be required to clean more than just the item(s) damaged by him/her to encourage the student not to damage school property or litter in the future.
- **Use of Force:** Teachers, administrators and other school personnel may use force to protect a student from inflicting physical harm on themselves, other students, or staff members.

II-B Disciplinary Actions That Only Administrators May Assign:

- **Rearrangement of Schedule:** assigning a student to a new schedule of classes and/or in-school suspension when the behavior of the student is such that the student cannot conduct himself/herself in an acceptable manner.
- **Suspension from attending or participating in activities:** action taken by the principal and/or assistant principal(s) as a consequence of his/her behavioral problems and/or actions. Such action will be stipulated by school administration. The length of the suspension will be determined by the frequency and/or severity of the behavior.
- **Loss of Good Standing (Social Probation):** If a student misses an excessive number of days, is carrying over three or more hours disciplinary time, or is placed in an alternative education placement due to disciplinary purposes, that student is automatically considered to have lost "Good Standing." Students that are not in good standing are considered to be on social probation and therefore may not attend CHS social functions such as dances. Students who have lost their good standing status may earn it back by correcting the problem that led to the loss of good standing (improving attendance or serving After School Detention ASD minutes). *Loss of good standing also means the student will be indicated as "Not in Good Standing" on any dance guest form the student may present to an administrator until such time as the matter is resolved and good standing is restored.*
- **Requirement that a student receive counseling/educational evaluation:** an action that may require a student to visit a guidance counselor, medical counselor, or psychological counselor to assist the student in resolving his/her problem **at parental expense.**
- **In-School Suspension (ISS):** Students are placed in the suspension room rather than their regularly scheduled class(es). Students are supervised and expected to carry on their studies as well as abide by the

rules set down for ISS. Assigning students to ISS is at the discretion of the administration. Students who experience a high frequency of in-school suspensions can be suspended out of school at the discretion of the administration up to and including a period of 5-days.

- **After School Detention (ASD):** Takes place on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday afternoons after school. Students are placed in up to a 2-hour detention/academic study period. The purpose is to enable students to fulfill disciplinary and academic obligations. Sessions are held on all available Tuesday and Thursday afternoons from 3:45 to 5:45 pm in the distance education classroom. Sessions will also be held on Wednesday *early release days* from 2:30 to 4:00 pm in the small cafeteria. The only students who will be permitted to leave early will be those owing less than three hours of time. See also “II-C After School Detention” for further information.
- **Suspensions and Emergency Exclusion:**
 - (a) Short term: exclusion of a student from attendance to school for a period not to exceed five school days.
 - (b) Long term: exclusion of a student from attendance to school for a period exceeding five school days but less than twenty school days.
- **Expulsion:** exclusion from school attendance in accordance with Neb. Rev. Stat. § 79-283.
- **Exclusion:** immediate withdrawal of a student from school for
 - (a) presenting 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.
 - (b) a dangerous communicable disease as cited in Neb. Rev. Stat. § 79-4,177.
 - (c) any student who is suspended pursuant to this section may be given an opportunity to complete any classwork, including, but not limited to, examinations, missed during the period of suspension. Students will be given classwork by either paper or digital format.
- **Mandatory Reassignment:** Students may be reassigned to an alternative educational setting to complete instructional units.
- **Legal Action in a Court of Law:** Any disciplinary action taken against a student will comply with existing state laws and CPS Board policies and shall afford the student due process.

II-C After School Detention

Students assigned to serve After School Detention receive time assignments from a grade-level administrator as consequence for misconduct in the building. Students may receive time assignments in as small as 30-minute increments or as large as three-hour time blocks, depending upon the offense. Students will be assigned to attend the next available ASD session to serve earned minutes in a timely fashion. However, up to 180 minutes (3 hours) owed, mandatory attendance at the next session is NOT REQUIRED, simply encouraged. The students are allowed to manage their own minute totals up to 180 minutes.

All students owing more than 180 minutes (3 hours) are REQUIRED to attend the next available After School Detention session. If the student is unable to attend the next ASD session, it is the student’s responsibility to make arrangements with the appropriate grade-level administrator PRIOR to the required After School Detention session. Failure to do so will result in further consequences being imposed by the administrator. **Students owing over three hours of After School Detention minutes are no longer considered to be in good standing.** The loss of good standing status means the student may incur some or all of the following consequences:

- loss of privileges in the building (hallway passes, right to carry cell phone, etc.)
- reduced playing time / activity involvement
- social probation – loss of ability to attend dances/socials such as Homecoming, Winter Formal and Prom

Students should seek a meeting with their grade-level administrator if they are concerned about losing good standing status.

Students who demonstrate an unwillingness to work towards decreasing their time-owed figures and return to good standing status risk more significant building consequences including, but not limited to, restriction of privileges, suspension, or mandatory reassignment to an alternative educational environment.

After School Detention Schedule for the 2020-21 School Year

First Semester

SEPTEMBER				
M	T	W	Th	F
7	8	9	10	11
14	15	16	17	18
21	22	23	24	25
28	29	30		

OCTOBER				
M	T	W	Th	F
			1	2
5	6	7	8	9
12	13	14	15	16
19	20	21	22	23
26	27	28	29	30

NOVEMBER				
M	T	W	Th	F
2	3	4	5	6
9	10	11	12	13
16	17	18	19	20
23	24	25	26	27
30				

DECEMBER				
M	T	W	Th	F
	1	2	3	4
7	8	9	10	11
14	15	16	17	18
21	22			

After-School Detention is held on all un-shaded dates.

Second Semester

JANUARY				
M	T	W	Th	F
4	5	6	7	8
11	12	13	14	15
18	19	20	21	22
25	26	27	28	29

FEBRUARY				
M	T	W	Th	F
1	2	3	4	5
8	9	10	11	12
15	16	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	26

MARCH				
M	T	W	Th	F
1	2	3	4	5
8	9	10	11	12
15	16	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	26
29	30	31		

APRIL / MAY				
M	T	W	Th	F
			1	2
5	6	7	8	9
12	13	14	15	16
19	20	21	22	23
26	27	28	29	30
3	4	5	6	7
10	11	12	13	14
17	18	19	20	21
24	25	26		

After-School Detention is held on all un-shaded dates.

All Tuesday/Thursday After School Detention Sessions will begin PROMPTLY at 3:45 pm and end at 5:45 pm.

All Wednesday After School Detention Sessions will begin PROMPTLY at 2:45 pm and end at 4:00 pm.

Students are to arrive on time and to be prepared to complete schoolwork or read silently. Playing on one's phone or computer is not an appropriate use of After-School Detention time, and any student who does not appear to be busy will be asked to leave.

It is the RESPONSIBILITY OF THE STUDENT to make up time or make alternative arrangements with individual staff members (to be pre-approved by administration) to make up time owed. Remember these criteria:

- Time owed for TARDINESS TO PERIODS 2-7 should be served with your teachers at the teacher's convenience.
- Time owed for TARDINESS in PERIOD 1 must be served in After School Detention (ASD) the day of the infraction or the very next day.
- Time owed for DISCIPLINE matters must be served in After School Detention.

Students who owe over 180 minutes *will be expected to serve a minimum of two hours of the time via the next two appropriate After School Detention sessions.*

Students will NOT be permitted to accumulate more than 400 minutes without more significant discipline consequences being assigned INCLUDING a meeting with parents and administration.

Bonus minutes are assigned at the discretion of the grade-level administrator.

II-D Right to Due Process

CPS Board Policy 504.01 states: “The Board of Education of the Columbus Public Schools views the establishment of rules and responsibilities governing student behavior as a necessary element of the educational process. The rules and responsibilities governing student behavior established pursuant to this policy and other CPS Board Policies affecting student personnel shall be approved by the District’s established procedure prior to their use. All rules and responsibilities established by the School District and any other rules established by individual buildings governing student behavior at school shall be publicized.

The Board recognizes that each classroom teacher needs to establish certain rules governing the educational process of which they are in charge. Any rules established by individual teachers are to be reflective of school policies and rules. Such rules are exempt from Board approval and need only to be made known in each individual class of which they are in charge. Any behavior on the part of the student that violates school policies, rules, or regulations may be subject to disciplinary action. Any disciplinary action shall be administered within the fundamental framework of due process.”

Short-Term Suspension (1-5 days): The essential ingredients of due process afforded the student in a short-term suspension (1-5 days) and set forth in CPS Board Policy 505.02 are as follows:

- 1) notice of the charge against the student
- 2) an explanation of the charge against him/her
- 3) an opportunity for the student’s explanation of the incident(s), issue(s), and/or event(s)
- 4) written notification within 24 hours, or such additional time as is reasonably necessary, to the parents or guardians of the student stating: a) the reason(s) for the short-term suspension and b) dates of the short-term suspension

The decision of the administrator shall be final.

Long-Term Suspension (6-19 days): (This procedure covers Long-Term Suspensions, Expulsion, and Exclusion.) The essential ingredients of due process afforded the student in Long-Term Suspension, Expulsion, and Exclusion are covered in detail in School Policy 505.02 are as follows with written notification to parent(s) or guardian(s) indicating the following:

- 1) the rule(s) or standard(s) of conduct allegedly violated
- 2) the penalty recommended by the school official in charge
- 3) a statement indicating the student has the right to a hearing on the specified charges upon request
- 4) a description of the hearing process and appeal hearing
- 5) a form for parents/guardians to request a hearing; the form must be signed and returned to the Superintendent of Schools.

Nothing in the above procedure precludes the student, student’s parent(s)/guardian(s), or representatives from discussing and settling the matter with the appropriate school personnel prior to the hearing. In the event the school does not receive a request for a hearing within five school days following the receipt of the written notice, the punishment shall go into effect. A hearing can still be requested prior to thirty calendar days after the actual receipt of written notice; however, the punishment imposed may continue in effect, pending final determination. The appeal procedure shall be as set forth in School Policy 505.02.

SECTION III SCHOOL RULES AND EXPECTATIONS

The following rules have been established under the direction of the Board of Education discipline policies, the Student Discipline Act, and Neb. Rev. Stat. § 79-267 for use on school grounds, in a vehicle owned, leased or contracted by a school being used for a school purpose, and at all school-sponsored activities or events. Compliance with the following standards of conduct is mandatory. A referral is defined as a summons or directive to the office due to an administrative rule violation, usually resulting in disciplinary action by an administrator. Repeated instances of receiving office referral may result in ISS, OSS, and/or alternative placement.

All students are expected to acquire the knowledge and skills necessary to perform civic, academic, and behavioral expectations with proficiency. The following sections outline performance expectations and correction measures. Sections III and IV, referred to as Administrative Discipline, relate to student civic and attendance expectations. Section V, referred to as Classroom Discipline, relates to student academic and behavior expectations.

Administrative Discipline – Civic Expectations

All students are expected to perform according to civic expectations. These expectations were established as an instructional tool so students function effectively within the school community.

Civic Expectation #1 - Contribute constructively to community

- Wear clothing that does not offend or disrupt others in the school community at school or school sponsored events.
- Act in a manner that does not offend or disrupt others in the school community.
- Refrain from possessing or using objects that may be disruptive or offensive to the school community.
- Touch and speak in ways that protect the integrity of others.
- Complete your own work and accept responsibility for that work.
- Report accurate and truthful information to members of the school community.

Supporting Guidelines

III-A Dress Code for Students

Columbus Public Schools believe that teaching principles of appropriate dress and appearance, good grooming, and cleanliness are a desirable component of the educational process. We are sensitive to the rapid changes in dress and grooming; however, we cannot accept those changes that depart from the standards of neat and appropriate appearance, good taste, modesty, and decency. Our school administration must weigh community standards along with individual rights. As a general rule, appearance that detracts from the learning environment cannot be permitted. It is our sincerest hope that students of Columbus High School will take pride in their appearance and their school.

Students who dress inappropriately will be given alternative attire (school T-shirt/shorts). Instructional time missed for clothing related issues (minimum of one half hour) will be made up in After School Detention.

The following general statements apply to all students during the instructional day:

- 1) Any article of clothing or other item brought to school by a student should not contain any printed wording or pictures that:
 - a) includes profanity, vulgarity, or is found to be sexually explicit, indecent or lewd, or makes sexual innuendo (sexually suggestive)
 - b) advertises the use or sale of tobacco or controlled substances in any manner
 - c) promotes a business establishment whose primary business is drug paraphernalia or alcohol related
 - d) would be found to be offensive to another ethnic background
 - e) indicates any form of gang affiliation
 - f) espouses questionable meaning or insinuates educationally inappropriate activities.
- 2) Clothing which is too tight or too short, has holes in the hip, thigh, genital or upper chest areas, or unnecessarily *exposes or draws attention to* one of these areas is considered disruptive to the learning environment and is

therefore inappropriate school attire.

- a) Clothing considered proper attire is a garment worn in a manner in which it was designed. Rolled waistbands or sagging waistlines, a full-length shirt with appropriate sleeves, skirts or shorts with a minimum of a 3-inch inseam, covered shoulders, no tank tops, bare midriffs, low cut shirts, bare backs and/or exposed undergarments will not be tolerated. Two-piece outfits must touch at the waist. Sleeveless shirts are permitted only if intact as originally manufactured. Students are not allowed to wear clothing/jewelry that would encourage horseplay or pose a risk to self or other students (i.e. spiked apparel and chains).
- b) *All pants must be secured at the waistline, at or above the hips even if a long shirt accompanies the pants or shorts are worn under the pants.*
- 3) Appropriate dress for some social situations out of school is not necessarily appropriate for school. The type of clothing worn by a student must not be injurious to self or jeopardize his/her safety or the safety of others (e.g., open-toed shoes, baggy or loose clothing in a STEM class, or dangling chains from clothing or wallets).
- 4) Shoes and shirts are essential for proper *inside-the-building* attire. Hats, sweat bands, stocking hats, bandanas, gloves, and sunglasses will not be considered proper building attire because they can be considered disruptive to the educational environment. Hats may be worn to school and kept in the locker during the academic school day. *Repeated violations will result in confiscation of the clothing item(s) as contraband. They may be held until the end of the school year.*
- 5) Dress identified by outside agencies (police and other law enforcement agencies) as gang-related and/or drug-related apparel is not allowed: e.g. West Side, South Side, East Side, North Side, gang affiliated artist, do-rags or bandanas worn on the head or hung from clothing, long baggy coats, knit gloves or prominent display of gang-affiliated colors, and other clothing which promotes gang activity using slang, symbolism and cartoon caricatures, clothing depicting gloved “Mickey” hands forming gestures, Marilyn Monroe featured shirts/sweatshirts, or altered rosaries.
- 6) Exceptions to the Columbus High School Dress Code detailed above *may* be made for “spirit days.” The administration will work with student organizations to determine this in advance.

The Columbus High School Dress Code is in alignment with CPS Board Policy 504.05. The items detailed in section III-A above are all items individual students may use or possess to express themselves. Columbus High School recognizes this and believes it is the right of each student to have, possess, and even display these items – just not in school.

III-B Non-instructional Areas

Students are only to be in non-instructional areas (such as hallways, bathrooms, cafeteria, commons, school grounds) when authorized. Students are to conduct themselves in a proper and prudent manner and should always clean up after themselves by disposing litter in trash containers. Gyms, restrooms, stairwells, and other un-supervised areas are not authorized areas to congregate before, during, or after school.

III-C Loitering

Students may not remain in school buildings, on school grounds, in student and/or faculty parking lots, or at school-sponsored events without the permission of school personnel after school is dismissed or the activity is completed. *Students are to be off the premises no later than 30 minutes following the dismissal of classes or school activities.* Students may not assemble in unauthorized areas or hallways during the school day when classes are in session.

III-D School-sponsored Activities - Suspensions

Students who are suspended out of school or suspended from school events will not be allowed to participate in or attend school-sponsored activities until they are reinstated.

III-E Contraband / Electronic Devices

Contraband is defined as any item not considered necessary to complete in-class activities and/or any item considered disruptive to the school environment during the instructional day (8:10-3:40). This would include (but is not limited to) any obscene or vulgar material, both electronic and non-electronic, lighters, electronic devices, MP3

player/iPod, earbuds, and portable video games. Contraband may be confiscated from students and turned into the main office.

Items confiscated from students may be required to have a parent/guardian pick up the item from the main office. Contraband repeatedly confiscated from a student may be held until the remainder of the school year and a parent/guardian will be required to request in writing, to pick up the item, from an administrator. Contraband held until the end of the current school year will be disposed of following the conclusion. Items deemed necessary to be turned over to law enforcement will have to be requested from law enforcement, by the owner.

III-Ea Cell Phone Possession and Use

At Columbus High School, we believe every student is allowed to possess and utilize a personal cell phone. That privilege is limited, however, at the point that the device becomes a distraction or disruption to the school environment, is believed to have been used to harass other students, or the student becomes insubordinate regarding its appropriate use.

Appropriate times for cell phone use at CHS are prior to 8:10 a.m., passing periods on the way to class, lunch and after school. Appropriate locations for cell phone use are in the main office or entry area when checking out of school, the hallways, and the cafeteria. Inappropriate locations for cell phone use are **all locker rooms and restrooms**, any office area without prior permission, the IMC without prior permission, STEM and science lab areas, and any classroom without prior permission. Other areas in which cell phone use is considered inappropriate would be in the auditorium or gymnasium during assemblies or presentations.

Students should always ask a supervising adult (teacher, administrator) before using the phone during a restricted time period or in a restricted location. Reasonable requests will be considered by teachers and administration.

Staff will confiscate cell phones when students receive or make phone calls, text message, or access the phone during the instructional period without prior staff permission. Cell phones or electronic devices must never be used to photograph or record others *with or without their knowledge and/or permission* during the school day, *at any school event or activity*. If a student is found to have violated this rule, particularly if the resulting image or recording was of a verbal or physical altercation or utilized to harass, intimidate or demean another student, would be subject to an investigation procedure that may result in discipline, up to and including suspension and expulsion. (See III-O Harassment/Bullying/Intimidation). A student found to have engaged in bullying and/or harassment by law enforcement may be forced to surrender his/her phone as evidence to the School Resource Officer. Legal Reference: Neb. Rev. Stat. § 79-267

Because students are expected to work with their teacher regarding cell phone use/access in the classroom and because students have been granted access to their phones during passing periods and lunch, a refusal to turn over a cell phone to a staff member who requests to hold it for the period will result in a minimum, 2-hour After School Detention consequence for insubordination. A parent/guardian may be required to pick up the confiscated phone in the main office at the conclusion of the instructional day if the student is non-cooperative. Repeat offenses will result in further disciplinary consequences for insubordination and could result in specific cell phone restrictions for that particular student imposed by administration.

CPS Board Policy 504.11 prohibits visible possession of all cell phones in any area where there is an expectation of privacy (locker rooms or restrooms). The school is not responsible for any lost or stolen devices.

Disclaimer: The administration reserves the right to restrict cell phone privileges for any student or all students, at any time, should cell phone use prove to become a distraction to the educational program.

III-F Open Containers / Beverages other than Water

Students are not to have open containers of beverages in the hallways or in their lockers. Clear plastic bottles with screw top lids are only permitted if they contain water. Unopened cans/bottles of juice may be brought from home for lunch but must be kept in students' lockers or bags until the lunch period and only be consumed in the cafeteria. Students are permitted to carry clear bottles of unflavored water. *Students found to be consuming beverages other than water outside of the cafeteria at any time in the school day will be asked to forfeit the item. Failure to do so will result in a referral for insubordination.*

III-G Vandalism

Students are not to damage or to write, draw, or mark on school property in any way. Doing so will result in consequences including restitution, detention, suspension in or outside school and/or mandatory reassignment. Legal Reference: Neb. Rev. Stat. § 79-267

III-H Skateboards

Due to the potential danger to skateboarders and to other people who might be on the site, the Board of Education bans the use of skateboards on school property or property under the control of the School District.

III-I Display of Affection

Students are not to exhibit excessive displays of affection which would be considered embarrassing or distracting to others on school grounds or at school-sponsored activities. (See also VII-A Dance Guidelines)

III-J Responsibilities of Students When Expressing Themselves

When students express themselves at school, at school-sponsored activities, or in public places away from school, they must abide by the following rules:

- 1) The expression shall not contain words, pictures and/or actions that are considered indecent, lewd, obscene, profane, vulgar, off-color; fighting or gutter words (four letter words); phrases which contain threats; physical gestures which are offensive or threatening to anyone seeing or hearing the expression; or expressions which undermine or are disrespectful to school personnel.
 - a) The use of hand signals, graffiti, or the presence of any apparel, jewelry (e.g. altered rosaries), accessory (e.g. black gloves), or manner of grooming which, by virtue of its color, arrangement, trademark, symbol, or any other attribute which indicates or implies membership or affiliation with a certain group, is disruptive to a positive learning environment and will not be tolerated. [CPS Board Policy 504.13]
- 2) The expression of the student shall not contain words, phrases, or gestures that ridicule or belittle.
- 3) The expression of the student shall not encourage other persons to violate school rules.
- 4) The expression of the student shall not be unusually loud or interfere with or obstruct any lawful mission, process, function, or purpose of the school.
- 5) The expression of the student shall not be slanderous.
- 6) The expression of the student shall not be libelous.
- 7) The expression of the student cannot be about, or directed at, any teacher, administrator, or other school employee at any time, in a public manner and incorporate any of the six previously identified inappropriate student expression. (Example: Any student who refers to a teacher in a public place at any time by a lewd or obscene manner that the teacher and/or others hear/see the insult may be disciplined by school authorities.)

Any student who fails to meet these requirements when expressing himself/herself may be disciplined [CPS Board Policy 504.07]. The Columbus High School administration reserves the right to deem excessive expressionism as disruptive to the school environment. This will be addressed on a case-by-case basis.

III-K Academic Dishonesty (Cheating)

Students caught cheating/plagiarizing on major assignments such as tests, quizzes or performance assessments will be reported to the office. The parents will be notified by the classroom teacher. The student will have the option to redo the work or retake the assignment/assessment at 50% value. Administrative consequences will be assigned based on frequency and severity.

III-L Altering School Records, Reports, Grades, Etc.

Students are forbidden to change and/or falsify school records, reports, grades, etc. Any tampering with such documents shall result in disciplinary actions.

Civic Expectation #2 – Interact effectively with others

- Respond without complaint to staff member or administrative directives.
- Follow staff member or administrative directives in a timely manner.
- Demonstrate respect for individuals responsible for school safety.
- Respect the right of others to make choices without verbal/physical coercion or intimidation.

Supporting Guidelines

III-M Insubordination

Students are to comply without complaint to reasonable directions given by all school personnel. **Definition:** Any student who fails to comply with reasonable directions or requests of school personnel will be considered insubordinate. Other acts of insubordination include, but are not limited to, inappropriate responses or use of inappropriate language and/or disrespectful behavior toward a staff member, failure to turn over contraband or other distractions such as a phone or failure to attend assigned periods of After-School Detention.

Consequence: Restriction of privileges, schedule change, activities suspension/expulsion (where appropriate), ISS, OSS, alternative placement, and/or expulsion.

III-N Parking

The privilege of driving to school and parking on school grounds comes with certain expectations. Students are expected to obtain and prominently display a CHS-issued parking permit in the front windshield of their vehicles. Students are also expected to park in the appropriate parking lots. Failure to do so may result in a parking fine, office referral, and/or placement of a boot on the vehicle. **It should be noted that ALL FINES COLLECTED ARE RETURNED TO THE STUDENT BODY in the form of student incentive and reward programs/ activities.**

Major Violations (Fine and/or Parking Boot)

Parking in the fire lane
Parking in incorrect lot or area
Parking in bus lanes and driving lanes
Unattended vehicle in bus and driving lane
Parking in grassy areas
Frequent minor violations

Minor Violations (Fine and/or Referral)

Parking tag does not match designated area
Failure to display parking tag
Parking in two stalls at one time

- Parking tickets will be issued; students will be fined and could have a parking boot placed on the car for parking violations. A **\$10 fine** will be assessed for the first offense; **\$15** for the second offense. **Upon the third offense, the violation will be considered insubordination and referred to an administrator.** Failure to have one's car registered with the main office will be an **additional \$5 fee**. Parking fines will not be allowed to accrue greater than \$30.00. Student privileges will be restricted until the fine balance is paid.
- Parking in driving lanes or blocking bus-turning lanes is an **automatic \$15 fine** because it obstructs traffic. Violators will be required to move their vehicles and make up missed instructional time in After School Detention.

III-Na Parking Lot Expectations

The privilege that comes with driving a vehicle to school also comes with certain behavioral expectations. These expectations support the safety of all who utilize the parking lots as well as preserve the orderly environment. Any student who violates these expectations is not only inconsiderate of others but also puts his/her safety at risk as well as the safety of others. This behavior will not be tolerated and can result in discipline ranging from After-School Detention to the removal of the right to operate a vehicle on the school property.

The following is a list of basic parking lot expectations:

- The utilization of appropriate trash receptacles in the parking lot is expected.
 - Students caught littering in the parking lot are inconsiderate of others and may receive consequences that may include parking lot litter collection for an appropriate period of time.
- The parking lot is CPS property. To that end, vaping, smoking, etc. are prohibited behaviors that will receive appropriate consequences when observed or reported.
- Students should demonstrate patience and consideration when entering or exiting the parking lots.
 - Accelerating past others who are waiting their turn in line is reckless endangerment and will receive administrative consequences when observed or reported. Doing so often puts the driver in the lane of oncoming traffic and puts him/her, as well as others, at risk of an accident.
- Students should never accelerate across seemingly open areas of the parking lot.

- Utilizing the established traffic lanes makes all traffic in the lot predictable for other drivers and pedestrians, thus reducing the risk of accidents.
- Driving over “islands” or curbs in the parking lot is not appropriate and can result in damage to the concrete as well as the landscaping, trees, light fixtures and your own vehicle.
- Driving over, onto or through snow piles in the parking lot is not appropriate. See previous bullet.
- Excessive torque (burnouts), “cookies,” and other forms of exhibition driving should never occur in the school parking lot. This will be considered reckless endangerment and result in appropriate consequences.
 - Besides the obvious dangers to bystanders, noise from loud vehicles disrupts activities taking place within the school building as well as projects negatively on teen drivers to our neighbors.
- Student vehicles are to occupy ONE parking stall. No student has the right to claim more than one parking stall for his/her vehicle. To do so is inconsiderate of others and a ticketable offense. Students who are concerned about others parking near to them should consider parking at the farthest ends of the lot or very near a parking lot camera.
- Students should not have items visible or displayed on their vehicles that contain lewd, obscene, vulgar, or indecent material that would otherwise violate the student handbook.
- Students who violate these parking lot expectations should be reported to administration by name and/or vehicle description, parking permit number and/or license plate number. The report can be made via email and will be considered anonymous.
- If you sustain damage or suspect a break-in to your vehicle, report it immediately to the Columbus Police Department. You should also notify CHS administration. CHS administration will work in cooperation with Columbus Police to utilize the parking lot surveillance cameras in the hope of identifying the offending party. Any information gathered will be shared directly with the investigating officer(s).

All students driving motorized vehicles to school must operate them in a safe and lawful manner. **Students observed operating a motor vehicle in an unsafe, reckless, or unlawful manner will be subject to disciplinary action and will be reported to the police.** Parking permits may be confiscated or revoked at administrative discretion. All cars parked on school property must be registered and display a school parking tag. Failure to display a proper parking permit in CHS lots will result in a ticket.

III-O Harassment/Bullying/Intimidation

Harassment of students, staff or visitors by CHS students or staff will not be tolerated. This policy is in effect while students or staff are on school grounds, school district property, or on property within the jurisdiction of the school district; while on school-owned and/or school-operated transportation; while attending or engaged in school activities; and while away from school grounds if the misconduct directly affects the good order, efficient management and welfare of the school or school district.

Harassment may be reported by anybody including students, parents, teachers, the student nurse, or other staff. Teachers, counselors and administrators will be involved in the investigation of incidents of harassment.

Definition: Harassment as set forth above may include, but is not limited to, the following:

- verbal, physical, written harassment, texted or posted abuse
- repeated remarks of a demeaning nature
- implied or explicit threats concerning one’s safety, well-being, grades, achievements, etc
- demeaning jokes, stories, or activities directed at an individual or group of individuals
- any ongoing pattern of physical, verbal, or electronic abuse

Students or individuals who feel that they have been harassed by other students should communicate to the harasser that the individual expects the behavior to stop, if the individual is comfortable doing so. If the individual needs assistance communicating with the harasser, he/she should ask a teacher, counselor or administrator to help.

If the harassment does not stop, or the individual does not feel comfortable confronting the harasser, he/she should:

- report the matter to a teacher or counselor.
- write down exactly what happened, keep a copy, and give another copy to the counselor;
 - what, when and where it happened
 - who was involved
 - exactly what was said or what the harasser did
 - witnesses to the harassment
 - what the individual said or did, either at the time or later

- o how the individual felt and
 - o how the harasser responded
 - o provide screenshots and/or printouts of the alleged abuse (when appropriate)
- The counselor will then investigate the matter by interviewing witnesses and the alleged harasser and report the results of the investigation to the appropriate grade-level administrator.
- If the administrator determines that harassment is indeed occurring, appropriate consequences will be assigned as necessary based upon frequency and severity of the behavior.

Consequences: Students whose behavior is found to be in violation of this policy will be subject to the investigation procedure that may result in discipline, up to and including, suspension, and expulsion.

Retaliation against an individual because the individual has filed a harassment complaint or who may have assisted or participated in a harassment investigation or proceeding is also prohibited. A student who is found to have retaliated against an individual in violation of this policy will be subject to discipline, up to and including, suspension, and expulsion. [CPS Board Policy 504.17, 504.17R1] Legal Reference: Neb. Rev. Stat. § 79-267(8), § 79-2,137.

III-Oa Hazing

Definition: Hazing is an abusive, often humiliating form of initiation into or affiliation with a group, including any willful action taken or situation created which recklessly or intentionally endangers the mental or physical health of another.

No student shall do anything to physically or psychologically harm another student or staff member at school, on school grounds, or at school-sponsored events or on their way to and from school.

Consequence: Restriction of privileges, schedule change, activities suspension/expulsion (where appropriate), ISS, OSS, alternative placement and/or expulsion.

- 1) Hazing activities that occur outside the school day, outside school activities, and/or off school grounds should be reported by the victim to law enforcement. Columbus High School administration will become involved if/when the matter spills over to the regular school day or at school activities.
- 2) Intimidation, extortion, or verbal or physical threats will result in suspension or expulsion from school.
- 3) It should be noted that hazing is a Class II misdemeanor punishable by up to six months in jail and \$1000.00 fine. The School Resource Officer will be consulted on all matters of hazing.

III-P Inappropriate Behavior

Inappropriate behavior in regards to public indecency and indecent exposure will be defined to coincide with Neb. Rev. Stat. § 79-267 (7) and Columbus High School expectations.

- 1) Students engaging in sexual conduct, even if consensual, on school grounds or at a school function or event
- 2) Sexual assault or attempting to sexually assault any person on school grounds or at a school function or event
- 3) Students exposing themselves inappropriately to draw attention to a private area

Consequence: Restriction of privileges, schedule change, activities suspension/expulsion (where appropriate), ISS, OSS, alternative placement and/or expulsion. Students may also face a citation for indecent exposure. [Columbus City Ordinance 130.091 Indecent Exposure].

III-Pa Sexual Harassment

Sexually harassing student(s) or school personnel is prohibited at school, on school grounds, at school-sponsored events, or on the way to and from school.

Sexual Harassment

The Columbus High School is committed to maintaining an educational setting that is free of sexual harassment. Sexual harassment is an illegal action relevant to Title IX, Title VII, and Nebraska State Statute, Columbus Board Policy 404.06 and Columbus Board Policy 504.17. Sexual harassment will not be tolerated, and the Columbus High School administration will take immediate and appropriate action upon notification of offense.

At Columbus High School, sexual harassment will be defined as any unwelcome advances, a request for sexual favors, or verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature by a student toward another student when the conduct has an effect of interfering with academic performance of the student or creates an intimidating, hostile, offensive or unsafe learning environment. This procedure and definition of sexual harassment will also include unwanted advances by a

student toward an employee. As used in this policy the word “student” shall mean any resident student of the district, any student being served by contract with another educational agency, or any other person of school age attending the district for educational reasons. The word “employee” shall mean any person who is employed by the district.

The following procedure shall be followed to report any violation of this policy.

- 1) Student will report the incident to the appropriate assistant principal. The administrator will require the student to submit a written statement containing location, time, incident details, witnesses and student reaction. The administrator will investigate the incident by speaking to other students or staff who were identified as witnesses to the incident. A written statement will be obtained by these individuals, as well.
- 2) The administrator will then speak with the alleged harasser as part of their due process rights. Information obtained from step 1 above will be kept confidential. This alleged student will be given the opportunity to provide a written statement on his/her behalf as well as a list of students who may speak on his/her behalf..
- 3) The administrator will continue to investigate the incident based upon this new information.
- 4) The administrator may share information with other building administrators to determine the outcome of the investigation through a collaborative approach.
- 5) Consequences that may be imposed by the administration: verbal warning with conference regarding inappropriate behavior, parental conference, short-term suspension (1-5 days), long-term suspension (6-19 days), or expulsion from school.
- 6) The same procedures will be used with student harassment of a staff member.

Columbus High School will not tolerate any retaliatory behavior against any person(s), the harasser or person(s) encouraged by the harasser who have submitted information to the high school administration. The consequences will be the same as the above list.

The administration of Columbus High School will cooperate fully with the appropriate law enforcement agency if the harassed student/employee would file any charges through the court system. All written statements and documentation will be turned over to any investigative unit, if requested.

The Grievance Office (Title IX) of the Columbus Public Schools is the Superintendent of Schools, Columbus Public School District #1, 2508 27th Street, Columbus; phone: 402-563-7050.

Sex Offender Law

The Student Discipline Act allows for a student to be expelled from school when the student is criminally charged with certain sexual assaults even though the sexual assault occurs off school grounds. Sexual assault means sexual assault in the first or second degree or a sexual assault of a child in the first, second or third degree. Legal Reference: Neb. Rev. Stat. § 79-267(8)

Dating Violence

Columbus Public Schools strives to provide physically safe and emotionally secure environments for all students and staff. Positive behaviors are encouraged in the educational program and are required of all students and staff. Dating violence will not be tolerated.

Definition: For purposes of this policy, “dating violence” means a pattern of behavior in which one person threatens, or actually uses, physical, sexual, verbal, or emotional abuse to control his or her current or former dating partner. “Dating partner” means any person, regardless of gender, involved in an intimate relationship with another person primarily characterized by the expectation of affectionate involvement whether casual, serious, or long term.

Consequence: Restriction of privileges, schedule change, activities suspension/expulsion (where appropriate), ISS, OSS, alternative placement, and/or expulsion.

Incidents of dating violence involving students at school will be addressed as the administration determines appropriate, within the scope and subject to the limits of the District’s authority.

[CPS Board Policy 504.20] Legal Reference: Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 79-2,139 to 79-2,142

Date of Adoption: May 17, 2010

Civic Expectation #3 – Fulfill legal requirements

All students are expected to perform according to the stated civic expectations and objectives.

- Act responsibly to maintain the physical safety of self and others.
- Respect the right of individuals or school officials to protect personal or public property from unwanted use or handling.
- Respect the right of the school to govern the use of technology or equipment.
- Only touch fire alarms/security equipment in case of an emergency.
- Respect the responsibility of the school to deny the possession/use of tobacco products, alcohol, or drugs.
- Respect the right of individuals to learn in a safe environment free of harassment/bullying.
- Act and speak responsibly to protect the school community from irreversible harm.
- Protect the school community from real or perceived weapons and/or explosives.

Supporting Guidelines

III-Q Reckless Endangerment

Students shall not engage in acts that create a substantial risk of physical injury to another person.

Consequence: After-School Detention, restriction of privileges, schedule change, activities suspension/expulsion (where appropriate), ISS, OSS, alternative placement and/or expulsion.

III-Qa Snowballs

Students are not to throw snowballs while on school grounds, or on their way to and from school, or while attending school events.

Consequence: After-School Detention, restriction of privileges, schedule change, activities suspension/expulsion (where appropriate), ISS, OSS, alternative placement, and/or expulsion.

III-Qb Unauthorized Games / Activities

Students are not permitted to participate in unauthorized games involving kicking, hitting, or throwing an object within the school building or on school grounds. Objects utilized in such games will be confiscated, and consequences involving contraband and reckless endangerment can be enforced.

Students are to know that gaming or other unauthorized use of the student device (streaming music or videos, etc.) during academic periods can result in disciplinary consequences including suspension of Internet privileges or access to the student device. Appropriate times for students to use the student device for recreational purposes would include during breakfast or lunch *in the cafeteria*.

III-R Theft/Stealing

Students are prohibited from borrowing without permission or stealing personal or public (school) property. Students found to have stolen the property of others will be subject to restitution and will be reported to the School Resource Officer. The theft of a student device, charging cords, or storage bags will result in disciplinary action including, but not limited to, suspension and expulsion.

Any student device or equipment that is misplaced or suspected to be stolen must be reported immediately to the CHS Technology Office. All found devices or equipment should be immediately returned to the CHS Technology Office along with a detailed explanation of where and when the item was found; any other *found* items should be returned to the main office. Legal Reference: Neb. Rev. Stat. § 79-267

III-S Unauthorized Entry

When school is in session, students are not to be in the school building before 6:30 AM or 30 minutes after dismissal time unless they are scheduled in activities taking place within the building or unless they have written permission from a staff member. Students should not allow others into the building, or prop doors open, at any unauthorized entrance.

III-T Fighting / Assaults

Students may not engage in verbal or physical altercations in school buildings, on school grounds, or when traveling in school vehicles/busses or at school-sponsored events. Students hitting, striking, kicking or in any other way harming

another student or school personnel will be **suspended and may be recommended for expulsion**. Students may be liable for suspension or expulsion if they bring into the schools any object or substance which, when reasonable standards are applied and circumstances warrant, it is determined that the primary purpose is to cause bodily harm or property damage as set forth in CPS Board Policy 505.02 and 505.03. Columbus High School will comply with Nebraska State Statute relative to assaults by reporting incidents to law enforcement officials. Legal Reference: Neb. Rev. Stat. § 79-267

III-U Aiding and Abetting

Any student who aids, abets (encourages inappropriate behavior), or causes another to commit any offense may receive consequences as if he/she were the principal offender. The student could also face criminal charges if the offense merits a report to law enforcement officials. For example, a student who records a student altercation with a cell phone instead of reporting it to staff, is aiding and abetting the offending individuals.

III-V Computers / Technology Integration & Internet Use

Throughout this section of the handbook, reference will be made to a student's *district-issued device*. A district-issued device could take the form of a laptop, tablet, or other mobile device provided by the school district to the student for educational use.

Computer network/Internet access is available to students and teachers in Columbus Public Schools. We believe that an Internet/network access offers valuable, diverse, and unique resources to both students and teachers. Our goal in providing this service is to promote educational excellence in the district by facilitating resource sharing, innovation and communication.

Access to the Internet enables students to explore thousands of libraries, databases, and bulletin boards while exchanging messages with users across the globe. In addition, the system is used to increase school and district communication, enhance productivity, and assist teachers in upgrading their skills through greater exchange of information with their peers. The system also assists us in sharing information with the local community, including parents, social service agencies, government agencies, and businesses.

With access to computers and people from around the world also comes the availability of material that may not be considered to be of educational value in the context of the school setting. Families should be warned that some material obtained via the Internet might contain items that are illegal, defamatory, inaccurate, or potentially offensive. We have taken precautions to restrict access to controversial materials through the installation of an Internet filtering device. However, on a global network, it is impossible to control all materials, and an industrious user may discover controversial information, either by accident or deliberately. We firmly believe, however, that the benefits to students from online access far outweigh the possibility that users may procure material that is not consistent with our educational goals. We strive to ensure that use of Internet/network resources is consistent with our stated mission, goals, and objectives.

The smooth operation of the network relies upon the proper conduct of the students and faculty, who must adhere to strict guidelines and proper ethical behavior when using the Internet/network. To use our computers, network, and Internet connection, all students must conduct themselves in a manner consistent with our educational focus. **If the student fails to do so, he/she will be subjected to disciplinary sanctions by the administration and by law enforcement. CPS does not allow any unauthorized video or audio recording during the school day.**

Students have access to computers throughout the building for educational use, whether it be their district-issued device or individual classroom, lab or IMC workstations. Student access to technology will be subject to change at the discretion of the administration or staff responsible for the supervision of these areas. Use of the Internet at school is available to research areas directly related to specific classroom assignments. **The district network may NOT be used for personal email, chat rooms, games, streaming video/music, sharing accounts, or accessing any material deemed inappropriate for school.** Students are subject to the Nebraska State Statute on "hacking," in addition to the Columbus Public Schools Board of Education Policies 504.09, 606.05, 606.06, & 606.07. The terms and conditions of use are identified on the parental permission form for Internet access.

No district-issued devices may leave the United States for any reason, such as during student travel.

All teachers may confiscate student-issued devices when the device is being used inappropriately. Whether the device is returned to the student at the end of the period or is turned over to the grade-level administrator requiring the student to meet with the administrator prior to the return of the device will depend upon the frequency and severity of the offense. The administrator may choose to block the student's access to the Internet or otherwise limit the device use for a specified period of time as part of the consequence.

All CHS students will be required to complete digital literacy training before access to the school district devices/network will be permitted. The issuance of and revocation of access to school district technology and networks will be handled by building-level administration.

Specific details about student use of the district-issued student devices is covered in detail in a document entitled Columbus Public Schools Student Acceptable Use Agreement, provided at the time of device roll-out .

Specific Internet-use guidelines are listed below:

The computers, networks, hardware, software, peripherals, and configurations in any school classroom are the property of Columbus Public Schools and are not to be altered, modified, damaged, or degraded in any manner.

- Do not install, upgrade, or modify any software operating system, application, or service.
- Do not use a school workstation or device to search for or view any material that would assist in bypassing the Internet filter, gaining unauthorized access to the network, or other attempts to “hack” past the access limits that are in place.
- Do not view, print, distribute, display, send, or receive images, text, or graphics of obscene materials or material that violates laws relating to child pornography.
- Do not use an Internet workstation or student device to view, print, distribute, display, send, or receive images, text, or graphics that contain hate speech, threatening, or harassing material.
- Do not engage in any activity that is deliberately offensive or creates an intimidating or hostile environment.
- Do not violate copyright or software licensing agreements. Do not download or exchange audio and video files, including MP3 files and other similar files.
- Do not gain unauthorized access to any computing, information, or communication devices or resources.
- Do not copy, download, design, or create any software or component intended to damage, alter, or degrade software applications or network architectures.
- Do not use a workstation or device to conduct a business or participate in online buying or selling.
- Any violations of these rules, or the NE state statute on “hacking” will be considered a violation of the Acceptable Use Agreement and will result in loss of Internet access, disciplinary action, AND assessment of monetary damages (when appropriate).
- Do not use email or any other communication platform to threaten, harass, demean, or provoke another student.

III-Va Google Accounts

The Columbus Public Schools district utilizes Google Apps for Education for students, teachers, and staff. This section describes the tools and student responsibilities for using these services. As with any educational endeavor, a strong partnership with families is essential to a successful experience.

As a district, we only authorize the use of tools and applications that support the implementation of our curriculum and have been through a rigorous educational process. Our district utilizes several computer software applications and web-based services, operated not by school district but by third parties. A complete list of the programs with the privacy policy for each can be found on our district website: <http://columbuspublicschools.org/coppa/>

The following services are available to each student and hosted by Google as part of Columbus Public Schools’ online presence in Google Apps for Education:

Classroom - a collaborative cloud-computing environment where teachers can post class assignments and through which students can turn work into their teachers

Mail - an individual email account for school use managed by Columbus Public Schools

Calendar – an individual calendar providing the ability to organize schedules, daily activities, and assignments

Drive – a collection of apps for word-processing, spreadsheet, drawing, and presentation that is very similar to Microsoft Office but also contains within it a cloud-storage area for student assignments and projects

Using these tools, students collaboratively create, edit, and share files and websites for school related projects and communicate via email with other students and teachers. These services are entirely online and available 24/7 from any

Internet-connected computer. Examples of student use include showcasing class projects, building an electronic portfolio of school learning experiences, and working in small groups on presentations to share with others.

In order for our students to use these educational programs and services, certain Board Policy approved directory information may be provided to the website operator strictly for educational purposes. This directory information may consist of the student's name, username, district e-mail address, grade level, age and/or date of birth. The need for such information is necessary to utilize software and web-based services as part of the classroom instruction. **A signature on the Student Handbook Signature Page constitutes consent for our school district to provide this directory information.**

Technology use in the Columbus Public Schools District is governed by federal laws including the following:
Children's Online Privacy Protection Act (COPPA)

COPPA applies to commercial companies and limits their ability to collect personal information from children under age 13. By default, advertising is turned off for Columbus Public School's presence in Google Apps for Education. No personal student information is collected for commercial purposes. This permission form allows the school to act as an agent for parents in the collection of information within the school context. The school's use of student information is solely for educational purposes. -- COPPA <http://www.ftc.gov/privacy/coppafaqs.shtm>

Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)

FERPA protects the privacy of student education records and gives parents the right to review student records. Under FERPA, schools may disclose directory information (refer to Board Policy 507.02), but parents may request the school not disclose this information. Parents are provided the opportunity annually to opt out of disclosing their student's directory information on the District's Enrollment Form. That form can be found at the following site:
<http://www.ed.gov/policy/gen/guid/fpco/ferpa>

Guidelines for the responsible use of Google Apps for Education by students:

1. Official Email Address. All students will be assigned a username@discoverers.org email account. This account will be considered the student's official CPS email address until such time as the student is no longer enrolled with Columbus Public Schools.
2. Prohibited Conduct. Please refer to the Acceptable Use Agreement in Appendix B at the end of this handbook..
3. Access Restrictions. Access to and use of student email is considered a privilege accorded at the discretion of the Columbus Public Schools District. The District maintains the right to immediately withdraw the access and use of these services, including email when there is reason to believe that a violation of law or District policies has occurred. In such cases, the alleged violation will be referred to a building administrator for further investigation and adjudication.
4. Security. Columbus Public Schools cannot and does not guarantee the security of electronic files located on Google systems. Although Google does have a powerful content filter in place for email, the District cannot assure that users will not be exposed to unsolicited information.
5. Privacy. The general right of privacy will be extended to the extent possible in the electronic environment. Columbus Public Schools and all electronic users should treat electronically stored information in individuals' files as confidential and private. However, users of student email are strictly prohibited from accessing files and information other than their own. The District reserves the right to access these Google systems, including current and archival files of user accounts when there is reasonable suspicion that unacceptable use has occurred.

By signing off on the student handbook, the parent(s) and student confirm that they have read and understand the following:

Under FERPA and corresponding Nebraska law, a student's education records are protected from disclosure to third parties. They understand that the student's education records stored in Google Apps for Education may be accessible to someone other than the student and the Columbus Public School District by virtue of this online environment. By signing off on the student handbook, the parent(s) and student confirm their consent to allow the student's education records to be stored by Google.

The parent(s) understand that by participating in Google Apps for Education, information about the student will be collected and stored electronically. The parent(s) has/have read the privacy policies associated with the use of Google Apps for Education (<http://www.google.com/a/help/intl/en/edu/privacy.html>). The parent(s) understand that they may ask for their child's account to be removed at any time.

III-W Damage of School or Private Property

Students are not to participate in any activity not properly supervised by school personnel that could damage, deface, or alter the school or private property of another individual or entity on school grounds. This includes tampering with or otherwise damaging building safety or security equipment. If a student damages, defaces, or alters Columbus High School property or the private property of another individual or entity, he/she is financially responsible for all damages and will be subject to disciplinary actions, including a referral to law enforcement.

CHS students are expected to behave in a manner that is respectful of the property of another school. Students found to have participated in the damaging or defacing of property of another school in a manner that draws an association with Columbus High School will be subject to disciplinary procedures including, but not limited to, restitution, suspension from school activities, loss of privileges, and/or suspension from school.

Students are responsible for the cost of repair or replacement of any student device, charging cords/power adapter, and protective storage sleeve issued to them. If a student device or peripherals are believed to be stolen, this information must be reported *immediately* to the CHS Technology Office during the school day. After school hours and on weekends or holidays, call the **CPS Technology Hotline 402-563-7069** and leave a detailed message including the name of the student, student ID number, and circumstances resulting in the missing computer. Legal Reference: Neb. Rev. Stat. § 79-267

III-X False Alarms

It is a violation of NE Statute for students to falsely set off fire alarms. Any student who deliberately sets off a false fire alarm will be reported to legal authorities and subject to suspension from school.

III-Y Alcohol-Tobacco-Drugs [CPS Board Policies 504.14 and 504.14R1, Legal Reference: Neb. Rev. Stat. § 79-267]

III-Ya Use of Tobacco/Inhalant Products

It is the responsibility of the school to maintain a safe and drug-free educational environment. Columbus High School students are not to possess, use, distribute, or sell tobacco or tobacco-related or "look alike" products on school grounds.

Definition: Tobacco products include cigarettes, cigars, chewing tobacco, snuff, or any form of tobacco intended to be smoked, chewed, sniffed, dissolved, or inhaled or products intended to replicate tobacco products either by appearance or effect. Possessing or use of e-cigarettes, vape devices and/or vapor liquids in any form at school is in direct violation of this policy. Tobacco or inhalant products confiscated from a student will be turned over to the School Resource Officer or other law enforcement officials. It will be up to the law enforcement officials as to whether an item is returned to a parent/guardian following confiscation at school.

Consequences: Students found guilty of possessing, using, distributing, or selling tobacco or inhalant products will receive the following consequences:

Possession/Use:

- 1st violation:** Students found guilty of a first violation at any time during the school year shall forfeit the contraband to the School Resource Officer and receive two to three days ISS. The student must also complete a school-approved smoking/vaping cessation program conducted by the school nurse.
- 2nd violation:** Students found guilty of a second violation at any time during the school year shall forfeit the contraband to the School Resource Officer and receive two to three days OSS. The student must also complete a school-approved smoking/vaping cessation program conducted by the school nurse.
- 3rd violation:** Students found guilty of a third violation at any time during the school year shall forfeit the contraband to the School Resource Officer and receive: five days OSS.
- 4th and subsequent:** Students found guilty of a fourth and/or subsequent violations at any time during the school year shall forfeit the contraband to the School Resource Officer and receive 6-19 day OSS.

Distribution:

- 1st violation:** Students found guilty of a first violation at any time during the school year shall forfeit the contraband to the School Resource Officer and receive three days OSS.
- 2nd violation:** Students found guilty of a 2nd violation at any time of the school year shall forfeit the contraband to the School Resource Officer and receive five days OSS.
- 3rd violation:** students found guilty of a 3rd violation violations at any time during the school year shall forfeit the contraband to the School Resource Officer and receive 6-19 day OSS.
- 4th and subsequent:** Students found guilty of a fourth and/or subsequent violations at any time during the school year shall forfeit the contraband to the School Resource Officer and receive an emergency exclusion OSS with placement to be determined following a team meeting.

III-Yb Alcohol and Drugs

Columbus High School has a responsibility for providing a safe and secure educational environment for its students and staff. Misuse of drugs is a danger to the health and well being of the members of the school community. The school strives to work with parents to create a helpful, caring environment where learning can occur. Although parents have the ultimate, primary responsibility for their children's health, the school's responsibility is to maintain a drug-free educational environment.

Columbus High School prohibits the possession of alcohol or drugs and drug paraphernalia. This includes: distribution, dispensing, manufacturing, possession, use of or being under the influence of alcohol, federally banned or "look alike" substances by students while on school grounds, during school hours or school-sponsored events. Items and products covered in this policy will be confiscated from the student and turned over to the School Resource Officer or other investigating law enforcement officials.

Columbus High School reserves the right to utilize breathalyzers and/or drug testing equipment with students who may show signs of being under the influence of drugs or alcohol intoxication **at school or school-sponsored activities**. These tests will be administered by properly trained school personnel, School Resource Officers or other law enforcement officials.

Students violating the district's drug policy during the school day or at school-sponsored activities will be assigned disciplinary consequences and, if appropriate, activity consequences as explained in the Student Handbook. Consequences will begin when the administration has determined that a violation has occurred and due process has taken place. **The school may require that students obtain drug/alcohol tests at parental expense in order to determine if a violation has occurred.** Disciplinary consequences will vary according to the severity of the violation and the number of times a student has committed violations. Students who violate the district tobacco, alcohol, and drug policy will be referred to law enforcement officials.

Consequences: Students under the influence of drugs/alcohol shall receive the following:

1. First violation at any time during the school year shall be 19 days OSS. However, upon the presentation to the school administration of an appointment for an evaluation done by a professional substance abuse counselor with information provided to the school, the administration may reduce this consequence to three days OSS and three days ISS. The evaluation/counseling shall be at parental expense and must be completed within the time limits set by the school administration. The substance abuse counselor must be approved by the building principal prior to the student's seeking services, and the student's parent(s) and/or guardian(s) and the substance abuse counselor must agree to the exchange of all pertinent information between school officials and the substance abuse counselor. This evaluation must be accompanied by specific recommendations. Should this student, at any time during the remainder of his/her attendance, fail to comply with any of the given recommendations, the original suspension can be imposed.
2. Second or subsequent violations during the school year may result in expulsion and mandatory reassignment at the Alternative School or an educational placement deemed appropriate by the administration. [CPS Board Policy 504.14]

Students possessing, distributing, or selling drugs/alcohol shall receive the following:

1. First violation at any time during the school year shall be 19 days OSS. However, upon the presentation to the school administration of an appointment for an evaluation done by a professional substance abuse counselor with information provided to the school, the administration may reduce this consequence to five days OSS and five days ISS.

2. Second or subsequent violations during the school year may result in expulsion and mandatory reassignment at the Alternative School or an educational placement deemed appropriate by the administration.

III-Yc Prescription Drugs

Definition: any drug or chemical that is prescribed for a particular individual by a doctor and intended for use only by the individual named on the prescription bottle.

Columbus High School reserves the right to exercise control of the misuse, misrepresentation, distribution, or selling of prescription drugs. Students are not to misuse, misrepresent, distribute, or sell prescription drugs. No prescription drugs can be administered by anyone other than the nurse or other designated persons. Students using prescription drugs shall bring them to school in properly labeled prescription containers, and said prescriptions shall be accompanied by written parental verification.

Exception: With written permission that parents accept the responsibility for the student taking his/her own medications, high school students may carry their own prescriptions and medicate themselves in accordance with Policy 504.14. Prescription drugs for asthma and diabetes are also excluded as per policy.

III-Yd Non-Prescriptions Medications / Vitamins

Definition: any drug or chemical that can be purchased without a prescription and that does not fall under state or federal limitations. Columbus High School reserves the right to exercise control over the misuse, misrepresentation, distributing, or selling non-prescription medications or edible items. Students are not to misuse, misrepresent, distribute, or sell non-prescription medication or edible items.

Consequences: Students found guilty of misusing, misrepresenting, distributing or selling non-prescription medications or edible items shall receive the following: **1st violation:** up to 5 days OSS, **2nd violation:** up to 19 days OSS, **3rd violation:** expulsion from school for the remainder of the semester or 19 days OSS, whichever is longer.

The high school nurse has a limited supply of non-prescription medications (Tylenol, ibuprofen, cough drops and Tums or a generic equivalent). Students may have access to these medications if the parent has signed the Non-Prescription Medication Release Form. Students may bring and carry their own supply of the above listed medications ONLY if the release form is signed by the parent and on file in the CHS Nurse's Office. In the event that another form of non-prescription medication would be needed during the school day, a Medication Release Form will need to be signed and the medication will be stored in the nurse's office. Students are forbidden from sharing any medication with another student.

III-Ye Records of Violations and Consequences

Anecdotal notes or violations of the district tobacco and drug policies will be shared between administrators from one year to another and from one attendance center to another, and disciplinary action may carry over from one year to another and from one attendance center to another if the consequence was not completed. However, violations of the tobacco, alcohol and drug policy are not cumulative from one year to another or from one attendance center to another unless the student is a participant in extracurricular activities.

III-Z Rumors, Threats, and Prohibited Items

Columbus High School takes the possibility of a real crisis very seriously as does the Columbus Police Department. Working closely together, these two entities strive to ensure, as much as is humanly possible, the safety of all students. School closure due to rumors, threats and/or the possession of prohibited items will result in additional school time to be made up by all students, as directed by the Superintendent and/or the Board of Education.

III-Za Improper Sharing of Content

Spreading rumors, text messaging or sharing of content, material or false information, either electronic or non-electronic, which results in fear and/or disruption of the school day can be subjected to legal prosecution and suspension, expulsion, and/or mandatory reassignment.

III-Zb Threatening Statements Concerning Student/Building Safety

When a threatening statement concerning student/building safety is received, these steps will be followed:

- The principal is informed of the threat.
- Parents of the student making the threat are called.
- The SRO or police are called to assist with conducting the initial investigation. The SRO/Police may bring other agencies in to investigate (HHS, etc.)
- The student is suspended from school under an emergency exclusion as per Nebraska statute.
- The student may return to school after a psychologist has evaluated the student to determine the level of threat to the safety of the student and others. This evaluation is at parent cost. A readmission plan may be written if determined by the school administrator prior to returning to school. Ultimately, it is the school's decision based upon the information provided by all parties and the investigation as to whether the student is readmitted. The student may be reassigned to a different placement or program.
- The central office administration will be informed of the situation throughout the process.

III-Zc Bomb Threats

The false reporting of bomb threats will be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law. School closure due to rumors, threats, and/or the possession of prohibited items will result in additional school time to be made up by all students as directed by the Superintendent and/or the Board of Education.

III-Zd Firearms, Weapons, Explosives, and Material that Can be Ignited

Firearms, weapons, explosives, and material that can be ignited (e.g. fireworks) are prohibited on school property, or at school-sponsored events, unless authorized by the proper school authorities. A student shall not knowingly possess, handle, or transmit any object or material that is ordinarily or generally considered a weapon or that has the appearance of a weapon, including, but not limited to, a starter gun, paintball gun, Airsoft gun, stun gun, taser, or pellet gun or bringing or possessing any explosive device, including fireworks. A student in possession of a firearm will be expelled from school for a period of one calendar year, as stated in Neb. Rev. Stat. § 79-263. Legal Reference: Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 79-263, 79-267

III-Ze Concealed Handgun Law

It is unlawful for an individual to carry a concealed handgun at school. The law stipulates that handguns may not be carried into school buildings, on school grounds, in school-owned vehicles, and/or at school-sponsored activities or athletic events. The intent of the law (1) assures employees, students, and parents that no one will be permitted to carry a handgun at their school notwithstanding the law and (2) provides permit holders with the understanding that they are not to carry their handguns to school, as stated in Neb. Rev. Stat. § 69-2441.

III-Zf Activities Forbidden by the Laws of the State of Nebraska, the City of Columbus, or the United States of America

Students, as citizens of the United States and the State of Nebraska, are to obey all laws established by these respective governmental agencies. Students who violate these laws during the school hours or at school-sponsored events may be disciplined by the school in addition to any action taken by law enforcement agencies. Any activity/behavior which violates Nebraska Criminal Code constitutes a danger to other students or interferes with school purposes and which becomes known or suspected by the administration will be referred to law enforcement authorities. Legal Reference: Neb. Rev. Stat. § 79-267

SECTION IV

ADMINISTRATIVE DISCIPLINE – STUDENT ATTENDANCE EXPECTATIONS

1. **Attend school on a regular basis.**
2. **Be aware of absence procedures.**
3. **Be on time and present in assigned classes.**

To assure that students acquire the knowledge and skills necessary to fulfill the school mission, all students are expected to attend school on a consistent basis. This means all students enrolled in any of the Columbus Schools, regardless of how old they are, must attend school regularly and be in all the classes to which they are assigned, unless properly excused by an official of the school. *The ultimate responsibility for keeping track of the number of days absent from a particular class rests with the student and his/her parent or guardian.*

School Attendance Expectation #1 – Attend school on a regular basis

Supporting Guidelines

IV-A Attendance – Student Absences

Any student who misses more than ten (10) days in a semester is in violation of Nebraska statute and the Columbus Public Schools Attendance Policy. Students who miss more than 10 times in a semester seriously jeopardize their ability to receive credit for such classes.

Regular attendance by students 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.

Student absences approved by the principal shall be considered allowable absences. Approved absences shall count as days in attendance for purposes of addressing excessive absenteeism, except for notification of the county attorney. These absences include, but are not limited to, medically documented illnesses or appointments, pandemic occurrences identified by local clinics, recognized religious observances, and school-sponsored or approved activities.

It shall be the responsibility of the parent to notify the high school attendance office as soon as the parent knows the student will not be attending school on that day. For a student absence to be considered excused, the parent/guardian shall provide notice to the school prior to, during, or immediately upon the return of the student to school. This notice may take the form of an email, hand-written note, or voice message to the attendance secretary. In the event of multiple absences, the grade-level administrator may request evidence or written verification of the student's reason for absence. **[CPS Board Policy 503.03 and Neb. Rev. Stat. § 79-209]**

IV-Aa Attendance - Extended Absences

A family may, from time to time require their student(s) to miss school for an extended period of time (more than three consecutive days). This may be for the purpose of a vacation or international travel. When this occurs, it creates a significant strain on the student's ability to stay caught up with classroom activities. Such absences should carefully be considered while consulting the school calendar to minimize lost class time.

In the event a student will miss more than three consecutive days, we ask that the student meet with his/her school counselor and complete a CHS Extended Vacation Form. The form will list work to be completed by the student for each of his/her teachers and signed by an administrator, ensuring that all have been made aware of the student's need to be absent. The timeframe for the absence and the expected completion date for all classwork upon return from the absence will also appear on the form. If the extended absence results in the student exceeding the statutory limit on allowable absences for the school year (20), the student may be required to make up time due to excessive absenteeism.

In the event of international travel, the student device must be checked into the CHS technology office, prior to departure.

IV-B Attendance – Activity Participation

On the day of a contest, performance, or other activity, a student who is not in attendance the full day is ineligible for the contest, performance, or activity. **[CPS Board Policy 503.03]**

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

Exceptions may be made for extenuating circumstances such as medical or dental appointments or family emergencies. The athletic director must approve any exceptions to this policy.

IV-C Attendance - Following Activities

Students participating in school-sponsored activities during the school week are expected to report to school on time the following day. Students tardy or absent may forfeit the opportunity to participate in the next contest/game. The high school administration has the sole authority to excuse students on the day following a competition/activity.

IV-D Attendance – Seniors’ Final Month

Any senior who is unexcused during his/her final four weeks of school will be required to make up his/her time prior to graduation. Failure to do so will jeopardize his/her participation in the graduation ceremony. If the unexcused absence occurs on the seniors’ final day of attendance, those in violation will not be permitted to participate in the graduation ceremony and will be required to attend school the week after graduation. Diplomas will not be issued until this responsibility is fulfilled.

Seniors **must attend** graduation practice in order to participate in the graduation ceremony.

Student Attendance Expectation #2 – Be aware of absence procedures

Supporting Guidelines

IV-E Absence Verification

All parent notes must include the parent’s daytime phone number to verify the absence. This procedure applies to family obligations, college visits arranged through the guidance office, state tournament attendance when approved by the school administration, or pre-arranged appointments with a health care provider.

IV-F Sign-Out Procedure

Students must sign out whenever they leave the building, except for activities. Students leaving the building with a pre-arranged absence will be counted as unexcused if they fail to sign out in the office. **Important:** Students must sign in upon their return to school. Students must provide a note from parents, dentist, doctor, etc. before the absence will be counted as **allowed**. School officials reserve the right to call parents if it appears the note procedure is being abused.

IV-G Makeup Time - Approved Absence

Students are responsible for making up all work missed because of allowable absences. **Students will be allowed one day to collect work, plus one additional day for every day they were allowed absent to make up missed work.** *For instance, if a student was allowed absent for two days, a total of three days will be allowed to pick up missed work, complete assignments and missed tests.* Special arrangements can be made with individual teachers for unusual circumstances. Students on suspension are expected to have work completed upon their return to class. If students are absent for more than one day due to illness, parents may request prior to 10 a.m. to pick up assignments after 4:00 p.m.

Students whose absences are approved shall make up the work missed and receive full credit for the missed school work, within the guidelines set forth above. It shall be the responsibility of the student to initiate a meeting with teachers to establish a plan to handle work missed during approved absences.

Student Attendance Expectation #3–Be on time and present in assigned classes

Supporting Guidelines

Tardy Policy ~ Student tardies to school and/or class will be consequenced using a “tardy to school or class” reference. Student tardiness in excess of 3 tardies to period 1 will be calculated separately.

Student Accountability ~ It is the responsibility of each student to make up assigned time in After-School Detention, with individual teachers and/or through approved in-school and/or community service projects (only by PRIOR arrangement with an administrator).

Failure to make up time can result in suspension of hallway privileges, suspension from activities, and suspension from school.

Accumulated time-owed will be capped at 400 minutes (the equivalent of three After School Detention sessions). Students accumulating 400 minutes will be required to attend the next ENTIRE After School Detention session *unless prior arrangements have been made with that student's grade-level administrator*. Failure to do so can result in 2 days of Out-of-School Suspension for insubordination. A parent meeting will be scheduled with the grade-level administrator, and a contract will be created to resolve the matter of time-owed. Failure to complete the terms of the contract may result in placement in an alternative educational setting until the matter has been resolved. **See II-C After School Detention (ASD)**

IV-H Tardy to School (Period 1)

Students must sign in with the attendance secretary when they fail to report to school on time. Students will be allowed one (1) excused tardy before being assigned time as a consequence for tardiness, each quarter. Students will serve 30 minutes for each additional tardy. Excessive tardy arrivals to school will be handled by the administration.

IV-I Tardy to Class (other than Period 1)

Students are expected to be in their assigned classrooms when the bell signaling the beginning of the instructional period ends. Students are considered tardy at this point unless they have a signed pass from a teacher or an admit slip from the office. Students are considered tardy if they are up to 10 minutes late to class without a pass. Students who are more than 10 minutes late to class will be allowed to enter class with a pass from the office. Students will be assigned an appropriate consequence based on the frequency and/or severity of the offense.

IV-J School Response to Student Absences

All students are expected to attend school/class on a consistent basis. Students with unapproved absences will make up the time missed from school. When a student is deemed excessively absent or tardy from school the following intervention steps may be taken:

A	A collaborative team meeting or meetings between an administrator or designee to include one or more of the following: school counselor, school psychologist, social worker, and/or student advocate with the parent/guardian and the student.
B	Educational counseling to explore schedule/curriculum changes such as alternative educational programs to solve the excessive absenteeism problem.
C	Educational evaluation to assist in determining the specific condition(s) or barriers contributing to the excessive absenteeism problem, supplemented by specific efforts by the school to help remedy any condition diagnosed.
D	Investigation of the problem by a school social worker, counselor, and/or member of the administrative team to identify conditions contributing to the excessive absenteeism. If services for the student and the student's family are determined to be needed, the collaborative team shall meet with the parent/guardian and child to discuss any referral to appropriate agencies, e.g. Juvenile Services Attendance Monitor, Professional Partners, etc. to remedy the conditions.
E	If the student is absent more than twenty days per year, or the percentage equivalency, the administration may file a report with the county attorney of the county in which the student resides.

[Reference CPS Board Policy 503.04]

SECTION V

ESTABLISHING A POSITIVE LEARNING EXPERIENCE

Big 6 Classroom Expectations

- 1. Arrive to class prepared and on-time.**
- 2. Use work time appropriately.**
- 3. Complete assigned tasks on time.**
- 4. Demonstrate respect for people and property.**
- 5. Respond appropriately to staff directives.**
- 6. Demonstrate academic proficiency.**

Classroom teachers are responsible for establishing a positive learning environment with the assistance of student assistance team facilitators, administrators, school counselors, school psychologists, and outside agencies when necessary. To maintain a quality-learning environment, students are expected to abide by the six (6) expectations listed above.

Supporting Guidelines

V-A Classroom Behavioral Expectations

Teachers are to establish reasonable rules in their classrooms to assist them in maintaining a productive and safe environment for learning. Students are to follow these rules without complaint in a timely manner.

Classroom/Teacher Response

It is expected that all students at Columbus High School will perform according to the six academic and performance expectations listed above. If a student chooses to perform according to these goals, he/she will retain the freedom to interact with teachers and students under normal supervision. However, if a student chooses not to perform according to these basic expectations, he/she will be held accountable through a problem solving approach. The intensity of response is matched to the frequency of unacceptable performance. Through a defined problem solving approach and increased home-school interaction, our goal is to improve student performance both academically and behaviorally.

SECTION VI

GENERAL INFORMATION

VI-A Activities – Dances/Socials

All organizations must have sponsors present. Events must be scheduled in the activities director's office. Arrangements must be made with the teacher whose room and facilities are to be used. All areas used for meetings or socials must be left in their original condition. Once a student leaves a school activity, he/she is not allowed to return. All students attending dances will be breathalyzed prior to admittance. The school has the right to check purses, coats, etc. for illegal/disruptive items. Behavior of non-CHS students (guests) is the responsibility of CHS partners.

School dances may start at different times but will be three (3) hours in length and not go past midnight.

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. Students must be in "good standing" and not on any type of social probation.

Social Probation: Students who owe more than 180 minutes (3 hours) of ASD time are considered to have lost their good standing status and are at that point on social probation. Students on social probation are ineligible to participate in CHS dances and social events. In order to return to good standing, the student will have to serve enough time to lower his/her time-owed to below 180 minutes prior to the cut-off of ticket sales for that particular dance. See II-C

After-School Detention (ASD). Students who are alternatively placed, due to behavior reasons, in a setting outside of the regular school building/day, will be considered on social probation.

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 Columbus High School and their guests may attend.
 - a. Students currently attending Columbus High School or another Nebraska high school and who have not been restricted from attending extracurricular activities at Columbus High School or their own school are generally considered appropriate dates or invited guests.
 - b. Approval of all guests at CHS dances is at administrative discretion. Students seeking approval of a guest over the age of 19 must appeal to CHS Administration in person no fewer than 30 days prior to the dance. Middle school-aged students or younger are not considered to be appropriate age for Columbus High School dances.
 - c. CHS students who choose to bring non-CHS students as invited guests must fill out and return a "Guest Permission Form" by noon no fewer than 7 days prior to the dance.
 - i. It is the responsibility of the CHS student to make sure the following individuals sign this form: the invited guest, the guest's parent/guardian (if 18 or younger), and an administrator from the guest's school (if still in school). It is the responsibility of the CHS student to inform his/her guest of the dress code expectations and rules of the dance/school.
 - ii. The invited guest will not be admitted to the dance without a valid ID that verifies the guest's date-of-birth.
 - iii. A new Guest Permission Form must be completed for each dance. The forms DO NOT carry over from one dance to the next.
 - d. Prom will be restricted to Columbus High School junior and senior students and their invited guests.
 - e. Students who have been suspended from school or from extracurricular activities may not attend.
 - f. 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.
 - g. Students who have dropped out of Columbus High School and failed to enroll at another accredited public or private school are generally considered to be inappropriate guests and likely would not receive administrative approval.
 - h. Rules for dances restrict students and their guests from leaving the dance unless they sign out. Parent/guardian(s) may be contacted in the event that students leave within an hour of the start.
 - i. Appropriate style of dance is as follows: Couples should be facing each other, and at no time should one partner's legs end up between the other partner's legs. Grinding, straddling, thrusting, or bending a partner over is inappropriate. (See also III-I Display of Affection)
 - j. Students or their guests who engage in inappropriate behavior or dance, whether on or off of the dance floor, may face possible disciplinary action and will be asked to leave.
 - k. High school administration reserves the right to withhold the sale of tickets or attendance to dances due to unforeseen reasons.
2. Prohibited substances: Alcoholic beverages, illegal drugs, and tobacco/inhaled products are prohibited.
 - a. Anyone using these or showing the effects of use will not be allowed admission or, if discovered after admission, be removed from the dance. Law enforcement will be contacted.
 - b. Students and their dates will 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. Building principals 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 a building principal or staff sponsor for the event if you are uncertain about your attire.

VI-B Activities - Meetings

Each Wednesday night is reserved for church activities. No meetings, practices, rehearsals, or programs are scheduled for this night without prior administrative approval.

VI-C Graduation and Seniors' Final Week

Students who have met the requirements for graduation as established by the board of education will be allowed to participate in the commencement proceedings provided they abide by the proceedings organized by the school district. It shall be the responsibility of the principal to solicit input from each graduating class regarding the proceedings for their commencement. Students opting out of participating in commencement will still be provided their transcript and diploma certifying the student's completion of high school. [CPS Board Policy 611.09]

Seniors must be passing all classes to qualify for check-out on the posted date for the senior's final day of classes. Seniors who fall short of this requirement will continue to attend classes through Friday of the final week of senior attendance. A student not in *good standing* may forfeit the opportunity to participate in the graduation ceremony.

VI-Ca Graduation Ceremony Expectations

The Columbus High School graduation ceremony is a celebration of the tremendous accomplishments of the members of the graduating class. It is important that each graduate understand that while this is his/her big day, it is also a big day for hundreds of other CHS graduates. As the hosts of the ceremony, Columbus High School has set forth the following expectations for all members of the senior class opting to participate in this *optional event*:

- seniors must successfully complete all graduation requirements during their final semester
- senior students must have served all disciplinary and attendance minutes prior to that senior's last day of attendance
- all fines and fees must be settled through the CHS office prior to the seniors' last day of attendance
- all student devices, class equipment and athletic or extra-curricular uniforms must be returned prior to the seniors' last day of attendance
- proper attire for the ceremony will include dress shoes, socks, dress pants and shirt with collar for the boys and a dress, dress pants or skirt of school-appropriate length, blouse and dress shoes for the girls
- proper attire for the ceremony also dictates no tennis shoes and no flip flops - footwear should be appropriate for a formal event and is subject to administrative discretion on a case-by-case basis
- no possession or use of a cell phone during the ceremony will be permitted
- no messages or symbolism will be permitted on the mortar boards (hats)
- only honorary adornments *provided by Columbus High School* will be permitted to be worn by graduates (e.g. honor cords, NHS medals, etc.)
- leis, stoles (other than the official CHS graduating class stole) and other visible adornments *will not be permitted* to be worn by any member of the graduating class
- behavior during the ceremony should reflect the highest standards of Columbus High School student respect and responsibility
- students who fail to meet the behavioral expectations by drawing undue attention to themselves or their actions during the ceremony *may have their diploma held* at administrative discretion, until appropriate consequences have been served

VI-Cb Graduation – Mid Term

A student who wishes to graduate from high school in less time than the ordinary eight (8) semesters may request permission to complete graduation requirements on an alternate schedule. The student and parent/guardian will consult with the grade level counselor to develop a graduation plan. The student's intent to accomplish this shall be stated in writing to the school counselor along with a letter of support submitted by the student's parent/guardian at the time of the request. The request letters are to be submitted no later than 2 weeks after the start of the seventh (7) semester or the date put forth by the district.

A student who graduates early must complete all graduation requirements established by the Board of Education. The student who chooses early graduation will be allowed to participate in prom, Honors Night, and graduation unless they

choose to receive their diploma upon completion of the seventh (7) semester. For all other school activities, the early-out graduate will be treated as a graduated student unless given special permission by CHS administration.
[CPS Board Policy 611.08]

VI-D Fees, Fines and Charges [CPS Board Policy 505.04]

Students may be assessed fines, charges, or fees for damage beyond normal wear to the materials needed in a course, for overdue school materials, for participating in or attendance at extracurricular activities, or for misuse of school property. Charges not to exceed the actual cost of materials may be assessed for projects, which become the property of the students following completion. Any fines/fees or charges will be set prior to the start of the school year.

Class Fees: Each August during orientation, Columbus High students will be charged a class fee as shown below:

- Students in Grades 9 and 10 will be charged a \$5.00 fee.
- Students in Grade 11 will be charged a \$7.00 fee.
- Students in Grade 12 will be charged a \$10.00 fee.

Fees collected annually from students in August during orientation will be used to defray costs associated with providing students with the monthly school newspaper, yearbook class pictures, senior specialty pages, prom, and graduation.

VI-E Fundraising

All fundraising projects must first be approved by the activities director. Each group wishing to raise funds will be permitted two per year (one per semester). Charitable giving campaigns for non-school purposes must be approved by the Board of Education in September or January of the current school year.

VI-F Grade Classification/Grades/Records

At the high school level, credits toward graduation are based on attendance and grades. Grade classification will be based on the following minimum credit requirements:

Grade 10 status	60 credits
Grade 11 status	120 credits
Grade 12 status	180 credits

Daily grades may be recorded in percentages or on an *A* to *F* scale. Semester grades will be recorded on an *A* to *F* basis. Within the credits required for graduation, there are 160 required credits that all Nebraska students must successfully complete.

Incomplete grades are assigned in cases in which the student's work is incomplete at the end of the grading period. This may be the result of absence caused by illness or other excused reasons.

Students are reminded that incomplete grades received must be made up within a period of ten (10) school days of the close of the grading period. Incompletes are changed to an "F" after this time. Staff may use incompletes as conditional grades at the end of the first semester when a student's work is judged below passing but the instructor feels that credit may be earned if the student produces a passing grade in the second semester with the principal's permission.

A+	=	98	-	100%
A	=	90	-	97%
B+	=	87	-	89%
B	=	80	-	86%
C+	=	77	-	79%
C	=	70	-	76%
D+	=	67	-	69%
D	=	60	-	66%
F	=	Below 60%		
WP	=	Withdraw Passing		
WF	=	Withdraw Failing		
INC	=	Incomplete		

VI-G Class Ranking and Grade Point Average

The student's official high school grade point average (GPA) is based on a minimum of eight (8) semesters of studies in order to allow students sufficient opportunity for demonstrating achievement.

Temporary GPA calculations are used in determining Top 10% for recognition annually by the Board of Education and are sent to colleges requesting information for admission.

Students approved and who complete early graduation requirements will receive their official GPA based on seven (7) completed semesters. [CPS Board Policy 611.06]

VI-H Grade Point Average (GPA)

A cumulative grade point average and class rank will be determined at the end of each semester. All weighted grade courses will be included. Advanced Placement and Honors courses will be the only courses to receive weighted grade status.

Regular Courses (Unweighted)				Weighted Grade Courses			
A+	=	4.0	98 - 100%	A+	=	5.0	98 - 100%
A	=	4.0	90 - 97%	A	=	5.0	90 - 97%
B+	=	3.0	87 - 89%	B+	=	4.0	87 - 89%
B	=	3.0	80 - 86%	B	=	4.0	80 - 86%
C+	=	2.0	77 - 79%	C+	=	3.0	77 - 79%
C	=	2.0	70 - 76%	C	=	3.0	70 - 76%
D+	=	1.0	67 - 69%	D+	=	1.0	67 - 69%
D	=	1.0	60 - 66%	D	=	1.0	60 - 66%
F	=	0.0	Below 60%	F	=	0.0	Below 60%

INCOMPLETE GRADES

Any student who has received an "Incomplete" grade during the Semester 1 grading period must have the "I" removed within 10-school days following the start of Semester 2 classes. The subject teacher is to issue a failing grade for only the work not completed and then compute the grade for the grading period. Any "Incomplete" on the end of the year report card must be changed within 10-days of the last day of school. It is the teacher's responsibility to finalize the incomplete grade during the 10-day grace period. Any extenuating circumstances are to be shared with the grade level administrator for approval of an extension to the deadline date.

VI-I Grades – Transcripts – Transferring out of District

Students transferring to other schools or institutions outside of the Columbus High School are to report to the counseling office to get the necessary paperwork. Students must properly check out of school, return all books, computer, case and charger, and all instructional materials, and pay all fines. Additional fines will be assessed for books and materials not returned. All fines are to be paid in full before transcripts and student records will be released to other institutions, students, parent(s)/guardian(s), or other sources requesting them.

VI-J Grades - Honor Roll

Honor roll is computed at the end of each semester.

A Honor Roll 4.0 or higher

B Honor Roll 3.5 or better with no grade below *B*

Students in the top 10% of their class are recognized in the spring by the Board of Education. Students must be enrolled in 20 credits per semester to be eligible for Honor Roll.

VI-K National Honor Society

Eligibility Requirements for National Honor Society

Students in Grades 10, 11, and 12 who have achieved a 3.5 cumulative grade point average are eligible to apply for membership to the Discoverer Chapter of the National Honor Society. Selection to National Honor Society is based on scholarship, leadership, service, and character by a vote of the Faculty Council, appointed annually by the building principal. Application information will be mailed to qualifying students on or before September 30th of each year. All applications must be completed in their entirety and submitted by the fall deadline to be considered for membership. New members will be provided with a written list of chapter obligations. Membership to the Discoverer Chapter of National Honor Society is continuous as long as members adhere to chapter's standards and remain in good standing throughout their high school career.

Good Standing, Discipline and Dismissal Due Process Guidelines

Chapter advisors will periodically review member performance and academic record for compliance and fulfillment of chapter obligations as described in the chapter bylaws. Should a member's conduct be in violation of chapter guidelines, it is the responsibility of the chapter advisor to inform the member in writing of the nature of the violation, the time period given for improvement, and a warning of the possible consequences for non-resolution of the deficiency. The student, advisor, parent, and administrator will follow up the letter with a conference. If the student does not satisfactorily make improvement in the specified time period, that student is subject to disciplinary measures considered appropriate by the Faculty Council. The Faculty Council can elect to place the member on inactive status (sometimes referred to as suspension or probation), during which time the member is considered to be "not in good standing" with the chapter, although technically the member still retains his/her NHS membership.

A member is never dismissed automatically from NHS for failing to maintain standards, not meeting member obligations, or even being found guilty of violating school rules or the law. In the case of a flagrant violation of school rules or the law, the Faculty Council may conduct a dismissal hearing. Prior to any vote on dismissal, the Faculty Council will investigate thoroughly before any action is taken.

Graduation Ceremony Recognition

To be recognized as a member of the Discoverer Chapter of National Honor Society at graduation, seniors must be active members in good standing. Generally, the phrase "in good standing" means that the member is maintaining the standards by which he or she was selected, has fulfilled or is fulfilling all obligations of membership including applicable dues, meeting attendance requirements, service obligations, etc., and has not gotten into trouble where school rules or the law are concerned. Eligibility for acknowledgement at graduation will be confirmed by April 15th of each year by the chapter advisor to the building principal. National Honor Society seniors in good standing will have their names published in the graduation program and wear a NHS medallion at the graduation ceremony.

VI-L Student ID

All students need to display a current, intact CHS student ID card for lunch, checking out materials in the IMC, and for the purpose of identification. All students must identify themselves with their ID card when requested to do so. Failure to comply is insubordination. Students will be issued their first card free of charge. Duplicate IDs may be obtained in the main office for a \$5 replacement fee.

VI-M Instructional Media Center

Fines for overdue books will be assessed at the rate of 10 cents per day. A day is counted at 3:45 p.m. each school day. Assessment for lost materials will be based on the cost of the replacement. **IMC hours will be posted outside of the entrance on a daily basis.**

VI-N Lost and Found

All lost and found articles should be taken to and claimed in the main office.

VI-O Lunch Procedures

Students must use their intact student ID with barcode as they go through the lunch line. Students who do not have their student ID card must report to the end of the serving line. Students may deposit money into their account before school, during lunch periods or by using the online option.

The Columbus Public Schools requests that no student may bring in or have delivered commercially prepared food (e.g., McDonald's, Burger King, Subway, Pizza Hut, Taco John's, etc.) Students may bring an appropriate sack lunch prepared at home. Any student requiring a special medical diet can bring a sack lunch prepared at home and gain permission to use school refrigeration for cooling purposes. Students are responsible for maintaining a clean cafeteria environment including their immediate table area. Breakfast is served daily from 7:00 to 8:00 a.m. in the cafeteria.

Nondiscrimination Statement: In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity in any program or activity conducted or funded by the USDA.

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 Agency (State or local) where they applied for benefits. 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.

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, 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 the USDA by one of these methods:

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
3. Email: program.intake@usda.gov

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

VI-Oa Cafeteria Guidelines – Student Responsibilities

1. Sit properly at your table, using acceptable table manners.
2. Handle food and drink appropriately.
3. A maximum of eight (8) chairs/students at each round table and four (4) chairs/students at each square table are allowed.
4. Return chairs to the “in” position at the end of the breakfast or lunch period.
5. School rules for student conduct apply during the breakfast or lunch period.
6. Maintain order and cleanliness around your table area.
7. Respect the space of those around you. This includes avoiding loud talking and physical and/or verbal acts of aggression.
8. Clean up after yourself. Dispose of food and paper at the tray return area.
9. Students requesting restroom privileges are to use the restroom by the main office.
10. Students may spend only one period in the lunchroom each day.

Students who fail to abide by the designated cafeteria guidelines and student responsibilities may forfeit their right to dine in the cafeteria with their peers at administrative discretion.

VI-Ob CPS Unpaid Meal Policy

The purpose of this policy is to establish limitations on the number of breakfasts or lunches a student may receive when the account balance is not sufficient to cover those costs, to provide for alternate meals to be served to students when account balances reach certain limits, and to protect the District from such unpaid financial obligations.

Families are encouraged to keep account balances in the positive at all times. Deposits are accepted at each school building and at the Administration Building. Deposits may be made by cash or check. Account balances may be obtained through the parent access portal in PowerSchool. If online access is not available, the District Food Service office may be contacted at (402) 563-7055.

Each day that a student eligible for reduced price or paid meals brings the actual amount of the cost of the meal, that student will be provided a breakfast and/or lunch, and the amount received will be applied to the cost of that meal rather than to reduce a prior negative balance.

In the event that a student's account balance reaches -\$15.00, the student will be offered an alternate meal meeting reimbursable requirements of the USDA school nutrition program. The District will also provide the necessary forms for the student's parent or guardian to apply for free or reduced price meals. Such benefits may be applied for at any time during the school year.

To the extent possible, all actions pertaining to students with negative account balances will be handled as confidentially as possible. Communications regarding account balance concerns will be provided in writing by an assigned District Food Service staff member and/or by automated phone calls. Students will not be used as couriers of such information.

This policy shall be provided in writing on an annual basis to students and parents through the District website and also in the annual back to school mailing and in school handbooks. The policy shall also be provided in writing to households transferring into the District during the school year. It shall also be provided to school administrators and others charged with the enforcement of this policy.

This policy shall be reviewed and adopted on an annual basis. [CPS Board Policy 802.06]

VI-Oc Closed-campus Lunch

All students are required to eat lunch at school. All food is to be consumed in the cafeteria. Areas of the building and grounds open to students during lunch periods are the cafeteria and restrooms closest to the cafeteria. All other areas are off limits to students during the lunch periods. No restaurant prepared food may be delivered for the purpose of consumption during a CHS lunch period.

VI-P Passes

Students in the hall during the instructional period must have a signed orange pass from a staff member and must be wearing their student ID. Students who fail to comply with this rule will have their pass privileges suspended for an amount of time based on frequency and severity of the offense. **Unless for a medical emergency and/or an issue of safety, all student pass privileges will not be permitted during the first and last 10 minutes of each instructional period.**

VI-Pa Passes to the Nurse

During the instructional day, **which includes lunch, homeroom, and individual study periods**, students are not allowed in the nurse's office unless first receiving a signed pass from a staff member. Students will be allowed to sign out to the nurse's office, at teacher discretion, only for medical, emergency and/or health related needs. If a student has a chronic medical condition (diabetes, asthma, hypoglycemia, etc.) a Red Pass can be obtained from the nurse with administrative approval to permit the student immediate access to the nurse, if medically necessary.

Students who have a substitute teacher must receive permission from the nurse's office prior to receiving a pass to the nurse. The substitute teacher will phone the nurse's office before the student is permitted to leave the classroom. A student with a Red Pass will be permitted to leave for the nurse's office immediately.

VI-Q Care of Building

Every attempt has been made to provide Columbus High students with an attractive, secure learning environment. The care and protection of our building and its furnishings are essential to its quality appearance.

Posters must be approved by the administration before being placed in the building. The group displaying the posters should remove the poster the first day of school following the advertised event. Three commercial flyers are permitted per event with the approval of an administrator in designated community announcement areas. Office officials will hang these flyers. Posters or displays should not be taped or posted on painted or varnished surfaces. Students must use the appropriate white board surfaces available for displays.

It is the responsibility of all students to keep the school and its grounds clean and attractive. Students who deliberately create a mess will be held responsible by administrative disciplinary action, restitution for damages, and clean-up cost.

VI-R Schedule - Class Loads

Underclassmen must have the equivalent of 7 periods of classes each semester, unless administratively approved. Seniors may be scheduled for late start or early dismissal if the following required qualifications are met:

- The student must have 12th grade credit standing.
- The student must be enrolled in enough classes to cover graduation requirements. This could not include correspondence courses.
- To be eligible, the student must have earned a 2.5 (or better) GPA in the previous semester or a cumulative GPA of 3.0.
- The student must not have failed a class the previous semester.
- The student must submit a parent permission form to guidance before the first full day of classes in August or January. Due to scheduling issues, late forms cannot be accepted. Parent signatures will be verified through a telephone call.

VI-S Schedule Changes – Prior to the Start of School

The last opportunity to make any schedule changes for the 1st semester will be made during the first three days of classes. Students who make changes during those three days may, at the teacher's discretion, have to make up work for the new course. Any schedule change will require parental approval. Students are expected to accept responsibility for their decisions and remain accountable for these decisions. Any exceptions to this time frame must have school counselor AND administrative approval.

Because of all the complexities of the scheduling process, the following guidelines have been devised for making schedule changes:

- New students will be scheduled before any existing schedule is changed.
- Student needs will be met as mandated by their IEPs and/or Section 504 Plans, if applicable. The needs of these students will be monitored and reviewed.
- Freshmen and sophomore schedule changes will be considered only after juniors and seniors. The counselors will check teacher-student loads before adding students to classes.
- **No lunch or study hall changes will be made except for internships or by administrative request.**
- Extenuating circumstances must be present for an administrative request to occur.

VI-Sa Schedule Changes – After School Starts

Schedule Change Form REQUIRED:

Registration in the spring determines the classes and number of sections that are offered during the next school year. As a result, students who select year-long classes at registration will have to continue in those classes unless their first semester coursework resulted in a failing grade and/or their teacher recommends a schedule change. Students failing a semester of a year-long course must have done the following for a schedule change to occur:

- 1) met with the teacher to develop a corrective plan of assistance;
- 2) followed the plan of assistance;
- 3) attended a conference which included the teacher, counselor, and parent; and
- 4) completed all assignments, quizzes, and tests to the best of their ability.

With courses that contain varying levels (e.g. Accelerated Algebra II and Algebra II), students cannot move to an easier level if they have maintained a B or higher-grade average. Students who have a grade average lower than a B must have done the following for a schedule change to occur:

- 1) met with the teacher to develop a corrective plan of assistance;
- 2) followed the plan of assistance;
- 3) attended a conference which included the teacher, counselor, and parent; and
- 4) completed all assignments, quizzes, and tests to the best of their ability.

If a student continues to have difficulty after these interventions have occurred, the student will be allowed to move to an easier level of coursework. Exceptions to these procedures will only be considered if extenuating circumstances are evident.

Students who request to drop a year-long elective class, including the fourth year of math or science, but are not failing must have filled out a schedule change request by the course mid-point. In the request, the student must indicate why he/she wants to change the class. The teacher will have to indicate the current grade, level of effort, and/or any behavior issues. The counselors will review the schedule change requests with the appropriate administrator and see that there is space in the new class. Independent Study and requests to be a teacher aide are NOT options for dropping a class. The counselors will also contact parents regarding these requests.

VI-Sb Schedule Changes – Administrative

Students who drop a class due to academic or behavior issues will be assigned In-class Suspension and will receive a WP (withdrawn passing) or WF (withdrawn failing) as determined by the administrator. The withdrawal grade will appear on the transcript as a semester grade but will not be used to compute the student's GPA.

VI-T School Resource Officer

Columbus Public Schools will have the services of a School Resource Officer during school hours. Columbus High School works closely with the officers of the court and will use the School Resource Officer in matters relative to federal, state, and local violations. The School Resource Officer and police/sheriff's officers are allowed to interview students during the school day in the presence of a school official. Diversion, trackers, probation and parole officers are also in regular contact with school officials.

VI-U Visitors

Students may not bring visitors with them to classes during the regular school day. All other visitors to the building must have approval from a building administrator to remain in the building. All visitors to the building must check in at the front office and wear a visible visitor badge.

VI-V Parent/Guardian Involvement and Participation

- The Parent/Guardian and Student Handbook shall include Policy 1005.02 and provide parents/guardians with the information as to when and how they can access instructional materials.
- The Parent/Guardian and Student Handbook shall be mailed to the home sent home with students. If sent home with students, parents/guardians shall return to the school a signed form indicating that they have received the Parent/Guardian and Student Handbook.
- Parent/guardian permission is required for out-of-town field trips. Parent/guardian notification is required for in-town field trips. See also Policy 607.05.
- The Parent/Guardian and Student Handbook shall include an invitation to parents/guardians to attend and monitor instructional activities.
- Administrators shall notify parents/guardians in advance of special activities, such as assemblies, unless time does not permit.
- If a principal denies a parent's/guardian's request to attend and monitor instructional and/or special activities, the principal shall notify the parent/guardian of his/her rights of appeal as described in this regulation. Also, a full report including, but not limited to, the circumstances and rationale for the denial shall be sent to the Superintendent.
- Administrators shall notify parents/guardians if a substitute teacher will teach their child for four or more weeks.
- Administrators shall have available for parent/guardian access and review the curriculum, instructional materials, and school climate surveys used in their schools.
- Administrators shall provide additional opportunities for parents/guardians to review the materials listed above. Parents/guardians shall be notified in advance of such opportunities. Administrators shall take

advantage of these opportunities to inform parents/guardians of how they can be more involved in the schools by contacting school staff and/or the Volunteer Coordinator at the Administration Building.

- Parents/guardians may obtain copies of curriculum for review by checking them out from the professional library located at the Administration Building. Parents/guardians may obtain a personal copy of materials at their own expense.
- Parents/guardians shall be notified in the Parent/Guardian and Student Handbook that lessons may be taught by a school counselor in the classroom setting. Lessons shall follow the district's curriculum.
- Parent/guardian permission is required for student participation in topical counseling groups or individual counseling sessions conducted by school counselors unless the student's safety is in question.
- Parents/guardians are encouraged to notify teachers if there are topics of concern to them. Teachers shall notify the parents/guardians in advance if these topics are to be used in planned lessons. The administrator shall be responsible for annually advising staff in August that there are subjects which may be sensitive or of concern to parents/guardians as part of classroom discussion. Such subjects which may arise that are not in the District curriculum may include, but are not limited to, death and dying; religious events and holidays; magic, witches, and sorcery. Teachers are also to be reminded by principals that any classroom discussion of a controversial topic should be in accordance with current Board Policy.
- Parents/guardians shall be notified in advance of family life instruction involving human sexuality (grades 5-12). Permission slips will be included with the notification. If the notification is mailed to the home, the school shall require a parental/guardian response only if the parent/guardian does not give permission for the student to participate. If notification is sent home with the students, the school shall require a parent/guardian response indicating whether the student will or will not participate.
- If a parent/guardian has an objection to any instructional material or school experience, the school shall provide the parent/guardian with an appropriate form which may be used to express his or her objection. Forms and appeal procedures may be obtained from building secretaries.
- It shall be the responsibility of the administrator to notify parents/guardians in advance when their children will be taking standardized tests.
- It shall be the responsibility of the administrator to notify parents/guardians in advance of school sponsored surveys beyond the school climate surveys. If the notification is mailed to the home, the school shall require a parent/guardian response only if the parent/guardian does not give permission for the student to participate. If notification is sent home with the students, the school shall require a parent/guardian response indicating whether the student will or will not participate.
- The Board of Education shall hold an annual public hearing on Parent/guardian involvement and participation in accordance with the statute.

VI-W Non-school Sponsored Travel

On occasion, students have the opportunity to participate in trips outside the identified school calendar year that have an apparent connection to the District but which in fact are not school-sponsored. Some examples are (1) travel with a club sport team, even though the club team may be coached by our high school coach; (2) a band traveling to an out-of-state band contest that is arranged by a booster club; and (3) a world languages language teacher taking students abroad during the summer.

These opportunities are often worthwhile and beneficial to students. The message we want to make clear, however, is that these opportunities are not school-sponsored activities. All arrangements for such trips, including costs, travel, supervision, and safety are the responsibility of the group or person making the trip available to students. Columbus Public Schools has no responsibility for such trips. Anyone who is uncertain as to whether or not a particular opportunity is school-sponsored should contact the superintendent, building principal or activities director.

Every effort should be made to restrict summer travel to in-state camps and competitions. Special circumstances may arise where an event or opportunity for students is not offered within the state for certain activities. Under these circumstances, travel should be limited to regional travel that would include states that border Nebraska (i.e. Kansas, Iowa, South Dakota, and Colorado).

VI-X Social Media

In an effort to better inform parents and the community, Columbus Public Schools will be using social media to share information. Social media includes, but is not limited to, Facebook, Twitter, blogging, and podcasting. When posting information on social networks sites (such as Facebook), the District will only post group photos/videos with no names of students being used. If a student's name is used, there will be no photo. Students will not be allowed to post on any

social media pages from the district. Social media will be monitored by each building principal and be used only with their approval.

VI-Y Concussions

FACTS FOR STUDENTS & ATHLETES

What is a concussion?

A concussion is a brain injury that:

- is caused by a bump, blow, or jolt to the head or body.
- can change the way your brain normally works.
- can occur during practices or games in any sport or recreational activity.
- can happen even if you haven't been knocked out.
- can be serious even if you've just been "dinged" or "had your bell rung."

All concussions are serious. A concussion can affect your ability to do schoolwork and other activities (such as playing video games, working on a computer, studying, driving, or exercising). Most people with a concussion get better, but it is important to give your brain time to heal.

What are the symptoms of a concussion?

You can't see a concussion, but you might notice one or more of the symptoms listed below or that you "don't feel right" soon after, a few days later, or even weeks after the injury.

- headache or "pressure" in head
- nausea or vomiting
- balance problems or dizziness
- double or blurry vision
- sensitivity to light or noise
- feeling sluggish, hazy, foggy, or groggy
- difficulty paying attention
- memory problems
- confusion

What should I do if I think I have a concussion?

- Tell your coaches and your parents. Never ignore a bump or blow to the head even if you feel fine. Also, tell your coach right away if you think you have a concussion or if one of your teammates might have a concussion.
- Get a medical check-up. A doctor or other healthcare professional can tell if you have a concussion and when it is OK to return to play.
- Give yourself time to get better. If you have a concussion, your brain needs time to heal. While your brain is still healing, you are much more likely to have another concussion. Repeated concussions can increase the time it takes for you to recover and may cause more damage to your brain. It is important to rest and not return to play until you get the OK from your health care professional that you are symptom-free.

How can I prevent a concussion?

Every sport is different, but there are steps you can take to protect yourself.

- Use the proper sports equipment, including personal protective equipment. In order for equipment to protect you, it must be the following:
 - the right equipment for the game, position, or activity
 - worn correctly and the correct size and fit
 - used every time you play or practice
- Follow your coach's rules for safety and the rules of the sport.
- Practice good sportsmanship at all times.

If you think you have a concussion:

Don't hide it. Report it. Take time to recover. It's better to miss one game than the whole season.

For more information and to order additional materials free-of-charge, visit: www.cdc.gov/Concussion.

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
2010

FACTS FOR PARENTS

Parents, if your teen reports one or more symptoms of concussion listed below, or if you notice the symptoms yourself, keep your teen out of play and seek medical attention right away.

Signs Observed by Parents or Guardians	Symptoms Reported by Student
• appears dazed or stunned • is confused about assignment or position • forgets an instruction • is unsure of game, score, or opponent • moves clumsily • answers questions slowly • loses consciousness (even briefly) • shows mood, behavior, or personality changes • can't recall events prior to hit or fall • can't recall events after hit or fall	• headache or "pressure" in head • nausea or vomiting • balance problems or dizziness • double or blurry vision • sensitivity to light or noise • feeling sluggish, hazy, foggy, or groggy • concentration or memory problems • confusion • just not "feeling right" or is "feeling down"

How can you help your teen prevent a concussion?

Every sport is different, but there are steps your teens can take to protect themselves from concussion and other injuries.

- Make sure they wear the right protective equipment for their activity. It should fit properly, be well maintained, and be worn consistently and correctly.
- Ensure that they follow their coach's rules for safety and the rules of the sport.
- Encourage them to practice good sportsmanship at all times.

What should you do if you think your teen has a concussion?

1. Keep your teen out of play. If your teen has a concussion, her/his brain needs time to heal. Don't let your teen return to play the day of the injury and until a healthcare professional, experienced in evaluating for concussion, says your teen is symptom-free and it's OK to return to play. A repeat concussion that occurs before the brain recovers from the first—usually within a short period of time (hours, days, or weeks)—can slow recovery or increase the likelihood of having long-term problems. In rare cases, repeat concussions can result in edema (brain swelling), permanent brain damage, and even death.
2. Seek medical attention right away. A health care professional experienced in evaluating for concussion will be able to decide how serious the concussion is and when it is safe for your teen to return to sports.
3. Teach your teen that it's not smart to play with a concussion. Rest is key after a concussion. Sometimes athletes wrongly believe that it shows strength and courage to play injured. Discourage others from pressuring injured athletes to play. Don't let your teen convince you that s/he's "just fine."
4. Tell all of your teen's coaches and the student's school nurse about ANY concussion. Coaches, school nurses, and other school staff should know if your teen has ever had a concussion. Your teen may need to limit activities while s/he is recovering from a concussion. Things such as studying, driving, working on a computer, playing video games, or exercising may cause concussion symptoms to reappear or get worse. Talk to your health care professional, as well as your teen's coaches, school nurses, and teachers. If needed, they can help adjust your teen's school activities during her/his recovery.

If you think your teen has a concussion:

Don't assess it yourself. Take him/her out of play.

Seek the advice of a healthcare professional.

It's better to miss one game than the whole season.

For more information and to order additional materials free-of-charge, visit: www.cdc.gov/Concussion.

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Centers For Disease Control And Prevention. June 2010

SECTION VII

COLUMBUS PUBLIC SCHOOLS HS STUDENT ACCEPTABLE USE AGREEMENT

VII-A Lost-Missing-Stolen Device

If a parent or student determines that the student's device is lost, missing or stolen, please follow the appropriate procedure below:

While at school: Call or report to the High School Office (402-563-7050) if the CHS Technology Associate is in the building, the call will be transferred to the Technology Office who will then notify the CHS administration and CPS Network Administrator.

If the CHS Technology Associate is not in the building, the information will then be shared directly to the administration, CPS Network Administrator, and CPS Technology Associate.

Outside the school day: Call the CPS Technology Hotline at 402-563-7069.

When calling in to report a lost or stolen device, please be prepared to provide the following information (If after hours, please leave the information on the answering machine):

- Student's name
- Person's name making report
- Location where computer was when it went missing
- Contact number to be called back

*Parents: If you believe the computer is stolen, please contact the Police Department's non-emergency number 402-564-3201 immediately.

If at any point the computer is located, please contact CPS Technology Hotline (402-563-7069) and report it as "FOUND."

VII-B Receiving and Returning your Device

1. Receiving Your Device

Parent/Guardian Orientation (Required for all new students)

All parents/guardians and their student are required to sign the Columbus Public Schools Acceptable Use Agreement (AUA) before a device can be issued to their student.

It is highly recommended one or both parent(s)/guardian(s) attend the Parent/Guardian Digital Device Orientation. The session typically lasts about an hour and covers new issues or items to which parents ought to be aware regarding Internet communication and access. All students will be required to take part in digital citizenship lessons and activities during the school year. Any student who misses the activities will be required to make up the lessons or face loss of access to his/her student device.

Returning Students to CHS

Returning students should bring their fully charged Chromebook to school on the first day of classes.

Device Distribution / Transfer and New Students to CHS

Students and parents must sign the Acceptable Use Agreement (AUA) in advance of receiving their device. All students new to CHS or those who were unable to attend orientation will be able to pick up their device from the Columbus High Technology Office located in the high school media center. Both students and their parents/guardians must complete the Digital Device/ Digital Citizenship requirements and sign the AUA prior to picking up a student device.

2. Returning Your Device

End of Year

Graduating seniors will turn in their device AND all peripherals.

Failure to turn in a device will result in the student's being charged the full replacement costs.

At the discretion of the superintendent, the district may also file a report of stolen property with the Columbus Police Department for any device and/or issued peripherals which are not returned.

Transferring/Withdrawing Students

Students who transfer out of or withdraw from the Columbus Public Schools must turn in their device and all

peripheral items to the High School Technology Office on their last day of attendance as part of the high school check-out procedure (Pink Form).

Failure to turn in the device will result in the parent/guardian's being charged the full replacement costs for the device and peripherals. Unpaid fines and fees of students leaving the Columbus Public Schools may be turned over to a collection agency.

At the discretion of the superintendent, the district may also file a report of stolen property with the Columbus Police Department within 48 hours of the student's verified final day of attendance.

3. Equipment Repair and Replacement protection plan

Columbus Public Schools highly recommends that families purchase the Damage Protection Plan prior to the deployment of the device to students. The cost is \$25.00 annually for each device. Each claim covered by the protection plan will be assessed with the district covering 85% of the repair cost and the student/parent/guardian covering 15% of the repair cost, on a per incident basis, during the 2020-2021 school year.

If a student withdraws from Columbus High School and then re-enrolls later in the current school year, the coverage purchased at the student's initial registration will be reinstated.

Disclaimer: Recurring incidents of a similar nature that result in damage to the device will be reviewed and may not continue to be covered by the Damage Protection Plan.

4. Training

Students will receive regular training during the school year to address care and usage of the device as well as usage of Google Apps (Discoverer Accounts).

Regular digital citizenship training will also be provided to address respectful, responsible, and ethical use of the Internet and digital tools.

VII-C Taking Care of Your Device

1. Responsibility [See Section III-W Damage of School or Private Property]

Students are responsible for the general care of the device they have been issued by the school. Devices that are broken or fail to work properly must be taken to the CHS Technology Office. If a loaner Chromebook is needed, one will be issued to the student if available.

- Use the CPS Technology Hotline to report a lost/stolen device: 402-563-7069.
- It is recommended that you keep your Chromebook clean.
 - Approved cleaning supplies and appropriate procedures are available in the high school media center.
- Keep food and drink away from your device while it is in use.
- Cords, cables, and removable storage devices must be inserted carefully into the device.
- Never carry your device while the screen is open.
- Keep pets away from your device and peripherals.
- Student devices must remain free of any writing, drawing, and inappropriate stickers, or labels. See guidelines on "Personalizing the Device" on the next page.
- Devices will be examined for cleanliness and wear at the time of check in.
- It is recommended that your device be shut down when not in use to conserve battery life.
- Shoving your device into a locker or wedging it into a book bag may damage the screen. The device should always be placed in a bookbag or backpack that has a specific pouch designed to protect digital devices.
- Heavy objects should never be placed on top of your student device.
- Exposing your student device to extreme hot or cold temperatures or direct sunlight for extended periods of time may cause damage to the device.
 - DO NOT leave the device in a vehicle overnight or over prolonged periods of hot or cold temperatures.
 - We recommend that you bring your device to room temperature prior to turning it on.
- Leaving your device unattended or unsecured could result in damage or theft for which you will be liable.

2. Device Protection

Each student will provide his/her own bag for his/her device. It should be used whenever the device is being transported or not in use.

The CPS-issued hard shell plastic covers are must be in place on a student device for the damage protection plan to be considered in force.

3. Carrying Your Device

Always transport your device with care and in a manner that protects the device from damage.

- Never lift or carry your device by the screen.
- Never carry your device with the screen open.

4. Screen Care

The device screen can be easily damaged if subjected to heavy objects, rough treatment, some cleaning solvents, and other liquids. The screens are particularly sensitive to damage from excessive pressure.

- Do not put pressure on the top of the device when it is closed.
- Do not store a device with the screen open.
- Make sure there is nothing on the keyboard before closing the screen (e.g. pens, pencils, or disks).
- Clean the screen only with a soft, dry microfiber cloth or anti-static cloth.
 - Appropriate cleaning supplies are located at the IMC cleaning station.

VII-D Using Your Device

Students are expected to bring a fully charged device to school every day and bring their device to all classes unless specifically advised not to do so by their teacher.

1. Device Being Repaired

- A loaner device may be issued to students when they leave their school-issued device for repair.
- A student borrowing a device will be responsible for any damage to, or loss of, the loaned device.
- A device on loan to a student having his/her device repaired must be checked out and checked in daily at the technology counter located in the IMC. If student/parent agrees to assume responsibility for a second device, the student may take the loaner computer from the building. (A signed checkout document is required.)
- Students will be contacted when their device is ready for pick-up from the CHS Technology Office.
- During holiday or spring breaks, students may contact the high school main office to arrange for assistance regarding their device.

2. Charging the Device

- The device should be brought to school each day with a full charge.
- Students should charge their device at home every evening.
- A complimentary charging station with power adapter is available to students in the High School IMC on a first-come-first-served basis.
- Students may also charge their device before school in the cafeteria at the counter.

3. Personalizing the Device

- Appropriate personalization will be permitted. Personalization of your device must adhere to the symbolic expression guideline as stated in Section I-J of the student handbook.
- Students may add school appropriate music, photos, and videos to their device. Columbus Public Schools reserves the right to limit and/or deny access to any non-educational application or file found on the device.
- Concerns regarding compliance with technology guidelines may result in spot checks of the device by teachers, administrators and/or technology support staff at any time.

4. Sound

- Sound must be muted at all times unless permission is obtained from a teacher
- Headphones/earbuds may be used at the discretion of the classroom teacher.

5. Logging into the Device

- Students will log into their Chromebook using their school-issued student ID.
- Students are not to share their account passwords with anyone other than their parent/guardian.

- In the event of a compromised account, the Columbus Public Schools Technology Department reserves the right to disable a student's account.

6. Using Your Device Outside of School

- Students are encouraged to use their device at home and other locations outside of school.
- A WiFi Internet connection will be necessary for device use; however, some applications can be used while not connected to the Internet.
- Students are bound by the Columbus Public Schools Use of Technology Policy, the Columbus High School Student Handbook, and this Acceptable Use Agreement (AUA).

VII-E Operating System and Security

Students may not use or install any operating system on their device other than the current version of Chrome OS that is supported and managed by the district.

1. No Expectation of Privacy

- Neither students nor their parents have any expectation of confidentiality or privacy with respect to any usage of a district device, regardless of whether that use is for District-related or personal purposes, other than as specifically provided by law. By using a District-provided device, students agree to such access, monitoring, and recording of their use.
- The District may, without prior notice or consent, log into, supervise, access, view, monitor, and record use of the student device at any time for any reason. By using a District-provided device, students agree to such access, monitoring, and recording of their use.

2. Monitoring Software

- Teachers, school administrators, and the technology department staff may use monitoring software that allows them to view the screens and activity on any student device. This software is designed to help students stay engaged and for teachers to provide guidance within the lessons. This software is not available outside of the classroom.

3. Updates

- Updating the device Operating System will be handled by District Tech via our software management system. Updating of the device will be done at the district level.

4. Virus Protection

- There is no need for additional virus protection on the current district device - Google Chromebook.

5. Content Filter

- The District utilizes an Internet content filter that is in compliance with the federally mandated Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA). All Chromebooks, regardless of physical location (in or out of school), will have all Internet activity protected and monitored by the district. When a student comes across a website that is blocked in school, it will most likely be blocked out of school.
- If an educationally valuable site is blocked, students should contact the classroom teacher or media specialist who will, in turn, submit a Helpdesk ticket to request the site be unblocked.

6. Inspection

- Students may be selected at random to provide their device for inspection. The purpose for inspection will be to check for proper care and maintenance as well as inappropriate content being carried into the school.

VII-F Software on Your Device

1. Originally Installed Software

- Chromebook software is delivered via the Chrome management console and web store. These are web-based applications that do not require installation space on a hard drive. The software originally installed on the Chromebook must remain on the Chromebook in usable condition and be easily accessible at all times.

- All Chromebooks are supplied with the latest version of Chrome (OS) and other applications useful in an educational environment. District Technology staff will periodically install updates when the computer is idle or restarted.

2. Google Apps for Education (Discoverer Accounts)

- Chromebooks integrate with the Google Apps for Education suite of productivity and collaboration tools. This suite includes Google Docs (word processing), Sheets (spreadsheets), Slides (presentations), Drawings, Forms, Sites, Gmail, Groups and Blogger. All work is stored within Google Drive.
- Google accounts not in our @discoverers.org domain will not be able to sign into the device. (Example gmail.com accounts)

VII-G Repairing or Replacing Your Device

Technical Support

All Chromebooks in need of repair must be brought to the Columbus High School Technology Office as soon as possible.

1. Vendor Warranty

- The device includes a three-year hardware warranty from the vendor.
- The vendor warrants the Chromebook from defects in materials and workmanship.
- The limited warranty covers normal use, mechanical breakdown, and faulty construction. The vendor will provide normal replacement parts necessary to repair the device or, if required, a device replacement.
- The vendor warranty does not warrant against damage caused by misuse, abuse, or accidents.
- All repair or warranty work must be performed through the CHS Technology Office.
 - Estimated Costs (See Appendix A)

2. Accidental Damage Protection

- Columbus Public Schools strongly encourages families to purchase the damage protection plan prior to the deployment of the device to your child. The cost is \$25.00 annually for each student device. Each claim covered by the protection plan will be assessed on a per incident basis during the current school year at a rate of 85% liability to the district and 15% liability to the student.
- The Columbus Public Schools will require that a police report be submitted in cases of theft. Fraudulent reporting of theft will be turned over to the police for prosecution. A student making a false report will also be subject to disciplinary action as outlined in the Columbus High School Student Handbook.
- Columbus Public Schools will assess device damage and repair or replace the device if the damage is determined to be accidental and within the protection guidelines. The damage protection plan does not cover for loss of the device and/or its accessories or damages caused by misuse and abuse.
- **Parents/Students will be charged for the full replacement cost of a device that has been damaged due to misuse or abuse as determined by the certified technicians.**

3. Chromebook Technical Support

- The CHS Technology Office will be the first point of contact for repair/troubleshooting of the device.
- Services provided include:
 - password recovery
 - user account support
 - coordination of warranty repair
 - distribution of replacement device
 - hardware maintenance and repair
 - restoring the device to factory default
 - OS updates

VII-H Safe and Acceptable Use of Your Device

1. Appropriate Uses and Digital Citizenship

- School-issued devices should be used for educational purposes, and students are to adhere to this Acceptable Use Agreement (AUA) and all of its corresponding administrative procedures at all times.

- Students may be required to annually pass Digital Literacy curriculum. Violations of the Acceptable Use Agreement (AUA) may result in Internet use privileges being revoked or restricted until the student recertifies through the digital literacy.
 - While working in a digital and collaborative environment, students should always conduct themselves as good digital citizens by adhering to the following guidelines:
 - **Respect yourself.** I will show respect for myself through my actions. I will select online names that are appropriate. I will use caution with the information, images, and other media that I post online. I will carefully consider what personal information about my life, experiences, or relationships I post. I will not be obscene. I will act with integrity.
 - **Protect yourself.** I will ensure that the information, images, and materials I post online will not put me at risk. I will not publish my personal details, contact details, or a schedule of my activities. I will report any attacks or inappropriate behavior directed at me while online. I will protect passwords, accounts, and resources.
 - **Respect others.** I will show respect to others. I will not use electronic mediums to antagonize, bully, harass, or stalk people. I will show respect for other people in my choice of websites; I will not visit sites that are degrading to others, pornographic, racist, or inappropriate.
 - **Protect others.** I will protect others by reporting abuse and not forwarding inappropriate materials or communications. I will avoid unacceptable materials and conversations.
 - **Respect intellectual property.** I will request permission to use copyrighted or otherwise protected materials. I will suitably cite all use of websites, books, media, etc. I will acknowledge all primary sources. I will validate information. I will use and abide by the fair use rules.
 - **Protect intellectual property.** I will request to use the software and media others produce. I will purchase, license, and register all software or use available free and open source alternatives rather than pirating software. I will purchase my music and media and refrain from distributing these in a manner that violates their licenses.
2. **Columbus Public Schools Internet Use, Safety, and Computer Use Policy**
- Columbus Public Schools Internet Access is to be used only for classroom related activities. This policy applies when using either school equipment or personal equipment on the district network.
 - The administration reserves the right to refuse access to the Internet by Columbus Public Schools to anyone when it deems it necessary in the public interest.
 - The school district's Internet access and all school-issued technology are considered "school grounds" under the Nebraska Student Discipline Act and all other provisions of state and federal law.
3. **Compliance with the Law and Use of Computers / Internet** [See Section III-K Academic Dishonesty (Cheating)]
- Students using the Internet will follow all laws, policies, and rules governing computers. This includes (but is not limited to) copyright laws, software publisher's rights, license agreements, acts of terrorism, assault, threats, and expectations for student and parent privacy.
 - Students at Columbus Public Schools shall receive instruction in Internet safety. This curriculum will include material related to appropriate access to the Internet by minors, appropriate use of social networking sites, cyber-bullying, and other topics as are relevant in encouraging digital citizenship.
 - A copy of the scope and sequence or other outline of the Internet Safety Curriculum may be found in the district Curriculum Office and each school media center.
4. **Access to the Internet by Minors (individuals under the age of 18) or Adults (or individuals over the age of 18)** [See Section III-V Computers / Technology Integration & Internet Use]
- Minors or adults shall:
 - not access or transmit materials that is considered obscene, pornography, harmful to minors, or otherwise inappropriate for education and/or may be considered illegal activity.
 - not use Columbus Public Schools technology or Internet resources to engage in hacking or attempts to otherwise compromise any computer or network system's security.
 - not engage in any illegal activities on the Internet.
 - only use electronic mail, chat rooms, social networking sites, and other forms of direct electronic communications for the purposes related to education within the context of a Columbus Public Schools-related assignment or activity.

- not attempt to override or bypass any protection measure that has been put in place by Columbus Public Schools to block and/or filter access to Internet sites that are not in accordance with policies of Columbus Public Schools.
 - not disclose personal identification information on the Internet.
- 5. Policy Violations** [See Section III-V Computers / Technology Integration & Internet Use]
- Any violation of this policy may result in the loss of access to the Internet by the student/adult involved. Additional disciplinary action may be determined in accordance with existing policies of the Columbus Public Schools, including applicable state and federal laws.
 - Details and definitions of the full Columbus Public Schools Acceptable Use Policy 504.09 & 606.06 can be reviewed at any media center in the Columbus Public Schools or online at <http://columbuspublicschools.org>.
 - Students shall be granted permission to access the Internet under the direction of a teacher upon proof of completion of the digital literacy curriculum from an administrator or media specialist.
- 6. Acceptable Use** [See Section III-V Computers / Technology Integration & Internet Use]
- We believe that access to the Internet is an important educational resource for our students.
 - We understand that although there are many valuable educational resources available, there are also unacceptable and offensive materials available on the Internet.
 - We require efficient, ethical, courteous and legal utilization of the equipment, computers, and network resources.
 - As a safety precaution, full names or addresses are not to be revealed online.
 - Computer and network resources have been provided for educational purposes; game playing and commercial uses are prohibited.
 - Sharing of individual accounts is prohibited.
 - Electronic mail (email) and other computer use or storage is not guaranteed to be private or confidential. Network or other computer use or storage areas are and will be treated as school property.
 - Computers, files, and communications may be accessed and reviewed by district personnel and may be accessed by other computer users.
 - Chain letters and inter-relay chat are misuses of the system.
 - Vandalism or "hacking" of any kind is prohibited.
 - The security of the system and the rights of other users are to be respected at all times.
 - Students or staff knowingly violating the terms of the agreement will be dealt with according to the discipline policies of the individual school building and Columbus Public Schools and/or civil authorities.
 - Such activities may result in termination of their account/access and/or expulsion from school and/or legal prosecution.
 - Any problems which arise from the use of an account are the liability or responsibility of the user. By using the computers or network system, participants agree to indemnify and hold Columbus Public Schools harmless from any claims or damages arising from such use. Columbus Public School District makes no warranties for the information or the services provided.
- 7. Privacy and Safety** [See Section III-V Computers / Technology Integration & Internet Use]
- Do not go into any chat rooms or discussion pages other than those set up by your teacher or mandated in other distance education courses.
 - Do not open, use, or change computer files that do not belong to you.
 - Do not reveal your full name, phone number, home address, social security number, credit card numbers, passwords, or passwords of other people.
 - Remember that network storage is not guaranteed to be private or confidential. District administration reserves the right to inspect your files at any time and will take the necessary steps if files are in violation of the district's Acceptable Use Policy.
 - If you inadvertently access a website that contains obscene, pornographic, or otherwise offensive material, notify a teacher, administrator and/or tech support staff immediately so that such sites can be blocked from further access.

8. **Legal Propriety** [See Section III-K Academic Dishonesty (Cheating)]
- All students and staff must comply with trademark and copyright laws and all license agreements. Ignorance of the law is not immunity. If you are unsure, ask the Media Specialist or the Executive Director of Technology & Operations if you are in compliance with the law.
 - Plagiarism is a violation of the Columbus High School code of conduct. Give credit to all sources used, whether quoted or summarized. This includes all forms of media on the Internet, such as graphics, movies, music, and text.
9. **Email** [See Section III-V Computers / Technology Integration & Internet Use]
- Students' email access will be through a Google Gmail system managed by the Columbus Public Schools. This email system is monitored by the Columbus Public Schools Technology Department, and all messages sent or received through this system are archived and subject to filtering of inappropriate content.
 - Always use appropriate language.
 - Do not transmit language/material that is profane, obscene, abusive, or offensive to others.
 - Do not send mass emails, chain letters, or spam.
 - No private chatting during class is allowed without permission.
 - Email is subject to inspection at any time by school administration, parent/guardian or designee.
10. **Discipline Consequences** [See Section III-V Computers / Technology Integration & Internet Use]
- The student whose name, system account and/or computer hardware is issued will be responsible at all times for its appropriate use. Non-compliance with the policies of the CHS Student Handbook or the Columbus Public School's Acceptable Use Policy will result in disciplinary action as outlined by the student code of conduct and/or other school policies for the user unless there is proof that another is responsible.
 - Electronic mail, network usage, and all stored files shall not be considered confidential and may be monitored at any time by the Columbus Public Schools Technology Department to ensure appropriate use. The Columbus Public Schools cooperates fully with local, state, and federal officials in any investigation concerning or relating to violations of computer crime laws.
 - As a response to chronic absenteeism or truancy (5 or more documented/consecutive days of truancy), the parent will be contacted to return the device to the principal's office. The student will be converted to daily check-out/check-in status through the remainder of the semester. If the student demonstrates improved and acceptable attendance through the remainder of the semester, the student's computer take-home status will be restored.

Appendix A Estimated Cost of Repair/Replacement

* All prices were current at the time this document was published. (July 18, 2018)

Part Number	Part Description	Self-Maintainer price
917725-855	ASSY-BATT 2C 47Wh 6.15Ah LI GM02047XL-PL	\$56.19
928840-001	HEATSINK, UMA	\$9.18
934739-850	GNRC-45W ADPTR nPFC USB-PD 3PIN	\$23.40
L07235-001	GNRC WC 1p Fix DM USB2 HD 720p VSEB BL	\$20.15
L14359-001	SPS-USB BRACKET	\$6.28
L14901-001	SPS-BASE ENCLOSURE - CBG	\$18.20
L14904-001	SPS-BASE ENCLOSURE - DCO	\$18.20
L14905-001	SPS-BATTERY TAPE	\$6.28
L14906-001	SPS-CABLE KIT	\$13.65
L14907-001	SPS-HINGE L&R	\$11.86
L14908-001	SPS-LCD BACK COVER W/ANT CBG	\$18.85
L14911-001	SPS-LCD BACK COVER W/ANT DCO	\$18.85
L14912-001	SPS-LCD BEZEL	\$8.92
L14913-001	SPS-LCD BRACKET	\$6.28
L14914-001	SPS-LCD CABLE NON-TS	\$8.82
L14915-001	SPS-LCD CABLE TS - AUO	\$9.30
L14916-001	SPS-LCD CABLE TS - LG	\$9.30
L14917-001	SPS-RAW PANEL LCD 11.6 HD AG LED SVA	\$64.35
L14918-001	SPS-PNL LCD 11.6 HD BV LED UWVA AUO TCH	\$133.90
L14919-001	SPS-SCREW KIT	\$6.84
L14920-001	SPS-SPEAKER	\$11.25
L14921-001	SPS-TOP CVR W/KB - US	\$24.70
L14922-001	SPS-TOUCHPAD	\$9.58
L14923-001	SPS-USB BD	\$9.15
L15851-001	SPS-MB UMA Cel N3350 4GB 32GeMMC	\$172.90
L18300-001	SPS-TOUCHPAD SUPPORT BRACKET	\$5.85
L19367-001	SPS-CORD C5 1.0M STK Conv NA	\$12.19
L20220-001	SPS-RUBBER BASE PADS	\$5.85

Appendix B CPS Chromebook Acceptable Use Agreement

The Columbus Public Schools Student Acceptable Use Agreement (AUA) is for your review. Your signature on this document states that you have read, understand, and agree to abide by the compliance requirements of Columbus Public Schools regarding the use of computers and the Internet in the Columbus Public Schools. Your signature also states that you authorize Columbus Public Schools to create and utilize “cloud services” accounts that will be under the control of Columbus Public Schools but which reside elsewhere on the Internet. (Certain cloud services require parental permission for students regardless of the level of control over the account granted to CPS.)

Additionally, as part of the digital literacy/Chromebook initiative at Columbus High School, the Columbus Public Schools is highly recommending the purchase of a Damage Protection Plan prior to the check-out of the Chromebook to your child. Columbus Public Schools will assess the Chromebook damage and repair or replace the device if the damage is determined to be accidental and within the protection plan guidelines.

This damage protection plan does not cover for loss of the Chromebook and/or its accessories or damages caused by intentional misuse and abuse. Under this agreement, the Chromebook is protected to 85% of incurred cost from accidental damage. The Columbus Public Schools will require that a police report be submitted in cases of theft. Fraudulent reporting of theft will be turned over to the police for prosecution. A student making a false report will also be subject to disciplinary action as outlined in the Columbus High School Student Handbook.

Parents/Students will be charged for damage due to intentional misuse or abuse at current replacement cost of the device coverage.

Acceptance of Liability

* Please INITIAL ONE of the options below.

_____ PLAN #1:

My student and I accept and will abide by the Columbus High School Chromebook Acceptable Use Agreement and I am purchasing the damage protection plan through Columbus Public Schools in the amount of \$25. (Cash or check made payable to Columbus Public Schools)

_____ PLAN #2

My student and I accept and will abide by the Columbus High School Chromebook Acceptable Use Agreement and I am NOT purchasing the damage protection plan through Columbus Public Schools and I will assume responsibility for 100% of the cost of any repairs or replacement cost.

This form is an example copy of the actual Acceptable Use Agreement form which must be on file in the CHS Technology Office.

Print Full Student Name Here

Grade

Student Signature

Date

Parent/Guardian Signature (REQUIRED)

Date

Print Full Parent/Guardian Name Here (REQUIRED)

Columbus High School
Athletics and Activities Eligibility Guidelines
2020-20221 Student-Parent Handbook



CHS Athletics and Activities Department

Tim Kwapnioski
Jon Misfeldt

Director of Athletics and Activities
Athletics and Activities Coordinator

CHS Administration

David Hiebner
Molly Hornbeck
Angela Leifeld
Jason Schapmann

Principal
Assistant Principal
Assistant Principal
Assistant Principal

The student athletic and activities handbook has been written to assist you in becoming a productive member of Columbus High School athletics and activities. In preparing for various roles at Columbus High School, you must be conscious of your rights and be committed to your duties. Protect these rights by being a responsible member of your school community.

Your coaches, teachers, and principals are available to assist you in understanding the important things written in this handbook. Ask them questions if you do not understand the meaning of anything in this handbook.

Disclaimer Notice

The CHS athletics and activities student handbook does not form a contract, and the school reserves the right to interpret and modify the rules listed within the book. Levels of consequences listed or identified in the handbook are consistent with typical school practices; however, the administration reserves the right to assign more serious consequences based upon the frequency and/or severity of the infraction.

Notification of Nondiscrimination

Applicants for admission and employment, students, parents of elementary and secondary school students, employees, sources of referral of applicants for admission and employment, and all professional organizations holding collective bargaining or professional agreements with Columbus Public School District #1 are hereby notified that this institution does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or handicap in admission or access to, or treatment or employment in, its programs and activities. Any person having inquiries concerning the Columbus Public School District #1's compliance with the regulations implementing Title VI, Title IX, or Section 504 is directed to contact the Superintendent of Schools, Columbus Public Schools, 2508 27th Street, Columbus, NE 68601, telephone number 402/563-7000. The Superintendent has been designated by Columbus Public School District #1's Board of Education to coordinate the institution's efforts to comply with the regulations implementing Title VI, Title IX, or Section 504. Any person may also contact the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, US Department of Education, regarding the institution's compliance with the regulations implementing Title VI, Title IX, or Section 504.

Notification of Sexual Discrimination

It is the policy of the Columbus Public School District to comply in spirit as well as in fact to the regulations implementing Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972. Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 prohibits sex discrimination in federally assisted education programs. Specifically, Title IX states: "No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving federal financial assistance..."

Any student who has a grievance should complete a grievance form and forward it to the Superintendent. Forms are available in all school offices.

Notification of American Disabilities Act

If you have any special needs requests that will assist you in participating in programs, services, or activities of the Columbus Public Schools, please contact the Superintendent of Schools.

Mission Statement of Columbus Public Schools

"Engaging All Learners to Achieve Success"

Section 1 Extracurricular Activity Philosophy and Requirements

Extracurricular activity programs enrich the curriculum of the school by making available a wide variety of activities from which a student can participate. Extracurricular activity programs are considered an integral part of the school's program of education that provides 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. Columbus Public Schools does not provide health insurance to activity participants. Costs relating to injuries sustained during activity participation are the responsibility of the parent/guardian.

Requirements

All students participating in activities are required to purchase a C-Stamp at a cost of \$25.00. A C-Stamp will serve as an admission pass to all home activities not including GNAC and NSAA sponsored events. Students participating in NSAA sponsored activities are also required to complete the following forms: Random Drug Testing, Emergency Contact Information, NSAA Student and Parent Consent Form, Columbus High School Student and Parent Approval Form, and the Sports Physical Form approved by a physician.

Section 2 Extracurricular Activity Code of Conduct

Purpose of the Code of Conduct. It shall be the right of Columbus Public Schools to establish rules of conduct for participation in activities. Students who participate in extracurricular activities shall be held to a higher standard of conduct than those who choose not to participate. Furthermore, it shall be the right of Columbus Public Schools to impose sanctions for violations of those standards if the administration determines to its satisfaction that a violation has occurred.

Participation in school-sponsored activities is a privilege and not a right. Students participating in Columbus High School Activities must be in “good standing” with school regulations, including grades, attendance, and discipline and will be held responsible for knowing and abiding by all activity regulations which are listed in this handbook.

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, Yearbook, Art Club, Band Ensembles, C-Club, Destination Imagination, Key Club, Forensics, German Club, Improv, Intramurals, Mock Trial, NHS, Newspaper, Quiz Bowl, Renaissance, Robotics, SkillsUSA, FBLA, HOSA, Student Council, Theatre Productions,

Vocal Ensembles, 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*. Extracurricular activity participants are held to a higher standard of conduct during their high school career.

Where: The Code of Conduct rules apply regardless of whether the conduct occurs on and/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 In-School Suspended during the day of a competition shall not be permitted to compete in the scheduled contest but will be expected to practice. A student who is suspended (out of school - OSS) 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. Activity policy consequences are determined by the frequency and severity of the infraction.

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. Acts that result in the assignment of “extended” In-School (ISS) or Out-of-School Suspension (OSS). “Extended” means three or more.
2. Use of violence, force, coercion, threat, intimidation, bullying, 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, fraud, 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 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 the 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. (**Note:** Refer to “Section 3 – Drug, Alcohol and Tobacco Violations” for further information).
 8. Public indecency, with regard to high school age students, as defined in § 79-267 (7).
 9. Engaging in sexual conduct, even if consensual, on school grounds, in a school vehicle, or at a school function or event. Sexual Assault or attempting to sexually assault any person.
 10. 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.
 11. Repeated violation of any of the school rules.
 12. 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, gender, national origin, or religion.
 13. Students found to have participated in intentional littering, marking/tagging, damaging or defacing of the property of another school in a manner that draws an association with Columbus High School will be subject to disciplinary procedures including, but not limited to, restitution, suspension from school activities, loss of open lunch privilege and/or suspension from school.
 14. Willfully violating the behavioral expectations for those students riding Columbus Public Schools buses or vehicles used for activity purposes.
 15. 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.
Refer to Coach Playing Time Policy / NSAA policy manual
 16. Failure to participate in the full day of classes on the day of an activity. An

- unexcused absence on the Friday prior to Saturday participation may result in the student not participating in the activity. Also, failure to report on time for classes on the day following an activity. Extenuating circumstances must be approved by the administration.
17. 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.
 18. 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. **Refer to Coach Playing Time Policy**
 19. Hazing, defined as "an abusive, often humiliating form of initiation into or affiliation with a group, including; any willful action taken or situation created which recklessly or intentionally endangers the mental or physical health of another." (CHS Student Handbook, Section III-Oa)
 20. Failure to comply with any rule established by the Nebraska School Activities Association, including, but not limited to, the rules relating to eligibility.
Game Ejections will be considered cumulative offenses at Columbus High. The first game ejection will result in a Level I offense, the second will be considered Level II.
 21. **The administration reserves the right to assign additional consequences based upon the frequency and/or severity of any student infraction that may or may not be listed in the Athletics and Activities Handbook.**

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.

Consequences for student misconduct: Activity policy consequences are determined by the frequency and severity of the infraction.

Students charged with a violation of any items of this policy (with the exception of drug/alcohol or tobacco violations, which are detailed in the next section) will receive a consequence upon investigation by the Columbus High School Administration and after a determination that a violation has in fact occurred and due process has taken place. The consequence for committing any of the offenses listed above shall include, but will not be limited to:

Level I Consequence: Shall mean the student will be suspended from any participation in, or attendance at, all activities for up to but not limited to **10** activity days and at a minimum of one event date. The student will be expected to continue to practice with the team/activity, but will sit out public contests/performances. The administration

reserves the right to advance to a higher-level consequence based upon the severity of the action.

Level II Consequence: Shall mean the student will be suspended from any participation in, or attendance at, all activities (practice will be addressed) for up to but not limited to **45** activity days and at a minimum of two event dates.

Level III Consequence: Shall mean the student will be suspended from **all** participation in, or attendance at, **all** activities (practice included) for up to but not limited to **90** activity days and at a minimum of four event dates.

Level IV Consequence: Shall mean the student will be suspended from **all** participation in, or attendance at, **all** activities (practice included) for up to but not limited to **180** activity days.

In matters involving the levels of consequences for infractions in the Columbus High School regulations governing student conduct for participation in sponsored school activities, the due process procedures shall be the same.

Levels of consequences listed or identified in this handbook are consistent with typical school practices; however, the administration reserves the right to assign a more serious consequence based upon the frequency and/or severity of the infraction. Violations of the Columbus High School Student Activity Code of Conduct are to be considered “cumulative” for a student’s entire career at CHS. Repeated violations will result in an advanced consequence. (Repeated violations are those that occur within the same violation category.) Students demonstrating a trend of multiple infractions may face more severe consequences.

Section 3 Drug, Alcohol and Tobacco Violations

A. Drugs and Alcohol

All violations of the Columbus High School Extracurricular Activity Code of Conduct (Sections Two and Three) will be cumulative over a student’s entire high school career. Activity consequences for alcohol, drug, tobacco, or “look alike” violations are determined in accordance with the activity discipline policy and regulations established by the administration; the consequences include activity suspensions. **The drug and alcohol policy is enforced year-round.**

See Section 15 for the Columbus Public Schools policy 504.50 on Random Drug Testing.

Any student involved in extracurricular school activities is subject to consequences if, following an investigation, the administration determines that:

- A. The student is found to have been involved in either selling, using, possessing,

- manufacturing or dispensing alcohol, 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, manufacturing, or the dispensing of an imitation controlled substance as defined in § 28-401 of the Nebraska statutes, or material represented to be alcohol, narcotics, drugs, a controlled substance or inhalant. This includes federally banned substances or “look alike” substances.
- B. The student was present where alcohol, narcotics, drugs, a controlled substance or an inhalant were being used wherein the student had access to the items; or,
 - C. The student admits to a violation as defined above; or,
 - D. The student is cited, charged or convicted with any controlled substance or alcohol related criminal offense.

First Violation of Drugs/Alcohol: Students determined to have committed a first violation shall be suspended up to but not limited to one third of the scheduled Columbus High School varsity competitions/performances of that given student’s activities season(s), and all lower levels games during the interim. If a student self-reports to a sponsor/coach or administrator within 72 hours following the incident, they shall be suspended for up to but not limited to one-fourth of the scheduled Columbus High School varsity competitions/performances of that given student’s activities season(s), and all lower levels games during the interim. The student is also prohibited from participating in all activities with the team including but not limited to pep rallies, traveling with the team, and community service performances that occur within this time frame. Student athletes will be expected to participate in practices and/or classes within the school day.

Second Violation of Drugs/Alcohol: Students determined to have committed a second violation at any time during their high school career may face penalties up to but not limited to expulsion from participation in all activities for one calendar year. If the student self-reports, the suspension is for nine months.

Reinstatement after Second Violation of Drug/Alcohol Policy:

Should it be determined that a student has committed a second violation during their high school eligibility; he or she may apply for reinstatement in activity participation under the following conditions:

- 1 – The student will undergo a formal drug/alcohol evaluation at his or her own expense. The results of this evaluation will be shared with the school administration and the recommendation(s) made by the evaluation must be followed for reinstatement to stand.
- 2 – The student will complete a community service project, including approximately 40 hours of service work, to be agreed upon by the school administration and the student. All expenses incurred for the completion of the community service project

are to be the responsibility of the student. The student must complete the community service project prior to being reinstated.

Students being reinstated will be suspended up to but not limited to 1/3 of the current/next activity season.

Third Violation of Drugs/Alcohol: Students determined to have committed a third drug/alcohol violation at any time during their high school career shall be expelled from participation in all activities for the remainder of their high school careers.

Due Process: A student accused of a violation shall have due process rights consisting of the right to know the nature of the alleged violation, the right to tell his/her version of events, and the right to have others comment on his/her behalf. You have the right to appeal the Director of Athletics and Activities decision provided the appeal is made to the high school principal within 7 days of notification of suspension. This decision may be appealed to the superintendent provided the appeal is made within 7 days of notification from the high school administration. The superintendent's decision is final.

Note: For calculation purposes, the contests/performances are the date of the event. If contests/performances are cancelled, suspension dates will be applied toward future contests/performances. Violations will carry a minimum of a 1-performance suspension. Suspensions are calculated according to the varsity schedule, students will not be eligible for lower level competition until the suspension period has expired. Students participating in freshman only activities, will have suspensions calculated based upon the freshman schedule.

B. Tobacco/Inhalant Products

Tobacco, and or e-cigarette violations are enforced in accordance with the NSAA activity calendar. Students determined to have possessed, used, distributed, sold tobacco or [inhalant products](#) shall receive the following consequences:

First Violation of Tobacco: Level I Consequence: Shall mean the student will be suspended from any participation in, or attendance at, all activities for up to but not limited to **10** activity days and at a minimum of one event date. The student will be expected to continue to practice with the team/activity, but will sit out public contests/performances. The administration reserves the right to advance to a higher-level consequence based upon the severity of the action.

Second Violation of Tobacco: Level II Consequence: Shall mean the student will be suspended from any participation in, or attendance at, all activities (practice will be addressed) for up to but not limited to **45** activity days and at a minimum of two

event dates.

Third or any succeeding **Violation of Tobacco: Level III Consequence:** Shall mean the student will be suspended from **all** participation in, or attendance at, **all** activities (practice included) for up to but not limited to **90** activity days and at a minimum of four event dates.

Due Process: A student accused of a violation shall have due process rights consisting of the right to know the nature of the alleged violation, the right to tell his/her version of events, and the right to have others comment on his/her behalf. You have the right to appeal the Director of Athletics and Activities decision provided the appeal is made to the high school principal within 7 days of notification of suspension. This decision may be appealed to the superintendent provided the appeal is made within 7 days of notification from the high school administration. The superintendent's decision is final.

Note: For calculation purposes, the contests/performances are the date of the event. If contests/performances are cancelled, suspension dates will be applied toward future contests/performances. For seasons that can be impacted by weather, a cancellation estimation will be calculated (average of 3 prior years cancellations) and taken into account when calculating the suspension. Violations will carry a minimum of a 1-performance suspension. Suspensions are calculated according to the varsity schedule, students will not be eligible for lower level competition until the suspension period has expired. Students participating in freshman only activities, will have suspensions calculated based upon the freshman schedule.

Section 4 Attendance

Student participants are expected to meet the following attendance expectations:

1. Attend school regularly. Students who have "excessive absences" as determined under the school's attendance policy are ineligible to participate in extracurricular activity contests or performances. Students, who after four unapproved absences during the current season of participation ~~will~~ (may) be ineligible to participate in the next scheduled extracurricular activity contest or performance.
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 his or her first block class, and remain in attendance for the remainder of the day. A student who is not in attendance the full day ~~is~~ (may be) ineligible for the contest, performance, practice, or activity.

Exceptions may be made for extenuating circumstances, such as doctor/dentist appointments or family emergencies. Exceptions must be approved by the Principal or Athletic Director.

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

4. All student participants are expected to be in school for their first class on the day following a contest, even if the student should arrive home late from an activity. Students tardy or absent on a day following an activity may forfeit the opportunity to participate in the next contest. The high school administration has the sole authority to make the determination to excuse students on the day following a competition or activity.

Repeated violations of this attendance policy will be considered violations of the “CHS Activity Code of Conduct,” and students will be subject to penalties as listed in “Section 2 – Extra Curricular Activity Code of Conduct.”

Section 5 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. A student participating in extracurricular school activities shows evidence of sincere effort towards scholastic achievement. To be eligible for participation in extracurricular activities students must:

1. Be enrolled in at least 20 credit hours in the semester of participation **and received twenty credit hours the immediate preceding semester.**
(Note: This includes seniors who are intending to “graduate early” or are participating in off-campus classes)

2. Not have a failing grade in two or more of their current classes. Students who are failing in two subjects at the end of a scheduled reporting period are ineligible to participate in their extra-curricular activities until the next reporting period.
3. Reporting periods begin with the first day of each academic week. Coaches and/or advisors will be notified by the Activities Secretary of any ineligibility. Students will be given the remainder of the first day of the academic week to correct their grades.
4. Students who still have two failing grades after **four p.m.** of the first day of a reporting period will be declared ineligible from the day following the first day of the reporting period of the current week for one full week. Coaches and/or advisors will be notified of ineligibility, and a letter will be sent to the student's home address detailing the reasons for ineligibility. **For reporting periods on shortened weeks, student eligibility will run from notification through to the next Monday, with eligibility returning on Tuesday, if the student is passing.**
5. Academic requirements for eligibility 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 a part of the student's grade requirements.

Homeschool Students

Homeschool students wishing to participate in Columbus High School activities must be continuously enrolled in a minimum of ten credit hours of instruction per semester at Columbus High School. If the home school student enters Columbus High School as a tenth, eleventh, or twelfth grade student, he/she shall have received, or be granted, twenty credit hours for the immediate preceding semester. Columbus High School shall determine whether the homeschool credits will be accepted to fulfill preceding semester scholastic requirements.

Section 6 "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 purpose 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.

Section 7 Transportation to and From Events

Team/group members are to travel to and from out-of-town events as a unit. Certain exceptions concerning travel can be made.

A student involved in school activities may be allowed to ride to or from an out-of-town event with a signed note from his or her parents. Preferably, a note should be received by the [Athletics and](#) Activities Office no later than 24 hours before the beginning of the trip. No verbal approvals for alternate transportation will be allowed.

Furthermore, under no circumstances should a student involved in school activities be allowed to ride to or from an out-of-town event with anyone but his or her own parent/guardian without administrative approval. A student may be allowed to travel from the activity with a non-family member who is an adult and has been previously approved with the administration by the student's parent/guardian.

Transportation Policy

Activities may be conducted at a location other than Columbus High School. In some instances Columbus High School will not provide transportation to the activity.

Columbus High School is not responsible when students are provided transportation by a vehicle driven by others. In these instances, the responsibility and liability of the school and school officials is limited to the period from the participant's arrival

at the event site and contact with the coach, sponsor, or assigned staff member, until dismissal from the event. All other liability for the child's safety lies with the parent, or their designated drivers.

~~Parents are strongly discouraged from allowing students to drive to/from events unaccompanied by parents.~~ The safety of the students is of utmost importance, and parents should exercise their wisdom, good judgment and discretion when planning travel arrangements.

Transportation Liability Waiver

I have read the Extracurricular Transportation Policy and agree that I shall assume all liability for negligently caused injuries or damages and release the school and school officials from any liability for injury or damage resulting from the following situations involving extracurricular activities:

1. Where I transport my son/daughter;
2. Where I transport other students, or I, as a parent/guardian, give permission to another adult to transport my son/daughter;
3. Where my son/daughter transports himself/herself [to a home event](#); or
4. Where my son/daughter transports other students to or from a practice or [home](#) scheduled event;
5. Where I, or a group of parents or other individuals, contract or arrange for transportation and the school does not directly contract for such transportation.

Section 8 Multiple Events on Same Day

NSAA District, State and [Heartland Athletic Conference](#) sponsored events take preference over non-state and non-conference sponsored events as to where the student shall compete. If there must be a choice made between two activities that exist on the same day, it will be made by the student with the knowledge that there will be no reprisal by the other sponsor. Under no circumstance will a student's grade be lowered, lose an award or be dismissed from the activity when that student returns. A student can be asked to challenge to retain his/her original position. Any event or performance always takes precedence over a practice. NSAA sponsored activity practices take preference over non-NSAA activity practices.

Furthermore, in-season activities always have precedence over out-of-season or non-school affiliated activities.

Example One: If there is a district music contest on the same day as a dual track meet, the student must represent our school at the district music contest.

Example Two: If a student has a regular-season basketball game on the same day as a SkillsUSA event, the student has the right to choose between events.

Example Three: If a student has a dance practice during dance season on the same day/time as a soccer open gym, the student must attend the dance practice.

Section 9 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 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, parent, and student present.
 - At this meeting, an appropriate next step can be determined, if necessary.

Section 10 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 noisemakers 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 11 Clearance to Participate & (Head) Injury Procedure

~~With the passage of new~~ Based on current or new legislation ~~on~~ at the state and federal levels, Columbus High School will observe the following protocol on allowing students to participate in activities.

“In order to participate in any athletic event sponsored by CPS, students must have permission and clearance from each of the following six individual entities:

- 1) Student Themselves
- 2) Student’s Parent(s) and/or Guardian(s)
- 3) Student’s Family Physician/Medical Professional
- 4) Student’s Activity Sponsor/Coach
- 5) Columbus Public Schools Administration
- 6) Columbus Public Schools Athletic Trainer

During activity or athletic participation, if a student is suspected to have suffered a head injury, displays concussion-like symptoms, **or any injury that appears to be urgent**, the student will be removed from any level of participation immediately, until a complete evaluation is performed by a licensed medical professional. Written notice and personal contact with a parent/guardian of such an interruption of participation will follow the injury. The head **coach/sponsor, athletic trainer, or designee** is responsible for notification of parents. Such notice will include specifics regarding the time and location of the **urgent** injury, the signs/symptoms of a concussion/brain injury that were observed, and any actions taken with the student.

In the event that such ability to participate is interrupted at any time due to a diagnosed head injury, concussion, [and/or any other urgent injury](#) written clearance from both the student's parent(s)/guardian(s) and family physician/medical professional will be required before clearance to participate may be granted again. The responsibility of obtaining written clearance from a licensed medical professional is solely that of the student and his or her family.

Section 12 Summer Camps & Travel

On occasion, students have the opportunity to participate in trips that have an apparent connection to the District, but which in fact are not school-sponsored. Some examples: (1) travel with a club sport team, even though the club team may be coached by our high school coach; (2) a band travelling to an out-of-state band contest that is arranged by a Booster Club; and (3) a foreign language teacher taking students abroad during the summer.

These opportunities are often worthwhile and beneficial to students. The message we want to make clear, however, is that these opportunities are not school-sponsored activities. All arrangements for such trips, including all associated travel costs, supervision, and safety are the responsibility of the group or person making the trip available to students. Columbus Public Schools has no responsibility for such trips. Anyone who is uncertain as to whether or not a particular opportunity is school-sponsored should contact the superintendent, building principal, or the director of athletics and activities.

Section 13 Concussions

***Please see the following three pages for information regarding concussions.**

HEADS*UP

CONCUSSION IN HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS

A FACT SHEET FOR **ATHLETES**

What is a concussion?

A concussion is a brain injury that:

- Is caused by a bump, blow, or jolt to the head or body.
- Can change the way your brain normally works.
- Can occur during practices or games in any sport or recreational activity.
- Can happen even if you haven't been knocked out.
- Can be serious even if you've just been "dinged" or "had your bell rung."

All concussions are serious. A concussion can affect your ability to do schoolwork and other activities (such as playing video games, working on a computer, studying, driving, or exercising). Most people with a concussion get better, but it is important to give your brain time to heal.

What are the symptoms of a concussion?

You can't see a concussion, but you might notice **one or more** of the symptoms listed below or that you "don't feel right" soon after, a few days after, or even weeks after the injury.

- Headache or "pressure" in head
- Nausea or vomiting
- Balance problems or dizziness
- Double or blurry vision
- Bothered by light or noise
- Feeling sluggish, hazy, foggy, or groggy
- Difficulty paying attention
- Memory problems
- Confusion

What should I do if I think I have a concussion?

- **Tell your coaches and your parents.** Never ignore a bump or blow to the head even if you feel fine. Also, tell your coach right away if you think you have a concussion or if one of your teammates might have a concussion.
- **Get a medical check-up.** A doctor or other health care professional can tell if you have a concussion and when it is OK to return to play.
- **Give yourself time to get better.** If you have a concussion, your brain needs time to heal. While your brain is still healing, you are much more likely to have another concussion. Repeat concussions can increase the time it takes for you to recover and may cause more damage to your brain. It is important to rest and not return to play until you get the OK from your health care professional that you are symptom-free.

How can I prevent a concussion?

Every sport is different, but there are steps you can take to protect yourself.

- Use the proper sports equipment, including personal protective equipment. In order for equipment to protect you, it must be:
 - The right equipment for the game, position, or activity
 - Worn correctly and the correct size and fit
 - Used every time you play or practice
- Follow your coach's rules for safety and the rules of the sport.
- Practice good sportsmanship at all times.

If you think you have a concussion:
Don't hide it. Report it. Take time to recover.

It's better to miss one game than the whole season.

For more information and to order additional materials *free-of-charge*, visit: www.cdc.gov/Concussion.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION



June 2010

HEADS*UP CONCUSSION IN HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS

A FACT SHEET FOR PARENTS

What is a concussion?

A concussion is a brain injury. Concussions are caused by a bump, blow, or jolt to the head or body. Even a “ding,” “getting your bell rung,” or what seems to be a mild bump or blow to the head can be serious.

What are the signs and symptoms?

You can’t see a concussion. Signs and symptoms of concussion can show up right after the injury or may not appear or be noticed until days after the injury. If your teen reports **one or more** symptoms of concussion listed below, or if you notice the symptoms yourself, keep your teen out of play and seek medical attention right away.

Signs Observed by Parents or Guardians	Symptoms Reported by Athlete
• Appears dazed or stunned • Is confused about assignment or position • Forgets an instruction • Is unsure of game, score, or opponent • Moves clumsily • Answers questions slowly • Loses consciousness (<i>even briefly</i>) • Shows mood, behavior, or personality changes • Can’t recall events <i>prior</i> to hit or fall • Can’t recall events <i>after</i> hit or fall	• Headache or “pressure” in head • Nausea or vomiting • Balance problems or dizziness • Double or blurry vision • Sensitivity to light or noise • Feeling sluggish, hazy, foggy, or groggy • Concentration or memory problems • Confusion • Just not “feeling right” or is “feeling down”

How can you help your teen prevent a concussion?

Every sport is different, but there are steps your teens can take to protect themselves from concussion and other injuries.

- Make sure they wear the right protective equipment for their activity. It should fit properly, be well maintained, and be worn consistently and correctly.

- Ensure that they follow their coaches’ rules for safety and the rules of the sport.
- Encourage them to practice good sportsmanship at all times.

What should you do if you think your teen has a concussion?

1. **Keep your teen out of play.** If your teen has a concussion, her/his brain needs time to heal. Don’t let your teen return to play the day of the injury and until a health care professional, experienced in evaluating for concussion, says your teen is symptom-free and it’s OK to return to play. A repeat concussion that occurs before the brain recovers from the first—usually within a short period of time (hours, days, or weeks)—can slow recovery or increase the likelihood of having long-term problems. In rare cases, repeat concussions can result in edema (brain swelling), permanent brain damage, and even death.
2. **Seek medical attention right away.** A health care professional experienced in evaluating for concussion will be able to decide how serious the concussion is and when it is safe for your teen to return to sports.
3. **Teach your teen that it’s not smart to play with a concussion.** Rest is key after a concussion. Sometimes athletes wrongly believe that it shows strength and courage to play injured. Discourage others from pressuring injured athletes to play. Don’t let your teen convince you that s/he’s “just fine.”
4. **Tell all of your teen’s coaches and the student’s school nurse about ANY concussion.** Coaches, school nurses, and other school staff should know if your teen has ever had a concussion. Your teen may need to limit activities while s/he is recovering from a concussion. Things such as studying, driving, working on a computer, playing video games, or exercising may cause concussion symptoms to reappear or get worse. Talk to your health care professional, as well as your teen’s coaches, school nurse, and teachers. If needed, they can help adjust your teen’s school activities during her/his recovery.

If you think your teen has a concussion:

Don’t assess it yourself. Take him/her out of play. Seek the advice of a health care professional.

It’s better to miss one game than the whole season.

For more information and to order additional materials *free-of-charge*, visit: www.cdc.gov/Concussion.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION



June 2010

Nebraska Sports Concussion Network



www.NebSportsConcussion.org

Home Instructions for the Concussed Athlete

Athlete _____ Date of Injury _____ Time of Injury _____

Home phone _____ Parent/guardian name _____

Your son/daughter has sustained concussion while participating in _____. In some instances, the Signs & Symptoms of a concussion do not become apparent until several hours or even days after the injury. Therefore, they should be monitored closely. Please be especially observant for the following signs and symptoms.

1. Headache (especially one of increasing intensity*)
2. Nausea and vomiting*
3. Difference in pupil size from right to left eye, dilated pupils*
4. Decreased or irregular pulse OR respiration*
5. Blurry or double vision*
6. Slurred speech*
7. Seizure activity*
8. Noticeable changes in the level of consciousness (difficulty awakening, or losing consciousness suddenly)*
9. Mental Confusion or Behavior Changes
10. Balance Problems or Dizziness
11. Memory Loss or Difficulty Remembering
12. Fatigue
13. Feeling Slowed Down or Foggy
14. Drowsiness
15. Difficulty Concentrating
16. Sensitivity to Light or Noise

*** Seek immediate medical attention at the nearest emergency department.**

The best guideline is to note symptoms that worsen, and behaviors that seem to represent a change in your son/daughter. If you have any question or concern at all about the signs or symptoms you are observing, contact your family physician for instructions, or seek medical attention at the closest emergency department. Otherwise, you can follow the instructions outlined below.

It is OK to:

- Use acetaminophen (Tylenol) for headaches
- Use ice pack on head & neck as needed for comfort
- Eat a light diet
- Go to sleep
- Rest

There is NO need to:

- Check eyes with a flashlight
- Wake up every hour
- Test reflexes
- Stay in bed

DO NOT:

- Drink alcohol
- Drive vehicle while symptomatic
- Exercise or lift weights
- Take ibuprofen, aspirin, naproxen or other non-steroidal anti-inflammatory medications
- No strenuous activity including P.E., sports, video games or texting

Please remind your son/daughter to check in with the School Nurse prior to going to class on the first day he/she returns to school. They should then follow up with the Athletic Trainer after school.

Recommendations provided to: _____ Phone #: _____

Recommendations provided by: _____ Phone #: _____

Date: _____ Time: _____

Adapted from National Athletic Trainers Association Position Statement: Management of Sports-Related Concussion. J Athl. Trng. 2004;39(3):280-297.

Section 14: CHS HOMECOMING CONTRACT SENIOR STUDENTS

In order to be placed on the Homecoming ballot, eligible seniors must meet the eligibility requirements and confirm that you want to be considered for the honor of being nominated as a homecoming candidate. By signing this contract you are confirming your willingness to assume the responsibilities of this all-school honor, which includes your agreement to attend the entire Homecoming Football Game and Dance and represent the school properly. Whether or not a student is eligible for selection for Homecoming Royalty is ultimately the decision of the high school administrative team based on the criteria set forth in the Student Handbook.

Academic Qualifications for Eligibility:

- The student must maintain a cumulative GPA of 2.5 or greater.
- The student must have passed all courses during his or her junior year.
- The student is currently academically eligible for activities.

Conduct and Citizenship Qualifications for Eligibility:

- The student must not have violated the school's drug and alcohol policy.
- The student must not have been cited or admitted to a criminal offense (excluding routine/minor traffic violations)
- The student must not have had excessive violations of other school policies. This means 8 or fewer Level 0 and/or Level 1 violations and no Level 2 or Level 3 violations. Tardies will not be included.

Activity Participation Requirement for Eligibility:

- Seniors must have participated in and completed a CHS sponsored activity within the last year. Within the last year means, from last year's Homecoming until the date of application.
- All activities participated in within the last year must be verified by the coach or sponsor.

Directions:

- The student must list the activities participated in during their Junior year and all activities which they currently participate in.
- Refer to the back page of this document for all necessary signatures.

Activities

Coach/Sponsor

Your Name (print)	Date
Signature	

To Be Completed by the Administration After Initial Vote by the Senior Class

1. Student was selected as one of the eight finalists. _____ YES _____
NO

If YES, continue to #2, #3, and #4

2. Student is in Good Standing in the following areas

Academic Qualifications (2.5 GPA) _____ YES _____
NO

Conduct and Citizenship _____ YES _____
NO

Activity Participation _____ YES _____
NO

3. Background Check Cleared _____ YES _____
NO

4. Final Verification by Building Administrator
NO

_____ YES _____

Homecoming Protocols Final Revisions March 2014

RECEIPT OF Columbus HIGH SCHOOL
STUDENT-PARENT ACTIVITY HANDBOOK

We acknowledge receipt of the Student-Parent Activity Handbook.

We agree to abide by the extracurricular activity code of conduct set forth in the handbook and the other rules and regulations set forth in the handbook.

We agree to read the handbook. In the event we have a question on the meaning of any of the material in the handbook, we understand that we can request a conference with the Principal or the Director of Athletics and Activities to get an explanation.

_____ Student Name (print)	_____ Parent or Guardian Name (print)
_____ Student Signature	_____ Parent or Guardian Signature
_____ Date	_____ Date

Section 15: Drug Testing Procedures
COLUMBUS PUBLIC SCHOOLS
COLUMBUS, NE
DRUG TESTING POLICY

1. Need for Random Testing

The Board of Education is responsible for maintaining discipline, health and safety. The Board recognizes that substance abuse presents a continuing challenge and a danger to the student population as a whole. The Board is committed to maintaining school sponsored activity programs in a safe, healthy and secure environment. The Board is further committed to being proactive in ensuring that students who participate in extracurricular activities represent the District in a positive manner

2. Eligibility for Random Testing

Students who participate in school sponsored competitive extracurricular activities, as defined in the student handbook at the middle school and high school (Grades 7-12) levels are eligible for random testing. Students who do not consent to participate in the testing program shall not be eligible to participate in school sponsored competitive extracurricular and co-curricular activities. Parents/guardians may volunteer their child for participation in the testing program even if they do not participate in a school sponsored competitive extracurricular activity.

Testing Procedure

a. Random Testing

The Superintendent or designee will ensure the testing of eligible students occurs on a scheduled basis through a confidential and random testing schedule.

b. Collection

The testing collection process will be conducted in a manner that protects student privacy, guards against tampered specimens and ensures an accurate chain of custody. It is intended that the procedures be modeled on those applicable to the testing of DOT covered employees, through methods other than testing of urine samples may be used. The tests are to be designed to detect only the use of illegal drugs, not medical conditions or the presence of authorized prescription medications.

4. Confidentiality

All activities related to the testing policy will be carried out in accordance with the requirements of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), the Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA), and any other applicable confidentiality laws.

5. Consequences for Positive Tests

Any of the following shall be considered to be a positive test result:

- A confirmed positive drug test;

- Refusal to participate in testing when selected; and/or
- Tampering with the specimen collection process.

The following shall result from a positive test result:

- The student or the student's parents or guardians should contact the building principal or designee within 48 hours of notification of a positive test result.

File: 504.50

Page 2 of 6

- If there is no self-reporting within 48 hours by the student and/or their parents or guardian, the building principal or designee will call and set up a meeting to discuss the positive test result, with the objective of collaborating on a plan to assist the student in avoiding future substance abuse.
- The student's privilege of participating in extracurricular or co-curricular activities will be restricted as follows:
 - Positive results from a student tested based on probable cause or reasonable suspicion will receive consequences based on student code of conduct as stated in the Columbus Public Schools student handbook.
 - The parents or guardians are responsible for the costs of any rehabilitation program, which includes the substance abuse counseling and follow-up.
 - Positive results will not lead to the imposition of any academic consequence or disciplinary action, other than the above-described limitations on the privilege to participate in extracurricular activities.

6. Appeal and Due Process Procedures

A student or the student's parents/guardians or employee may challenge the results of a positive test through an appeal process to be developed by the Superintendent or designee. In the event a student or the student's parents/guardians wish to challenge a positive test on a basis other than the accuracy of the test result; an appeal may be made in accordance with the policy on extracurricular activity discipline and/or Columbus Public Schools Staff Handbook.

7. Process

The Superintendent or the Superintendent's designee is directed to develop specific testing procedures consistent with this policy.

Drug Testing Procedures

1. Student Eligibility for Random Testing

Students who participate in school sponsored competitive extracurricular and co-curricular activities, as defined by the student handbook, at the middle and high school (Grades 7-12) levels are eligible for random testing. School sponsored extracurricular and co-curricular competitive activities, as defined by the student handbook, are activities which are sponsored or approved by the Board, but are not required for credit towards graduation, and which involve competition, comparison, or judging of the individuals or groups with other individuals or groups as part of selection or participation.

To participate in a school sponsored competitive extracurricular or co-curricular activity, students must submit a completed Consent to Test Form on or before the first practice or on or before the first event or meeting, whichever is applicable. The form must be signed by the student and the student's parent or guardian. Failure to submit a completed Consent to Test Form will result in ineligibility for participation in school sponsored competitive extracurricular activities until the form is submitted.

File: 504.50

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Students remain eligible for testing from the date the Consent to Test Form is turned in until a Drop Form is completed, or until the student graduates or is otherwise no longer enrolled in the District. A student for whom a Drop Form has been submitted shall be ineligible for participation in school sponsored extracurricular activities for twelve months from the date the Drop Form is submitted. Students have a fifteen (15) day grace period for reconsideration of a Drop Form.

Students who are not participants in a school sponsored extracurricular activity may volunteer for participation in the testing program by submitting a completed Consent to Test Form.

2. Testing Procedure

a. Random Testing

A confidential testing schedule will be created by the Superintendent, designee or contracted service agent to ensure that the testing of eligible students is conducted in a manner that is random. To maintain confidentiality and to maintain the integrity of the randomness of this program, the students eligible for testing will be identified by a unique personal identifier that does not make the student known to persons other than the school officials who are directly involved in the testing program.

No less than twenty percent (20%) of the pool of eligible students will be tested each school year. The Superintendent or designee shall have the authority to determine the percentage to test, subject to the minimum 20% level, dependent on the nature and extent of the prevailing problem with drug usage in the school community from time to time. Testing will take place throughout the school year.

b. Collection

The testing collection process will be conducted in a manner that protects student privacy, guards against tampered specimens and ensures an accurate chain of custody of the specimen. The method of testing

may involve the use of breath, saliva, urine, or hair samples. To the extent the testing involves the collection of urine, it shall be done by a certified collector in accordance with DOT urine drug screen collections policy/procedures. Such collection procedures may require a same sex monitored collection should the urine sample show signs of adulteration, temperature out of range, or tampering.

It is intended that the procedures be modeled on those applicable to the testing of CDL employees, which include the testing of specimens for unlawful substances. The tests are to be designed to detect only the use of illegal drugs, including but not limited to amphetamines (methamphetamines), marijuana, K2, cocaine, PCP, and opiates, not medical conditions or the presence of authorized prescription medications.

Positive results will need to be confirmed by the contracting service. If any fees are associated with the confirmation, the fees will be assessed to the student and their family. The district is not responsible for re-test costs or confirmation costs.

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3. Confidentiality

All activities related to the testing policy will be carried out in accordance with the requirements of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), the Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA), and any other applicable confidentiality laws.

Test results will be shared with the student and his or her parents first. It is then up to the student and their parents to notify the school within 48 hours of being notified of a positive test. The building principal or designee will be notified by the contracting agent regarding a positive result after the 48-hour window. Only the building Principal or designee with a legitimate educational interest will be provided the information, on a "need to know" basis. Test results will not be turned over to any law enforcement authority in the absence of a court order, subpoena, or other legal process requiring such. If a student is tested based on probable cause/reasonable suspicion to be under the influence or in possession of any illegal substance during the academic day, law enforcement may be notified.

Test results will be kept in confidential disciplinary files separate from the students' academic records. The test results will be destroyed when no longer needed for individual student situations or for the overall testing program.

Columbus High School/Scotus Central Catholic Cooperative Students

Scotus Central Catholic students who participate in cooperative sports with Columbus High School are subject to the same testing standards as Columbus High School activity participants. Scotus Central Catholic athletes will be included in the pool of Columbus High School students to be randomly tested.

**COLUMBUS PUBLIC SCHOOLS
COLUMBUS, NE
Consent to Test**

I fully understand that my performance as a student and the reputation of my school are dependent, in part, on my conduct as an individual. I hereby agree to accept and abide by the standards, rules and regulations set forth by the Board of Education of Columbus Public Schools, the administration, and the coaches and sponsors for the activities in which I participate.

_____ Student Name (print)	_____ Parent or Guardian Name (print)
_____ Student Signature	_____ Parent or Guardian Signature
_____ Date	_____ Date

I consent to and authorize Columbus Public Schools to conduct a drug test if my number is drawn from the random pool. I also authorize the release of information concerning the results of such tests to designated District personnel.

I understand that this form remains in effect until the submission of an Activity Drop Form or graduation and/or withdrawal from the District.

I plan to participate in one or more of the following school sponsored competitive extracurricular activity(ies):

_____ I am volunteering my son/daughter to be placed in the testing pool.

File: 504.50

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**COLUMBUS PUBLIC SCHOOLS
COLUMBUS, NE
Activity Withdrawal**

I will submit this form to the Director of Athletics and Activities. My name will be withdrawn from the testing pool on the date this is received by the Director of Athletics and Activities.

Completing this form will pertain to all school sponsored extracurricular activities. I understand that, by withdrawing, I can no longer participate in any school sponsored competitive extracurricular activities, and I may not receive recognition as a member of these activities or athletic programs. I may re-enter the testing pool after a period of one (1) calendar year by filling out a new Consent to Test form.

_____ Student Name (print)	_____ Parent or Guardian Name (print)
_____ Student Signature	_____ Parent or Guardian Signature
_____ Date	_____ Date

I UNDERSTAND THAT I HAVE 15 DAYS TO RECONSIDER THE DECISION AND RE-ENTER THE POOL.

Date: _____ Date of Receipt: _____

Section 16: Columbus Public Schools/Scotus Central Catholic Cooperative Sports

Cooperative Agreement Guidelines Students from other schools who have been approved to co-op with Columbus Public Schools must comply with requirements that are requested of other students participating including (but not limited to):

1. Passing of physical examinations and insurance requirements.
2. Purchase a “C-Stamp” that is required of all students who participate in activities.
3. Students who participate in the cooperative who are not residents of the Columbus Public Schools boundaries will be required to pay a \$275 participation fee plus the “C-Stamp” price. Each additional activity a student participates in will require an additional \$275.
4. Fee’s will be payable to the school in which the student is enrolled and Columbus Public Schools will invoice the school where such student is enrolled for participation.
5. Students who choose to play a Cooperative Sport through Columbus High School must sign and have their parents sign a receipt that they understand the activity code of conduct for Columbus Public Schools. All students will be held to the same standard and consequences through the CHS Handbook.
6. Athletes from other schools will have the same consequences as CHS athletes should they break any of the rules set forth in the Code of Conduct.
7. If tryouts are to be conducted to warrant student release from the cooperative sport, a scoring system must be put in place for each sport and published as an exhibit to this regulation
8. All students will wear Columbus Discoverer attire or neutral clothing to practices and scrimmages. Clothing from other schools are not to be worn.
9. All students will wear Columbus Discoverer uniform attire clothing to all games and scrimmages. Clothing from other schools are not to be worn.
10. There will be no restrictions for student participation placed upon any cooping agreement. All students will be allowed to participate on an equal basis.

TO: Dr. Troy Loeffelholz and CPS Board of Education
 FROM: Tim Kwapnioski, Director of Athletics and Activities
 RE: Revisions to the 2020-2021 Athletic and Activities Handbook
 DATE: July 16, 2020

Columbus High School is recommending the following changes the CHS Athletics and Activities Handbook for the 2020-2021 school year.

Page Number	Change
Pg. 1 and 2	A cover/title page has been added (pg. 1) along with information pertaining to the disclaimer notice as well as notification of Nondiscrimination, Sexual Discrimination, American Disabilities Act, and the Mission Statement for CPS (pg. 2).
Pg. 7	Added - 21. The administration reserves the right to assign additional consequences based upon the frequency and/or severity of any student infraction that may or may not be listed in the Athletics and Activities Handbook.
Pg. 8	A. Drugs and Alcohol – added (“look alike”)
Pg. 9	A. Added – (manufacturing) and (This includes federally banned substances or “look alike” substances.)
Pg. 10	B. Added – (inhalant products)
Pg. 11	Section 4 – 1 Replaced (“will” with “may”)
Pg. 12	Section 4 – 3 Replaced (“is” with “may be”)
Pg. 13	Section 5 – 1 Added (and received twenty credit hours the immediate preceding semester)
Pg. 14	Section 7 – Added (Athletics and Activities Office)
Pg. 15	Transportation Policy – Removed (Parents are strongly discouraged from allowing students to drive to/from events unaccompanied by parents.) Transportation Liability Waiver – 3 Added (to a home event) Transportation Liability Waiver – 4 Added (home) Section 8 – Multiple Events on Same Day – Added (Heartland Athletic Conference)
Pg. 19	Section 11 – Clearance to Participate – Replaced (“With the passage of new legislation on the state and federal levels” with “Based on legislation at the state and federal levels”) Added (“or any injury that appears to be urgent”) Added (“The head coach/sponsor, athletic trainer, or designee”) Added (“and/or any other urgent injury)

TO: Dr. Troy Loeffelholz and CPS Board of Education
 FROM: Tim Kwapnioski, Director of Athletics and Activities
 RE: Recommended Admission Prices, 2020-2021
 DATE: July 16, 2020

The Columbus High School is recommending the following fee structure for activities admission prices for the 2020-2021 school year.



Athletic Events

Event	2019-2020 Price		Proposed 2020-2021 Price	
	Adults	Students	Adults	Students
Varsity/JV Events	\$5.00	\$4.00	\$6.00	\$4.00
Other HS Events	\$4.00	\$3.00	\$5.00	\$3.00
CMS Events	\$4.00	\$3.00	\$4.00	\$3.00

Adult Season Passes

Pass Type	2019-2020 Price	2020-2021 Price
All Event, Full Season	\$100.00	\$100.00
10 Event Punch Pass	\$40.00	\$50.00

Student Activity Passes

Student Pass Type	2019-2020 Price	2020-2021 Price
High School Student	\$25.00	\$35.00
Middle School Student	\$25.00	\$35.00
Elem. School Student	\$25.00	\$35.00

Fine Arts Performances

Performance	2019-2020 Price		2020-2021 Price	
	Adults	Students	Adults	Students
Fall Musical	\$5.00	\$4.00	\$6.00	\$4.00
Theatre Productions	\$5.00	\$4.00	\$6.00	\$4.00
Marching Festival	\$7.00	\$5.00	\$7.00	\$5.00

STUDENT HANDBOOK 2020-2021

Your student handbook has been written to assist you in becoming a productive member of Columbus Middle School. In preparing for various roles at Columbus Middle School, you must be conscious of your rights and be committed to your duties. Protect these rights by being a responsible citizen in your school community.

Your teachers, counselors, and principals are available to assist you in understanding the important things written in this handbook. Ask them questions if you do not understand the meaning of anything in this handbook.

Disclaimer Notice

This handbook does not form a contract and the school reserves the right to interpret and modify the rules listed within this book.

Mission Statement of Columbus Public Schools

Engaging all learners to achieve success

Vision of the Columbus Middle School

The Discoverer Way: Creating a culture of learning for ALL

To the Parent/Guardian

Columbus Public School's Policy 1005.02 R1 requires that a copy of the Student Handbook be made available to each parent/guardian. This handbook has been prepared to explain and clarify the procedures, policies and regulations of Columbus Middle School. This Student Handbook complies with the law that was passed by the Nebraska Legislature, LB503 (1976), which requires every school district to summarize general rules and regulations regarding student conduct. This law further requires such rules and regulations to be available in writing to all students and their parents/guardians. The school district urges students and their parents/guardians to read this handbook carefully. Parents are invited to contact the school office during normal business hours to inquire about access to instructional materials and/or attend and monitor instructional activities. You are urged to contact any middle school administrator if you have any questions regarding the contents of this Student Handbook.

Notification of Nondiscrimination

Applicants for admission and employment, students, parents of elementary and secondary school students, employees, sources of referral of applicants for admission and employment, and all professional organizations holding collective bargaining or professional agreements with Columbus Public School District #1 are hereby notified that this institution does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or handicap in admission or access to, or treatment or employment in, its programs and activities. Any person having inquiries concerning the Columbus Public School District #1 compliance with the regulations implementing Title VI, Title IX, or Section 504 is directed to contact the Superintendent of Schools, Columbus, NE 68601, telephone number 402/563-7000. The Superintendent has been designated to Columbus Public School District #1 to coordinate the institution's efforts to comply with the regulations implementing Title VI, Title IX, or Section 504. Any person may also contact the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, US Department of Education, regarding the institution's compliance with the regulations implementing Title VI, Title IX, or Section 504.

Notification of Sexual Discrimination

It is the policy of the Columbus Public School District to comply in spirit as well as in fact to the regulations implementing Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972. Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 prohibits sex discrimination in federally-assisted education programs. Specifically, Title IX states: "No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving federal financial assistance. . ." Any student who has a grievance should complete a grievance form and forward it to the Superintendent. Forms are available in all school offices.

Notification of American Disabilities Act

If you have any special needs requests that will assist you in participating in programs, services, or activities of the Columbus Public Schools, please contact the Superintendent of Schools.

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State law establishes the **Student Rights and Responsibilities** identified below. State rights and responsibilities are automatically school district policy as well as building level policy. Therefore, we must be sure that students and parents have been given the opportunity to read them. **SIGNATURE SHEETS**, which will be sent home prior to the first full week of school, should be signed by parents and students and returned according to the deadline printed on the sheet. In order to assure students understand what the **Student Rights, Rules and Responsibilities** information means, school personnel will also be reviewing it with students during the first week of the school year.

SECTION I STUDENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES – UNDER NE STATUTES

I-A Responsibilities and Right to an Education

A student's right to an education in Nebraska is granted because of provisions in the state's constitution. There are two very important things a student must faithfully do to protect this constitutional right. These two things are: attend school regularly and participate in the learning process. **There are many other things responsible students do while they are students, but nothing is more important than doing the school work assigned by their teachers and being in school regularly.**

The policy of the Columbus Public Schools regarding the right to an education states: The State of Nebraska, as provided for in Article VII, section I, of the Nebraska Constitution, established public schools to provide a free appropriate public education (FAPE) for students between the ages of five and twenty-one. All residents of the Columbus Public Schools from five through twenty-one are entitled to attend public school without tuition. All students are entitled to equal opportunities. Along with one's rights to equality of educational opportunity, each student has a commensurate responsibility to act in such a way as not to interfere with the rights of others to the same opportunity.

Reasonable and necessary order in the schools is essential to the fostering and maintaining of educational opportunity. A student may forfeit his/her right to educational opportunities when his/her conduct substantially disrupts the educational process and deprives others of their rights. The most important things a student must do to protect his/her right to an education are stated as follows:

I-B Attendance Responsibility

All students enrolled in any of the Columbus Public Schools, regardless of how old they are, must attend school regularly and be in all classes to which they are assigned, unless properly excused by an official of the school. Only authorized officials can excuse a student from school. It is the responsibility of the student and his/her parents(s)/guardian(s) to inform the school of the reason for any absence and to comply with the specified attendance procedure of the particular school in which the student is enrolled. Any student who fails to attend school regularly and/or be in his/her classes on time shall be disciplined. Parents/Guardians of students under eighteen years of age may be held legally negligent if their son/daughter fails to meet this attendance responsibility, according to Nebraska Statute §79-201-211.

According to Columbus Board Policy 503 and Nebraska Statute §79-209, the school has the right to compel student attendance. Furthermore, the school is required to notify the parent when their child has missed 5 days. Excused and unexcused absences to school will accumulate towards these 5 days. If any student has accumulated a total of 5 unapproved absences, or a percentage equivalency of 5 absences, the school shall render all services in its power to compel the student's attendance. If a student is absent more than 20 days per year, or the percentage equivalency, the attendance officer shall file a report with the County Attorney of the county in which the person resides. **See V in Student Attendance Expectations.**

I-C Academic Responsibility

Students are obligated to complete all schoolwork assigned to them by their teachers. Students are also responsible for bringing materials, such as pencil, paper, computer, and textbooks to class regularly. Any students who fail to show a sincere and regular effort to complete their assigned work may be disciplined for being academically irresponsible.

I-D Health Examination and Immunizations

State law requires that each student entering school must be protected against measles, mumps, rubella, poliomyelitis, diphtheria, pertussis, and tetanus by immunization. This law further requires that prior to the entrance of a student into the beginner grade and the seventh grade, or in the case of a transfer student from an out-of-state school to any other grade, that he/she be examined by a qualified physician. Any student who fails to comply with these health responsibilities shall be excluded from school until such time as he/ she is in compliance with these responsibilities. For the current school year, a student must have the following immunizations: Three doses of DPT vaccine, three doses of polio vaccine, and two doses of the MMR or MMRV vaccine. Students also need two

doses of Varicella (chickenpox) or MMRV given on or after 12 months of age and separated by at least one month. 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. Three doses of Hepatitis B vaccine are required (for students entering for the first time or grades K/1st). Two doses of Tdap (contains Pertussis booster) is required for entry into 7th grade.

I-E Student Records

Columbus Public Schools Board Policy 507 and its accompanying rules govern the maintenance of student records. These records are maintained to assist the instructional, guidance, and educational progress of the student and for legitimate research to better the educational programs of the school district. The means and methods specified by Policy 507 to collect and maintain these important records comply with regulations promulgated in PL 93-380, the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, and various Nebraska Revised Statutes and rules of the State Board of Education. Board Policy 507 assures the confidentiality of student records. Under this policy, students, former students, and parents/legal guardians are assured access to student records; the right to challenge information contained in the student record believed to be “inaccurate, misleading or otherwise inappropriate” and the right to a hearing should a conflict result. The student record for each student may include, but is not limited to, such information as identifying information, attendance records, grade levels completed, aptitude test scores and records of achievement, health records, and family background data. Parents, legal guardians, or eligible students may request to review a student’s student record. The only other persons who have access to the information in the student record are school personnel who have a legitimate educational interest, persons complying with a judicial order, and persons representing federal, state, or accrediting agencies. Parents, legal guardians, or eligible students may request in writing that information contained in a student’s student record be released for their purposes. They may also request copies of information classified as a subsidiary student record prior to its required destruction within three years after the student leaves school. The administrator determines the content of a student’s record.

Schools may make public certain non-confidential directory information in association with recognition for such things as academic excellence, extra-curricular honors and awards, or participation in officially recognized school-sponsored activities. Directory information may include such things as name, address, telephone number, date and place of birth, dates of school attendance, and specific information relating to recognition (such as weight, height of athletic team members). Any parent, legal guardian, or student of legal age who does not wish the school to release such directory information must notify the principal of the school the student presently attends by September 15. Student records other than directory information will only be released upon receipt of a written parental permission for students younger than eighteen years of age. Records of students eighteen years and older will be released only with the student’s own written permission. Release forms are available in the Counseling Office. Throughout the year students may be photographed for various reasons. Parents who wish their child not participate in said photographs may request such in writing. If parents/guardians request that their child be placed on the “no photograph” list, the child will not appear in the yearbook, newspaper, or other media outlets. Students and parent(s)/guardian(s) who have any additional concerns regarding their rights under Policy 507 and various federal and state laws are encouraged to contact the building principal of their school. A copy of Policy 507 and its accompanying rules may be obtained for the cost of reproduction from the Office of the Superintendent of Schools. Students and parent(s)/guardian(s) may file with the Department of Health, Education and Welfare complaints concerning alleged failures of the school district to comply with federal legislation dealing with student records.

I-F Freedom from Sexual Discrimination

It is the policy of the Columbus Public School District to comply in spirit as well in fact to the regulations implementing Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972. Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 prohibits sex discrimination in federally assisted education programs. Specifically, Title IX states: “No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance...” Any person who has a complaint should complete the steps outlined in CPS school board policy 403.05. Complaint forms are available in the office and should be filled out and forwarded to the Superintendent.

I-G Responsibility and Right to Freedom of Assembly

The Board of Education of the Columbus Public Schools recognizes that Freedom of Assembly is a right protected by the First Amendment of the Constitution of the United States. The exercise of this right must be conducted in a responsible manner so as not to interfere with the educational activities of the school district.[CPS Board Policy 504.07 and 506.02R1]

I-H Search and Seizure

Students possess the right of privacy of person as well as freedom from unreasonable search and seizure of property guaranteed by the Fourth Amendment of the Constitution. This individual right, however, is balanced by the school’s responsibility to protect the health, safety, and welfare of all its students. According to CPS Board Policy 504.08, school employees may conduct searches when they have reason to suspect that the health, safety, and welfare of students may be in danger. Any school employee making a search or a

seizure will follow these guidelines:

- 1) General searches of school property (including personal items such as book bags, purses, coats, etc., found on school property) will be conducted at any time when there is reasonable cause for school employees to believe that something that violates a law or school rule is on school property. This search of school property may be made without the student being present.
- 2) Illegal items (e.g., firearms, weapons, drugs) or other possessions reasonably determined to be a threat to the safety, security of others, or which might possibly interfere with school purposes will be seized by school employees.
- 3) Items which are used to disrupt or interfere with the educational process may be removed from a student's person.
- 4) A student's person may be searched by school employees when there is reasonable cause to believe that the student has on his/her person illegal items or other items that may interfere with school purposes.
- 5) Lockers and desks are the property of the school district and are made available to students for their convenience. Lockers are randomly searched. Each student is responsible for the content or security of his/her locker. Each student is assigned a locker with an individualized lock combination. Students are advised not to disclose the combination to other students. Some students will be assigned to share a locker with another student. The student(s) solely assigned to the locker are responsible for the locker and will be held accountable for all items in the assigned locker. The school assumes no responsibility for items placed in a shared locker or shared combination. Students are not permitted to share lockers with anyone other than their assigned partner. Violation of this policy may result in a revocation of locker privileges and a school consequence. Columbus Middle School has a responsibility for providing a secure educational environment for students and staff. In cooperation with local law enforcement agencies, we work together to maintain a safe and drug-free environment, which includes using appropriate and necessary means to search lockers and the grounds for illegal substances. Canine drug units can be used to search the building and grounds at Columbus Middle School (Policy 504.15). The canine drug units are trained and handled by law enforcement officers. Such searches will be unannounced during the school day. Established security drill procedures are implemented to facilitate the search and to ensure students and staff are out of the hallways and into their classrooms.

I-I Recording of Students

The Columbus Public School Board has approved the use of security equipment to monitor students and staff at Columbus Middle School. For the security of our students, staff and school grounds, Columbus Middle School is equipped with numerous security cameras. Select areas of the Columbus Middle School and surrounding property are monitored by security cameras. Students may be recorded while in any area of the building, including in the classroom, or on school grounds with the exception of the locker rooms and bathrooms. The information gathered through recording may be used as part of disciplinary proceedings against a student and/or may be added to a student's disciplinary file if deemed appropriate by the Columbus Middle School Administration.

I-J Responsibility and Right of Freedom of Expression

The right to freely express oneself is justifiably tempered with responsibilities to ensure that the expression made does not interfere with the rights of others. The official school policy and the responsibilities students have when expressing themselves are contained in this handbook to promote reasonable communication. This reflects one of the purposes of the Columbus Public Schools. [CPS Board Policy 504.07] That purpose is to encourage the use of good language skills while providing educational experiences for students. The official school policy in regard to Freedom of Expression states: "The Board of Education of the Columbus Public Schools recognizes the First Amendment of the Constitution of the United States of America as being an essential part of the learning process. The Board of Education further recognizes that students need guidance in exercising the right of Freedom of Expression so that they do not interfere with the rights of others." The following statements are made to guide students in exercising their constitutional right of Freedom of Expression.

1) Oral Expression:

Schools must encourage inquiry and expression of ideas. Such expression should include the personal opinion of students relevant to subject matter being taught, to school activities and policies, to school administration, and to matters of broad social concern and interest. In so expressing themselves, students have the responsibility to refrain from the use of slanderous remarks, obscene language, and language derogatory of race, creed, sexual orientation and national origin or handicapping condition, and to conduct themselves in such a way as to allow all persons the opportunity to express themselves freely if they so desire.

2) Symbolic Expression and Related Activities:

Symbolic expression is defined as that type of expression, exclusive of verbal and written expression, which conveys the personal ideas, feelings, attitudes, and opinions of an individual. Length of hair, choice of clothing, buttons, badges, and armbands are some examples of symbolic expression. Each student has the right to express himself/herself by way of symbols subject only to the restrictions that such expression does not result in overt exhibitionism, disruption of the educational process, be obscene, disrespectful, or obviously annoying to others.

I-K Rights of Individuals with Handicaps

It is the CPS Board policy to not discriminate against any student who is a resident of the district on the basis his or her of handicap in admission or access to its programs and activities. Any student who may believe the school district is not complying with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 should inform the Superintendent of Schools of his/her complaint.

I-L Homeless Student Policy

It is the policy of Columbus Public Schools to make reasonable efforts to identify homeless children and youth of school age within the district, encourage their enrollment and eliminate existing barriers to their receiving an education, which may exist in district policies or practices.

I-M Special Education Services

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 Director of Student Services. 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:

[https:// www.education.ne.gov/sped/regulations.html](https://www.education.ne.gov/sped/regulations.html).

I-N Pregnant or Parenting Students

CPS Board policy 503.07 recognizes that pregnant or 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. The district will educate pregnant or parenting students and will provide reasonable accommodations to support and encourage all pregnant or 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.

SECTION II DISCIPLINE – UNDER NE STATUTES

II-A Disciplinary Actions by Staff

Intervention: A conversation between the student and school personnel. The purpose of this form of counseling is not to lecture the student, but to inform him/her that his/her behavior needs to change so that he/she does not violate the rights of others or to help the student improve his/her learning capabilities.

Parent Contact: written communication, phone call, or face-to-face meeting of a student's parent(s)/guardian(s) and school personnel to discuss the student's behavior or learning process. The school intends to seek the assistance of the student's parent(s)/guardian(s) in helping the student to become a better student.

Detention: requiring that a student remain after or before school for a period of time. It is intended that students serving detention will be doing school-related work. Teacher Detention assigned by and monitored by classroom teachers for class related issues. Office Detentions are assigned by administration for Office Referral.

II-B Disciplinary Actions by Administrators

1) Rearrangement of Schedule: assigning a student to a new schedule of classes and/or in-school suspension when the behavior of the student is such that the student cannot conduct himself/herself in an acceptable manner.

2) Restriction of Extracurricular Activities: Informing a student that he/she cannot participate in certain activities because of his/her past or present behavior. Such actions as this are intended to improve student behavior at home and school.

3) Private Dining/Lunchroom Suspension: Placing a student in a designated room rather than the cafeteria. The purpose is to remove the student from their peers during their social lunch for behavior or academic problems. Students may be expected to work as

well as eat during this time.

4) Behavior Plans: action taken by the principal and/or assistant principal(s) to assist a student in resolving his/her behavioral problems. Such action is in the form of certain stipulated conditions agreed to by the school, the student and the parent(s)/guardian(s).

5) Counseling:

- a. Requirement that a student receive counseling/educational evaluation: an action that may require a student to visit a guidance counselor, medical counselor, or psychological counselor, to assist the student in resolving his/her problem.
- b. Recommendation that a student receive counseling/educational evaluation: an action that may require a student to visit a guidance counselor, medical counselor, or psychological counselor, to assist the student in resolving his/her problem *at parental expense*.

6) In-School-Suspension (ISS): Students are placed in the ISS room rather than their regularly scheduled class(es). Students are supervised and expected to carry on their studies as well as abide by ISS rules. Assigning students to ISS is at the discretion of the administration. Students who experience a high frequency of In-School-Suspensions will be suspended out of school at the discretion of the administration up to and including a period of 5-days.

- a. In-School Suspension hours will be from 8:00 to 3:40. Students who have been placed in ISS must report to the office immediately upon arrival to school. (ISS students are not allowed to sit in the a.m. waiting area.) At 8:00 a.m., a supervisor will escort these students to the ISS room. If requested, students will be served breakfast at this time. Since part of the ISS consequences is elimination within a regular school day, students will be provided a lunch from the cafeteria during an assigned time. Students will remain in ISS until dismissal, at 3:40.

7) Thursday Night School: Students are assigned up to a 3-hour detention. The purpose is to enable students to fulfill disciplinary consequences and time accrued from absences/tardies. Thursday Night School will be from 3:30 to 6:30. Students are expected to work on school assignments and obey all school rules during Thursday Night School.

8) Suspensions and Exclusion (OSS):

- a. Short term: exclusion of a student from attendance in all schools within the system for a period not to exceed five school days.
- b. Long term: exclusion of a student from attendance in all schools within the system for a period exceeding five school days but less than twenty school days.

Any student who is suspended from school will not be allowed to attend or participate in school activities within the system until he/she is reinstated to school. This includes athletic events, plays, concerts, dances, and other special events held at school. In addition, students are not allowed on school property.

9) Expulsion: §79-250 states that expulsion is exclusion from attendance in all schools within the system in accordance with §79-283.

10) Emergency Exclusion: immediate withdrawal of a student from school for:

- a) Presenting 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.
- b) A dangerous communicable disease as cited in §79-4,177.

11) Mandatory Reassignment: Students may be reassigned to an alternative educational setting or an in-building alternative setting. Students may also be required to complete alternative instruction activities including instructional packets.

12) Legal Action in Court of Law: Any disciplinary action taken against a student will comply with existing state and school board policies and shall afford the student due process.

13) Student Conduct: Student conduct shall constitute grounds for long-term suspension, expulsion, or mandatory reassignment, subject to the procedural provisions of the Student Discipline Act, when such activity 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. §79-267

14) Suspension based on excessive disciplinary referrals Students who amass 10 or more disciplinary office referrals during a school calendar year may be suspended from school by the administration.

II-C Right to Due Process and Student Suspension

CPS Board Policy 504.01 states: The Board of Education of the Columbus Public Schools “views the establishment of rules and responsibilities governing student behavior as a necessary element of the educational process. The rules and responsibilities governing student behavior established pursuant to this policy and other School Board Policies affecting student personnel shall be approved by the district’s established procedure prior to their use. All rules and responsibilities established by the school district and any other rules established by individual buildings governing student behavior at school shall be publicized.”

The CPS Board recognizes that each classroom teacher needs to establish certain rules governing the educational process of which they are in charge. Any rules established by individual teachers are to be reflective of school policies and rules. Such rules are exempt from CPS Board approval and need only to be made known in each individual class they are in charge of. Any behavior on the part of the student that violates school policies, rules, or regulations may be subject to disciplinary action. Any disciplinary action shall be administered within the fundamental framework of due process. The fundamental framework of due process varies according to the frequency and severity of the situation.

1) Short-Term Suspension (1-5 days): Due process afforded the student in a short-term suspension (1-5 days) and set forth in CPS Board Policy 505.02 includes the following:

- 1) Notice of the charge against the student
- 2) An explanation of the charge against him/her
- 3) An opportunity for the student’s explanation of the incident(s), issue(s), and/or event(s)
- 4) Written notification within 24 hours, or such additional time as is reasonably necessary, to the parents or guardians of the student stating: a) the reason(s) for the short-term suspension; b) dates of the short-term suspension
- 5) the decision of the administrator shall be final

2) Long-Term Suspension (6-19 days): (This procedure covers long-term suspensions, expulsion, and exclusion.) Due process afforded the student in long-term suspension, expulsion and exclusion and are covered in detail in CPS Board Policy 505.02 include the following with written notification to parent(s) or guardian(s) indicating:

- 1) The rule(s) or standard(s) of conduct allegedly violated
- 2) The penalty recommended by the school official in charge
- 3) A statement indicating the student has the right to a hearing on the specified charges upon request
- 4) A description of the hearing process and appeal hearing
- 5) A form for parents/guardians to fill out in order for parents to request a hearing (to be signed and returned to the Superintendent of Schools)

Nothing in the above procedure precludes the student, student’s parent(s)/guardian(s), or representative from discussing and settling the matter with the appropriate school personnel prior to the hearing. In the event the school does not receive a request for a hearing within five school days following the receipt of the written notice, the punishment shall go into effect. A hearing can still be requested prior to thirty calendar days after the actual receipt of written notice; however, the punishment imposed may continue in effect pending final determination. The appeal procedure shall be as set forth in School Policy 505.02.

SECTION III CLASSROOM DISCIPLINE

The classroom discipline policy is primarily aimed at maintaining an orderly environment for the students and staff of Columbus Middle School. Classroom teachers are responsible for classroom discipline with the assistance of administrators, school counselors, school psychologists and outside agencies when necessary. To maintain a quality learning environment students are expected to abide by the Discoverer Way - Be Responsible, Be Respectful, Be Safe, and Be Kind.

BIST (Behavior Intervention Support Team) Columbus Public Schools utilizes the BIST model to support students and the learning environment.

BIST Goals for Life are goals we help students obtain so they may have the life they want and deserve.

- I can make good choices even if I am mad.
- I can be okay even if others are not okay.
- I can do something even if I don't want to (or even if it's hard).

Safe Seat: The Safe Seat is a place within the classroom for students to help them regroup, process with the adult, and actively participate in the class. The Safe Seat is away from the other students while still being within the learning environment. If students are unwilling to sit in the Safe Seat or participate appropriately in the Safe Seat, they move to the Buddy Room.

Buddy Room: A seat in another teacher's classroom to help a student regroup, complete a Think Sheet, and process with the adult so they may return to the classroom Safe Seat. The Buddy Room is another classroom, preferably the same grade level content. If students are unwilling to go to the Buddy Room or participate appropriately in the Buddy Room, they move to the Recovery Room. A teacher will notify parents in the event their child has been moved to the Buddy Room.

Recovery Room: A place in the school where students can go to practice their missing skills, stop acting out, calm down, prepare an apology, and create a plan to make better choices for themselves. Students remain in the Recovery Room for a length of time determined by an administrator. A teacher will notify parents in the event that their child has been moved to the Recovery Room.

Triage: Daily check-in with an adult to practice skills, assess emotions, establish focus about what it means to have a successful day, and formulate solutions if problems occur.

Processing: A conversation between the adult and the student so the student may take ownership, practice skills, and create a plan to make better choices.

Behavior Card: A daily visual of goals the student is working on to help him/her problem solve and self-monitor behavior.

SECTION IV SCHOOL RULES AND EXPECTATIONS

The following rules have been established under direction of the CPS Board of Education discipline policies, the Student Discipline Act and Neb. Rev. Stat. § 79-267 for use on school grounds, in a vehicle owned, leased, or contracted by a school being used for a school purpose, and at all school-sponsored activities or events. Compliance with the following standards of conduct is mandatory. A referral is defined as a summons or directive to the office due to an administrative rule violation usually resulting in disciplinary action by an administrator based upon frequency, severity, and age. Repeated instances of receiving office referrals may result in ISS, OSS, expulsion and/or alternative placement.

All students are expected to acquire the knowledge and skills necessary to perform civic, academic, and behavioral expectations with proficiency. The following sections outline performance expectations and correction measures.

Administrative Discipline – Civic Expectations

All students are expected to perform according to civic expectations. These expectations were established as an instructional tool so students function effectively within the school community.

Civic Expectation #1 - Contribute constructively to community

- Wear clothing that does not offend or disrupt others in the school community at school or school sponsored events.
- Act in a manner that does not offend or disrupt others in the school community.
- Refrain from possessing or using objects that may be disruptive or offensive to the school community.
- Touch and speak in ways that protect the integrity of others.
- Complete your own work and accept responsibility for that work.
- Report accurate and truthful information to members of the school community.

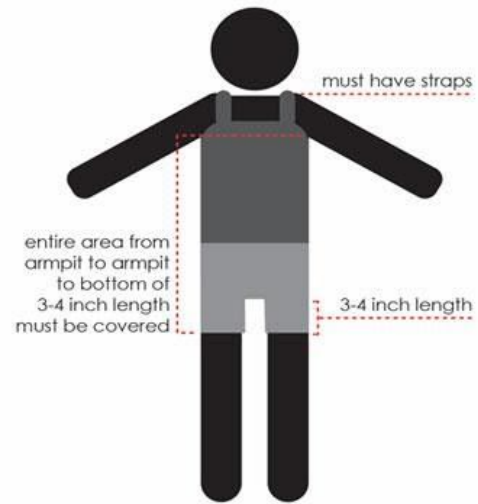
IV-A Dress Code for Students

Columbus Public Schools respects students' rights to express themselves in the way they dress. All students who attend Columbus Middle School are expected to respect the school community by dressing appropriately for a 5-8 educational environment. Student

attire should facilitate participation in learning as well as the health and safety of students and the adults that supervise them. This code is intended to provide guidance for students, staff, and parents.

Minimum Requirements:

- Clothing must cover areas from one armpit across to the other armpit, down approximately 3 to 4 inches in length on the upper thighs (see images below).
- Tops must have shoulder straps.
- Rips or tears in clothing should be lower than the 3 to 4 inches in length.
- Shoes must be worn at all times and should be safe for the school environment (bedroom shoes or slippers shall not be worn, except for school activities approved by the principal).
- See-through or mesh garments must not be worn without appropriate coverage underneath that meet the minimum requirements of the dress code.
- Headgear including hats, hoods, and caps are not allowed unless permitted for religious, medical, or other reasons by school administration.
- Specialized courses may require specialized attire, such as sports uniforms safety gear.



Additional Requirements:

- Clothing may not depict, imply, advertise, or advocate illegal, violent, or lewd conduct, weapons, or the use of alcohol, tobacco, marijuana, vape products, or other controlled substances.
- Clothing may not depict or imply pornography, nudity, or sexual acts.
- Clothing may not display or imply vulgar, discriminatory, or obscene language or images.
- Clothing may not state, imply, or depict hate speech/imagery targeting groups based on race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, religious affiliation, or any other protected classification.
- Sunglasses may not be worn inside the building.
- Clothing and accessories that endanger student or staff safety may not be worn.
- Clothing intended to be worn as outerwear (e.g., coats, hats, gloves) may not be worn inside the building.
- Apparel, jewelry, accessories, tattoos, or manner of grooming that, by virtue of its color, arrangement, trademark or any other attribute that have been identified by outside agencies (police and other law enforcement agencies) as denoting membership in a gang that advocates illegal or disruptive behavior is prohibited.

The administration reserves the right to determine what constitutes appropriate dress. Students who wear inappropriate clothing will be asked to change for the remainder of the day. Students will not be allowed to attend class until they have changed into appropriate clothing. If a student chooses to contact a parent/guardian and wait for a change of clothes, the instruction time lost will be made up. Students who repeatedly violate the dress code will be issued disciplinary consequences.

*To be helpful, examples of improper clothing have been given. However, these examples are not to be considered an all-inclusive list. If parents or guardians are unsure if clothing is appropriate, please call and talk to an administrator. Please, keep this list in mind when buying school clothing. The Columbus Middle School administration is empowered by the CPS Board of Education to use their discretion in dress code cases. Columbus Middle School administration will make the final determination on whether an article of clothing is appropriate.

IV-B Non-Instructional Areas

Students are only to be in non-instructional areas (such as hallways, bathrooms, cafeteria, commons, school grounds) when authorized and when student lanyards and IDs are worn properly. Students are to conduct themselves as a Discoverer, and should always follow the Discoverer Way.

IV-C Responsible Outdoor Behavior

1. Students need to respect the CMS property and be a good neighbor to the owners of the properties surrounding CMS.

This includes:

- Walking on sidewalks and avoiding walking on the grass
- Not climbing or hanging on/from trees and landscaping
- Not otherwise interfering with landscaping (e.g., throwing landscaping rocks, picking flowers)

2. Students should not throw snowballs while on school grounds, on their way to and from school, or while attending school events.
3. Students may not climb on, jump from, or otherwise be unsafe on snow piles

IV-D Loitering

Students may not be in school buildings, on school grounds, in faculty parking lots, or at any CPS sponsored event without the permission of school personnel before school begins or after school is dismissed or the activity is completed. In the morning, students must report directly to breakfast or their designated waiting area (8th grade – Small Cafeteria, 7th grade – Auxiliary Gym, 6th & 5th grade – Main Gym). Students are not allowed to be in the halls or classroom without a pass from a staff member. Students must leave the building and school grounds at 3:45 unless they are participating in a school sponsored activity or serving a teacher or office detention. Students attending events should stay within the designated event area; students may not go to their locker or other parts of the building without a pass from a teacher or administrator.

IV-E Student Transportation

- 1) Skateboards: Due to the potential danger to skateboarders and to other people who might be on the site, the CPS Board of Education bans the riding of skateboards on school property or property under the control of the School District.
- 2) Bicycles: Bicycles should be walked on school property. Bicycles must be parked in the racks provided. All bicycles should be equipped with locks. The school is not responsible for damage or theft while bicycles are on school property.
- 3) Motorized Equipment (e.g., hoverboards, scooters): Motorized equipment cannot be ridden on school property. Motorized items cannot be brought into the school building.

IV-F Behavior Off School Grounds

Students are not to interfere with the ability of other students to travel to and from school safely and without verbal, physical, or sexual harassment. Students are not to participate in activities that are potentially dangerous to themselves, other students, or the public while on their way to and from school. Off campus incidents will be reported to the police.

Behaviors that occur off of school grounds that directly affect members of the Columbus Middle School student body, staff or the instructional program at Columbus Middle School may be reported to the appropriate outside agencies such as law enforcement and Health and Human Services.

IV-G Before and After School Waiting Area Procedures

- Students should enter the building as soon as they arrive on school grounds.
- Between 7:00 am and 7:30 am, students must report to the cafeteria for breakfast or study hall. After 7:30 am, students must report to breakfast or their assigned AM Waiting Area.
- Students should go to the waiting area assigned to their grade and find a seat in the bleachers. Students are to stay in that seat and not sit on the stairways.
- Students should respect the personal safety, space, property, well-being and rights of all people in the waiting areas.
- Students need to immediately follow all school rules, waiting area procedures, and instructions (requests) from staff members exactly as they are given. If clarification is needed, students should ask a staff member appropriately.
- If students need to leave the morning waiting area, they need to ask a monitor's permission.
- If students are waiting for a ride after school, they should sit or stand quietly with friends until their ride arrives. No horseplay (e.g., yelling, chasing each other, kick fighting, wrestling, swearing, throwing of items) is permitted. Behavior should follow the school rules.
- Students are expected to use the crosswalks at all times when arriving or leaving school property. This includes if they are walking, riding bicycles, etc. Violations of traffic laws, such as jaywalking and obstruction of traffic, could result in police citations.
- Students must leave school property by 3:45 p.m. Teacher supervision ends at 3:45 p.m. Students are allowed to wait for their rides on any side of the building until 3:45 p.m. At 3:45 p.m., students must wait in the front vestibule or off of school grounds.

Any student waiting for a ride should continue to follow all school rules.

- On early dismissal days, students are to be off school grounds within 15 minutes of dismissal. All regular dismissal rules apply to early outs with adjusted times.
- On early out Wednesdays, students who are participating in after school activities (e.g., drama, sports) should leave school grounds by 2:50 p.m. and may return for practice no earlier than 4:00 p.m. Students who remain in the building between 2:50 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. must attend after school clubs or Wednesday study hall.

IV-H School-Sponsored Activities - Suspensions

Students who are suspended out of school or suspended from school events will not be allowed to participate in or attend school-sponsored activities at any school within the system until they are reinstated.

IV-I Contraband, Electronic Devices

Items that violate state law or school policy or which threaten to disrupt the teaching and learning environment may not be brought to school. Items of this nature are not allowed at school and will be confiscated. Additional consequences may also be issued. Items include:

- 1) Contraband: any item not on the school supply list, including but not limited to toys and trading cards
- 2) Electronics: any electronic item not school issued or requested by a teacher, including but not limited to handheld video games

If an item is not on the school supply list or directly requested by a teacher or staff member, do not bring it to school.

Items confiscated from students may be required to have a parent/guardian pick up the item from the main office. Contraband repeatedly confiscated from a student may be held until the conclusion of the school year and a parent/guardian will be required to request to pick up the item, in writing, to an administrator. Contraband held until the end of the current school year will be disposed of after June 1st. Items deemed necessary to be turned over to law enforcement will become property of law enforcement and they determine if they are returned to their owner or not.

IV-J Smartwatches, Cell Phones

Smartwatches, or devices that connect to the internet, may be worn in the school. Teachers may ask students to remove the Smartwatch/device during assessments or at any other time. Students must comply with each teacher's classroom rules regarding smartwatches use in class. If students misuse the worn devices, staff may confiscate them. Misuse could consist of but is not limited to texting, taking photographs, accessing websites/applications, etc. Consequences for misuse of a smartwatch will be the same as for a cell phone.

Students may not use cell phones while at school, except as permitted in this handbook. Students may use their personal device in the morning waiting area, so long as they do not create a distraction or a disruption. Students may not use cell phones or other electronic devices while they are in locker rooms or restrooms. Students are personally and solely responsible for the security of their cell phones and other electronic devices. Students must comply with placing their cell phone turned off and in their locker during the school day. Each teacher's classroom rules regarding cell phone use in class. The school district is not responsible for theft, loss, or damage of a cell phone or any calls, communications, or transactions made on a cell phone.

The taking, disseminating, transferring, or sharing of obscene, pornographic, lewd, or otherwise illegal images or photographs, whether by electronic data transfer or otherwise may constitute a crime under state and/or federal law. Any person engaged in these activities while on school grounds, in a school vehicle or at a school activity will be subject to the disciplinary procedures of the student code of conduct. Any student found to be in possession of obscene, pornographic, lewd, or otherwise illegal images or photographs will be promptly referred to law enforcement and/or other state or federal agencies, which may result in arrest, criminal prosecution, and possible inclusion on sex offender registries.

Students are not allowed to carry or use cell phones while in the building. The consequences for carrying a cell phone during school hours will be:

First Offense: phone will be confiscated and a parent will be required to pick up the phone.

Second Offense: phone will be confiscated, a consequence will be issued to the student and a parent/guardian will be required to pick up the phone. The student may be required to check in his/her cell phone in the front office daily, or will no longer be allowed to bring a cell phone to school.

Third Offense: phone will be confiscated and will be held at the school office for 30 calendar days. The student will be issued a consequence. The parent/guardian will be required to pick up the phone at the end of the 30-day period.

Fourth Offense and subsequent offenses: phone will be confiscated and will be held at the school office for 30 school days. The student will be issued a consequence. The parent/guardian will be required to pick up the phone at the end of the 30-day period.

Students will be issued more severe consequences for cell phone usage in the building (including talking, text messaging, picture taking, audio/video recording, etc.).

Cell phones or electronic devices must never be used to photograph or record others without their knowledge on school grounds. If a student is found to have violated this rule, particularly if the resulting image or recording was of a verbal or physical altercation or utilized to harass, intimidate or demean another student, would be subject to an investigation procedure that may result in discipline, up to and including, suspension and expulsion.

IV-K Social Media

Social media sites are public platforms. Your school administrators, parents, and law enforcement may see the information contained on these pages or posts. This material is also accessible to people who you do not know now, but may later want to impress—such as college admissions, 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 in any social networking format may affect you years after the fact. What you do and say now on social media (e.g., Facebook, Twitter, Snapchat, Instagram) may also affect you right now. Students whose social media activity demonstrates that the student violated the code of conduct may be subject to discipline, up to and including suspension or expulsion. Further, criminal charges may be filed based on information posted on such sites.

Consequences. Students who violate this policy will have their cell phones or other electronic devices confiscated immediately. The administration will return confiscated devices to the offending student's parent or guardian after meeting with the parent or guardian to discuss the violation. Students who violate this policy may, at the discretion of the school's administration, be subject to additional discipline, up to and including suspension or expulsion.

IV-L Identify Self

Students will identify themselves, and/or show their ID when asked to do so by school personnel. Any student who fails to identify himself/herself upon request may receive a consequence.

IV-M Lockers

Teachers will assign each student to a hall locker, which can be used to safely store personal possessions, books and materials. Some students will have locker partners while others will not. Some lockers have built-in combination locks while others will be secured with combination padlocks. All locks on hall lockers must be school issued. No locks from home will be permitted. Combinations on built-in locks are rotated each summer and padlocks are assigned to a new teacher each fall for added security. Both kinds of locks provide excellent security provided that (1) students do not tell their combination to anyone else, and (2) students lock the locker after each use. Students should report all lost or stolen padlocks and all broken or malfunctioning built-in locks to the teacher assigning the locker. Students who report lost or stolen padlocks will be assessed a replacement fine of \$6.00 and issued a new lock immediately. Students who report broken or malfunctioning built-in locks will have them repaired or replaced immediately. All padlocks must be turned in at the end of the school year. If the student(s) should damage or fail to return a padlock, a \$6.00 fine will be assessed.

Every effort will be made to assure locker security for all students. Students who are experiencing locker or lock problems should report the problem to the teacher assigning the locker. To help assure security, students should only use the locker assigned to them by their teacher and keep the locker locked when it is not in use. Having a locker is a privilege, not a right. Violations of the locker policy

could result in the loss of this privilege. Students who are caught storing items in a locker not assigned to them are breaking School Rule #1 (respect the rights, space, safety, well-being, and property of others) and will receive appropriate consequences..

1) Decorating Hall Lockers

In honor of special occasions, students may decorate hall lockers before or after school only if:

- a) they have permission to do so and have obtained a pass from the school office (no more than two people may decorate a locker at one time;
- b) they provide their own materials (i.e. tape (masking tape only), scissors, paper, etc.);
- c) the size of the decoration does not exceed the size of the locker;
- d) the decorations do not disrupt the learning environment, violate school rules, litter the area around the locker; or offend staff or other students;
- e) they remove the decorations and clean up the locker within 48 hours of putting them up. Students must clearly date the decorations as to when they were put up.
- f) decorations may NOT include an autograph sheet, glitter, balloons or other distracting items.
- g) students may not decorate the outside of their own locker

IV-N Telephone Usage

Telephones in the Columbus Middle School office and classrooms are business phones and are restricted to such use. Students may only use the school business phones when the call is urgent or an emergency. Quite often, students need to communicate to parents/guardians regarding a teacher request to stay later than the 3:30 dismissal time. If possible, classroom teachers or paraprofessionals will witness the student calling the parent or personally make the call to the parent/guardian to explain the request to stay after school. Students may use either the office telephone or a classroom telephone (as directed by the teacher issuing the pass) to inform parents that they must stay after school for additional help or a teacher or office detention. If a parent/guardian cannot be reached, a voicemail will be left. Students will not be allowed to make personal or non-essential phone calls from school telephones. Phone calls may be made from the office after 4:00. All student-made phone calls will be logged by staff.

IV-O Deliveries to the Office

When dropping off items for your child at the front office, we ask that you label these items clearly with first and last name (and grade level) to ensure prompt and proper delivery. Because we will not have office aides available each period, we will deliver items and messages to students only as it is feasible for us to do so. If the delivery is urgent, we may have to call a student out of the classroom to pick it up in the office. Gift deliveries which are sent to the student at school (i.e. flowers, balloon bouquets, etc.) will be kept in the main office until the end of the school day. The office will send a message to the student to pick up the item before leaving school.

IV-P Candy/Gum/Snacks

There will be NO candy, pop, or snack food items allowed anywhere in the middle school unless they are permitted by a staff member who is directly supervising their use (i.e. as a classroom reward or designated snack-time). Snacks must be in individual-sized, wrapped packages. Students may not share snacks or distribute snacks to other students. If violating the procedure becomes a chronic problem, the teacher will refer the student to the office. The chewing of gum is at the discretion of the classroom teacher. If the student is allowed to chew gum in school, it needs to be disposed of properly and not disrupt the learning environment.

IV-Q Open Containers of Liquids

Students are allowed to carry clear plastic bottles filled with water. These bottles must have a sealable cap (no straws). Students who abuse the water bottle privilege will not be allowed to carry a water bottle. Students are not to have open containers of any other beverages in the hallways or in their lockers. Plastic bottles with screw top lids are considered open when the seal has been broken. Staff may confiscate or ask students to throw away open containers. Students should have their name clearly marked on their water bottles and water bottles may not be shared with other students. Unopened cans/bottles of juice may be brought from home for lunch but must be kept in students' lockers until the lunch period and only be consumed in the cafeteria.

IV-R Book Bags/Sling Bags

Students are allowed to use book bags/sling bags to transfer school related items to and from school. However, book bags/sling bags are not allowed in classrooms. A student may use a bag to transport fitness clothes to and from fitness class.

IV-S Marking on School Property

Students are not to damage or to write, draw, carve or mark on school property in any way. Neb. Rev. Stat. § 79-267

IV-T Fees, Charges and Fines

Students may be assessed fines or expected to pay damages when they are responsible for a loss or damage to school property or other people's property. This would include book fines, textbooks, broken windows, damage to laboratory equipment above and beyond expected wear and tear, damage to another student's or staff member's personal property, etc. The school supplies many items for student use and it is expected that students will not abuse such items. Students are responsible for materials they check out from the library/media center and may be assessed fines for lost or damaged items.

IV-U Display of Affection

Students are not to exhibit displays of affection which would be considered embarrassing or distracting to others on school grounds or at school-sponsored activities. This includes hugging and hand-holding.

IV-V Responsibilities of Students When Expressing Themselves

When students express themselves at school, at school-sponsored activities, or in public places away from school, they must abide by the following rules:

- 1) The expression shall not contain words or pictures that are considered indecent, lewd, obscene, profane, vulgar, off-color, fighting words, swear words, phrases which contain threats, or physical gestures which are offensive or threatening to anyone seeing or hearing the expression; and expressions which undermine or are disrespectful to school personnel.
- 2) The expression of the student shall not contain words, phrases, or gestures that ridicule or belittle.
- 3) The expression of the student shall not encourage other persons to violate school rules.
- 4) The expression of the student shall not be unusually loud, or interfere with, or obstruct any lawful mission, process, function, or purpose of the school.
- 5) The expression of the student shall not be slanderous (spoken lies).
- 6) The expression of the student shall not be libellous (written lies).
- 7) The expression of the student about, or directed to any teacher, administrator, or other school employee at anytime in a public place or on social media with the six previously stated rules governing student expression. (Example: Any student who shall refer to a teacher in a public place at anytime by a lewd or obscene manner that the teacher and/or others hear/see the insult may be disciplined by school authorities.)

Any student who fails to meet these requirements when expressing himself/herself may be disciplined. [CPS Board Policy 504.07]

IV-W Academic Responsibilities Guidelines

In an effort to deter students from attending class unprepared or becoming behind in their academic work, the CMS staff uses a variety of teacher interventions to assist students. These interventions include: WIN, student agendas, before and after-school study halls, before-school remedial program, student progress reports, academic behavior cards, academic improvement plans, 504 plans, parent meetings, and student incentives. Additional administrative interventions approved by the Board of Education will also be used to ensure students are working up to their potential.

*Requirement of an end-of-the-year grade average of 60% or better in core classes to attain promotion to high school (8th grade only)

*Thursday Night School attendance

*Summer school for 8th grade students to avoid retaking 8th grade core classes in 9th grade

*Summer school offerings for 5th, 6th and 7th grade students who end of the school year of 59% or below

*Before and after school remedial program

*Grade Level Retention

IV-X Academic Dishonesty

Students should always do their own academic work. Students may not cheat, plagiarize, or otherwise participate in any academic dishonesty in any form. Prohibited behavior includes:

- Obtaining, attempting to obtain, or aiding another person to obtain credit for work by any dishonest or deceptive means.
- Lying.
- Copying another person's work or answers.
- Discussing the answers or questions on a test or assignment unless specifically authorized by the teacher.
- Taking or receiving copies of a test without the permission of the teacher.

- Using or displaying notes, “cheat sheets,” or other sources of unauthorized information.
- Using the ideas or work of another person as if they were your own without giving proper credit to the source.
- Submitting work or any portion of work completed by another person.
- Failing to give credit for ideas, statements, facts, or conclusions which rightfully belong to another person.
- Failing to use quotation marks or other appropriate means of attribution when quoting directly from another person or source.

A student who cheats, plagiarizes, or otherwise participates in any academic dishonesty is subject to discipline, up to and including loss of credit, suspension and/or expulsion. Students who participate in academic dishonesty on a classroom assignment will have consequences assigned by the teacher. The student will be required to redo the work or retake the assignment under staff supervision. Students who participate in academic dishonesty on assessments such as tests, quizzes or performance assessments will be an office referral. The parents will be notified. The student will be required to retake the assessment. Consequences will be assigned based on frequency and severity, including ISS and OSS.

IV-Y 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 (17 U.S. Code § 107). 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 who are unsure whether their proposed reproduction of copyrighted materials constitutes "fair use" should consult with their teacher or building administrators, review the school district’s copyright compliance policy, and review Copyright for Students found at <https://www.whoishostingthis.com/resources/student-copyright/>. You can find more information on copyright compliance requirements and permitted uses from the U.S. Copyright Office and the Library of Congress at the following site: <http://www.loc.gov/teachers/usingprimarysources/copyright.html>.

If copyright or fair use is violated, consequences from the school or outside agencies may occur.

IV-Z Altering School Records, Reports, Grades, Etc.

Students are forbidden from changing and/or falsifying school records, reports, grades, etc. Any tampering with such documents shall result in disciplinary actions.

Civic Expectation #2 – Interact effectively with others

- Respond without complaint to staff member or administrative directives.
- Follow staff member or administrative directives in a timely manner.
- Demonstrate respect for individuals responsible for school safety.
- Respect the right of others to make choices without verbal/physical coercion or intimidation.

Supporting Guidelines

IV-AA Insubordination

Students are to comply with reasonable directions or requests from teachers, student teachers, substitute teachers, paraprofessionals,

secretaries, principals, and any other school personnel during any period of time the student is properly under the authority of school personnel. Any student who fails to comply with directions or requests of school personnel will be considered insubordinate. Other acts of insubordination include, but are not limited to, inappropriate responses or use of inappropriate language and/or disrespectful behavior toward a staff member.

Consequence: Restriction of privileges, schedule change, activities suspension/expulsion (where appropriate), ISS, OSS, alternative placement and/or expulsion.

IV-AB Theft/Stealing/Damage of Property

Students are prohibited from borrowing without permission or stealing personal or public (school) property.

Students are not to participate in any activity not properly supervised by school personnel that could possibly damage school or private property. If school or private property is damaged by a student, he/she is financially responsible for all damages and may be disciplined. Students are prohibited from borrowing without permission or stealing private or school property. Students who do either of these things may be disciplined. Police may be notified if this occurs. Neb. Rev. Stat. § 79-267

IV-AC Unauthorized Entry

When school is in session, students are not to be in the school building before 7:00 AM or after 3:45 PM unless they are scheduled in activities taking place within the building or unless they have written permission from a staff member.

IV-AD Fighting / Assaults

Students may not engage in verbal altercations or physical fights in school buildings, on school grounds or at school-sponsored events, or when traveling in school vehicles/buses. Students hitting, striking, kicking or in any other way harming another student, or school personnel, will be suspended and may be recommended for expulsion. Physical fights will be reported to the police. Students may be liable for suspension or expulsion if they bring into the schools any object or substance, which when reasonable standards are applied and circumstances warrant, it is determined that the primary purpose is to cause bodily harm or property damage as set forth in CPS Board Policy 505.02 and 505.03. Columbus Middle School will comply with Nebraska State Statute relative to assaults by reporting incidents to law enforcement officials. Neb. Rev. Stat. § 79-267

IV-AE Harassment/Violence/Bullying

At CMS, we believe that students have the right to and learn better in a safe and orderly environment. Therefore, the Columbus Middle School staff is committed to preventing, intervening in, and stopping any violence in our school. We will insist that every staff member and student act in a way which contributes to a school environment where he or she feels safe, respected, and protected. Neb. Rev. Stat. § 79-267

- No one is entitled to be violent in any form.
- No form of violence will be tolerated in school, at school activities, on school property, or by anyone at this school.
- Violence is defined as any mean word, look, sign, or act that hurts a person's body, dignity, or things. Different kinds of violence exist. Within each category below there are items ranging from minor to severe. If these acts are ignored, they will become more frequent and more severe over time. Therefore, all of the following acts will be considered violent and the student will receive a consequence. Examples of bullying include (but not limited to)

- *name calling
- *excluding/shunning
- *teasing
- *ignoring requests
- *taunting
- *exposing personal secrets
- *laughing (at)
- *starting rumors
- *threatening/ordering
- *stealing
- *defacing locker

- *deriding
- *violating rights
- *intimidating
- *exposing personal items
 - *cyber bullying
 - *inappropriate technology use
 - *hitting/kicking gesturing
 - *facial sneering
 - *spitting/pushing
 - *shoving/punching
 - *pulling hair

- *body postures
- *writing/drawing graffiti
- *beating slapping
- *invading someone's space
- *jabbing/bumping
- *reading personal information
- *tearing clothes
- *damaging property
- *ridiculing
- *voyeurism
- *spoiling homework

*exposing pictures/notes	*touching (unwelcomed)	property
*expressing sexual come-ons	*spreading rumors/gossiping	
*gang-leading/ganging-up	*hazing	
*degrading/mocking	*playing “keep-away” with someone’s	

Any student fighting on school grounds or to and from school will be suspended. Any student who is promoting, inciting (meaning - to stir, encourage, or urge on), or instigating a fight will be suspended.

IV-AF Procedures for Reporting Violence/Bullying

Columbus Middle School is a place where all students can enjoy a safe and comfortable environment in which to learn. If students are worried about physical, verbal or sexual harassment from other students or from staff members, their learning will be impacted. In addition, such acts violate the violence policy for our school. Students should report violence/harassment as quickly as possible so that problems can be resolved.

You can report concerns to the following people:

- * Your teacher
- * A school counselor
- * Online Bullying Report (goes to the school counselor)
- * The principal or assistant principal
- * Any adult staff member
- * Your parent(s)/guardian(s)

Staff members will try to help you resolve your problems as quickly as possible, but often harassers are very determined people. The violence/harassment may continue, even after the first report. If you have reported a problem to one of the persons in the above list but still believe it exists, report it again to a different person on the list. Every incident should be reported.

Students who are found to have violated the bullying policy can receive a consequence depending on the severity and frequency of harassment. Students who show physically aggressive behavior may be suspended from school at the discretion of the administration. Students who show a public display of disrespect and/or humiliation toward a staff member can be suspended.

IV-AG Illegal Behavior

Forbidden and illegal behavior at school includes

- 1) Public Indecency, with regard to middle school age students, is defined in Neb. Rev. Stat.79-267(7)(10).
- 2) Engaging in sexual conduct, even if consensual, on school grounds or at a school function or event.
- 3) Sexual Assault or attempting to sexually assault any person, on school grounds or at a school function or event.
- 4) Engaging in any other activities which constitutes a danger to other students or interferes with school purposes.

Consequence: Restriction of privileges, schedule change, activities suspension/expulsion (where appropriate), ISS, OSS, alternative placement and/or expulsion. Outside agencies may be contacted.

IV-AH Sexual Harassment

Sexually harassing student(s), school personnel, volunteers or visitors is prohibited at school, on school grounds, at school-sponsored events or on their way to and from school. Online harassment falls under the jurisdiction of the school when it interferes with the academic performance of the student, uses school technology, or is posted/created during school hours.

Sexual Harassment The Columbus Public Schools is committed to maintaining an educational setting that is free of sexual harassment. Sexual harassment is an illegal action relevant to Title IX, Title VII, and Nebraska State Statute, Columbus Board Policy 404.06 and Columbus Board Policy 504.17. Sexual harassment will not be tolerated and the Columbus Middle School administration will take immediate and appropriate action upon notification of offense.

At Columbus Middle School, sexual harassment will be defined as any unwelcome advances, a request for sexual favors, verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature by a student toward another student when the conduct has an effect of interfering with academic performance of the student or creating an intimidating, hostile, offensive or unsafe learning environment. Harassment can be verbal, written, physical, or electronic. This procedure and definition of sexual harassment will also include unwanted advances by a student toward an employee. As used in this policy the word “student” shall mean any resident student of the district, any student being served

by contract with another educational agency or any other person of school age attending the district for educational reasons. The word “employee” shall mean any person who is employed by the district.

The following procedure shall be followed to report any violation of this policy.

- 1) Students will report the incident to an administrator. The administrator will require the student to submit a written statement (containing location, time, incident details, witnesses and student reaction). The administrator will investigate the incident by speaking to other students or staff who were identified as witnesses to the incident. A written statement will be obtained by these individuals, as well.
- 2) The administrator will then speak with the alleged harasser as part of their due process rights. Information obtained from step 1 above will be kept confidential. This alleged student will be given the opportunity to provide a written statement on his/her behalf, as well as a list of students.
- 3) The administrator will continue to investigate the incident based upon this new information.
- 4) The administrator may share information with other building administrators to determine the outcome of the investigation through a collaborative approach.
- 5) Consequences that may be imposed by the administration: verbal warning with conference regarding inappropriate behavior, parental conference, short-term suspension (1-5 days), long-term suspension (6-19 days) or expulsion from school.
- 6) The same procedures will be used with student harassment of a staff member. Columbus Middle School will not tolerate any retaliatory behavior against any person(s), the harasser or person(s) encouraged by the harasser who has submitted information to the administration. The consequences will be the same as the above list.

The administration of Columbus Middle School will cooperate fully with the appropriate law enforcement agency if the harassed student/employee would file any charges through the court system. All written statements and documentation will be turned over to any investigative unit, if requested.

The Grievance Office (Title IX) of the Columbus Public Schools is the Superintendent of Schools, Columbus Public School District #1, 2508 27th Street, Columbus; phone: 402-563-7000

IV-AI Sex Offender Law

The student discipline statute allows for a student to be expelled from school when the student is criminally charged with certain sexual assaults even though the sexual assault occurs off school grounds. Sexual assault means sexual assault in the first or second degree or a sexual assault of a child in the first, second or third degree; as such crimes are defined in the statutes referenced in Neb. Rev. Stat. §78-267(8)

IV-AJ Dating Violence

Columbus Public Schools strives to provide physically safe and emotionally secure environments for all students and staff. Positive behaviors are encouraged in the educational program and are required of all students and staff. Dating violence will not be tolerated.

Definition: For purposes of this policy dating violence means a pattern of behavior where one person uses threats of, or actually uses, physical, sexual, verbal, or emotional abuse to control his or her dating partner. Dating partner means any person, regardless of gender, involved in an intimate relationship with another person primarily characterized by the expectation of affectionate involvement whether casual, serious, or long term.

Consequence: Restriction of privileges, schedule change, activities suspension/expulsion (where appropriate), ISS, OSS, alternative placement and/or expulsion.

Incidents of dating violence involving students at school will be addressed as the administration determines appropriate, within the scope and subject to the limits of the District’s authority. Neb. Rev. Stat. § 79-2,139 to 79-2,142

IV-AK Suspect Wounds

Students with suspect wounds will be referred to the nurse for medical evaluation. If there is a potential health hazard, parents will be contacted. Students may be referred to an administrator.

Civic Expectation #3 – Fulfill legal requirements

All students are expected to perform according to the stated civic expectations and objectives.

- Act responsibly to maintain the physical safety of self and others.
- Respect the right of individuals or school officials to protect personal or public property from unwanted use or handling.
- Respect the right of the school to govern the use of technology or equipment.
- Respect the responsibility of the school to deny the possession/use of tobacco products, alcohol, or drugs.
- Respect the right of individuals to learn in a safe environment free of harassment/bullying.
- Act and speak responsibly to protect the school community from irreversible harm.
- Protect the school community from real or perceived weapons and/or explosives.
- Compliance with the following standards of conduct is mandatory.

Supporting Guidelines

IV-AL Technology Acceptable Use Policy

See MS Acceptable Use Agreement section at the end of this handbook.

Students have access to computers throughout the building for educational use. Student access to computer labs will be subject to change at the discretion of the administration or staff responsible for the supervision of these areas. Use of the Internet at school is available to research areas directly related to specific classroom assignments:

IV-AM Google Docs/Technology

The Columbus Public Schools district utilizes Google Apps for Education for students, teachers, and staff. Additional information and guidance is located in the MS Acceptable Use Agreement located at the end of this handbook.

Technology use in the Columbus Public School District is governed by federal laws including:

1) Children's Online Privacy Protection Act (COPPA)

COPPA applies to commercial companies and limits their ability to collect personal information from children under 13. By default, advertising is turned off for Columbus Public School's presence in Google Apps for Education. No personal student information is collected for commercial purposes. The school's use of student information is solely for educational purposes.

For more information about COPPA visit: <http://www.ftc.gov/privacy/coppafaqs.shtm>

To see the list of CPS approved websites visit: <https://columbuspublicschools.org/coppa/>

School law permits Columbus Middle School to consent to the collection of directory information on behalf of all of its students strictly for educational purposes, thereby eliminating the need for individual parental consent given directly to the website operator. Columbus Public Schools use integrated technology as part of your child's education, the need for such information and permission is necessary to utilize software, and web-based services as part of the classroom instruction. The acceptable use permission form allows the school to act as an agent for parents in the collection of information within the school context. A signature on the handbook receipt indicates you are choosing to opt-in their child's directory information. If a parent(s) chooses to not have their child enroll in this program they can sign an opt-out form in the Counselor office.

2) Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)

FERPA protects the privacy of student education records and gives parents the rights to review student records. Under FERPA,

schools may disclose directory information, but parents may request the school not disclose this information. (CPS Board Policy 507.02). Parents are provided the opportunity annually to opt-out of disclosing their student's directory information on the District's Enrollment Form.

For more information about FERPA visit: <http://www.ed.gov/policy/gen/guid/fpco/ferpa>

Guidelines for the responsible use of Google Apps for Education by students:

- 1) Official Email Address. All students will be assigned a username@discoverers.org email account. This account will be considered the student's official CPS email address until such time as the student is no longer enrolled with Columbus Public Schools.
- 2) Prohibited Conduct. Please refer to the Acceptable Use Policy.
- 3) Access Restrictions. Access to and use of student email is considered a privilege accorded at the discretion of the Columbus Public Schools District. The District maintains the right to immediately withdraw the access and use of these services including email when there is reason to believe that violation of law or District policies have occurred. In such cases, the alleged violation will be referred to a building Administrator for further investigation and adjudication.
- 4) Security. Columbus Public Schools cannot and does not guarantee the security of electronic files located on Google systems. Although Google does have a powerful content filter in place for email, the District cannot assure that users will not be exposed to unsolicited information.

By signing off on the student handbook, the parent(s) and student confirm that they have read and understand the following:

- 1) Under FERPA and corresponding Nebraska law, a student's education records are protected from disclosure to third parties. They understand that the student's education records stored in Google Apps for Education may be accessible to someone other than the student and the Columbus Public School District by virtue of this online environment. By signing off on the student handbook, the parent(s) and student confirm their consent to allow the student's education records to be stored by Google.
- 2) Parent(s)/Guardian(s) understand that by participating in Google Apps for Education, information about the student will be collected and stored electronically. The parent(s) have read the privacy policies associated with the use of Google Apps for Education (<http://www.google.com/a/help/intl/en/edu/privacy.html>).
- 3) Parent(s)/Guardian(s) understand school law permits Columbus Middle School to consent to the collection of directory information on behalf of all of its students strictly for educational purposes, thereby eliminating the need for individual parental consent given directly to the website operator. Columbus Public Schools use integrated technology as part of your child's education, the need for such information and permission is necessary to utilize software, and web-based services as part of the classroom instruction.
- 4) A signature on the handbook receipt you are choosing to opt-in their child's directory information. If a parent(s) chooses to not have their child enroll in this program they can sign an opt-out form in the Counselor office.
- 5) Parent(s)/Guardian(s) understand that they may ask for their child's account to be removed at any time.

IV-AN Damage of School or Private Property

Students are not to participate in any activity not properly supervised by school personnel that could possibly damage or deface school or private property. If a student damages or defaces school or private property, he/she is financially responsible for all damages and will be subject to disciplinary actions including a referral to law enforcement. Neb. Rev. Stat. § 79-267

IV-AO Firearms, Weapons, Explosives, and Material that can be Ignited

The before-mentioned material items are prohibited on school property, or at school-sponsored events, unless authorized by proper school authorities. A student shall not knowingly possess, handle, or transmit any object or material that is ordinarily or generally considered a weapon or that has the appearance of a weapon (including a starter gun, paintball gun, airsoft gun, or pellet gun) or bringing or possessing any explosive device (including fireworks or any item that can be used as an ignitor, such as matches and lighters). Any item intended to cause fire or damage is prohibited (including combustible materials and ignitors). A student in possession of a firearm will be expelled from school for a period of one calendar year, as stated in Neb. Rev. Stat. § 79-267

IV-AP Bomb Threats and or False Alarms

Students should only touch fire alarms/security equipment in the case of an emergency. Students are not to falsely set off fire alarms,

falsely report bomb threats, or make a bomb threat. This may include oral statements involving possible physical danger. The false reporting of bomb threats or pulling of fire alarms will be prosecuted to the full extent of the law. School time lost due to school closure in case of the need to search the building will be made up by all students, as directed by the Superintendent and/or the Board of Education. School consequences may also be issued.

IV-AQ Rumors, Threats and Prohibited Items

Columbus Middle School takes the possibility of a real crisis very seriously as does the Columbus Police Department. Working closely together these two entities work very hard to ensure, as much as is humanly possible, the safety of all students. School time lost due to school closure will be made up by all students, as directed by the Superintendent and/or the Board of Education.

IV- AR Spreading Rumors and False Information

Spreading rumors and text messaging or using social media to spread false information which results in fear and/or disruption of the school day will be subjected to legal prosecution and school consequences.

IV-AS Threatening Statements Concerning Student/Building Safety

When students make threats, the following steps will be taken:

- 1) An administrator is informed of the threat (by whomever reports the threat) and investigates the threat. Emergency exclusion may be used during the time of the investigation (see II-B (10) in this handbook).
- 2) SRO (School Resource Officer) or Police are called to assist with conducting the investigation. SRO/Police may bring other agencies in to investigate (HHS, etc).
- 3) Student(s) making the threat, victims, and witness are interviewed.
- 4) The administration will evaluate the severity of the threat by utilizing an established "Threat Assessment Protocol." The threat will then be categorized using the protocol. Based on the level of threat appropriate consequences will be determined.
- 5) Students making the threat will receive a consequence if the threat is substantiated and the parent will be contacted.
- 6) A psychological evaluation may be ordered at the discretion of the administrative team for the student making the threat. Depending on the outcome of the evaluation - a readmission plan may be written by the administrative team from the school to determine if safety is still a concern. Ultimately it is the school's decision based on the information and investigation whether the student is readmitted or reassigned to an alternative educational placement.
- 7) Central office administration will be informed of the situation throughout the process. (Neb. Rev. Stat. § 79-267)

IV-AT Concealed Handgun Law

It is unlawful for an individual to carry a concealed handgun at school. Section 15 of the law stipulates that handguns may not be carried into school buildings, on school grounds, in school-owned vehicles, and/or at school-sponsored activities or athletic events. The intent of the law (1) assures employees, students and parents that no one will be permitted to carry a handgun at their school notwithstanding the law and (2) provides permit holders with the understanding that they are not to carry their handguns to school, as stated in Neb. Rev. Statute §69-2427 (Concealed Handgun Permit Act).

IV-AU Activities Forbidden by Laws of the State of Nebraska, the City of Columbus, or the United States of America

Students, as citizens of the United States and the State of Nebraska, are to obey all laws established by these respective governmental agencies. Students who violate these laws during the school hours, or at school-sponsored events, may be disciplined by the school in addition to any action taken by law enforcement agencies. Any activities/behaviors, which violate Nebraska Criminal Code, constitute a danger to other students or interfere with school purposes, which become known or suspected by the administration will be referred to law enforcement authorities. Neb. Rev. Stat. § 79-267

IV-AV School Board Policy

CPS Board Policy requires the inclusion of the following policies within the student handbook. a) Questioning of Students, b) Student Fees, c) Student Possession of, Sale of, Use of, or Distribution of Drugs, d) Controlled Substances/Alcohol.

IV-AVa Questioning of Students Policy 504.16

Generally, students may not be interviewed during the school day by persons other than parents and school district officials and employees. Requests from law enforcement officers and from persons other than parents, school district officials, and employees to interview students shall be made through the principal's office. Upon receiving a request, it shall be the responsibility of the principal to determine whether the request will be granted. Generally, prior to granting a request, the principal shall attempt to contact the parents to inform them of the request and to ask them to be present. CPS Board Policy 504.16

If a child abuse investigator wishes to interview a student, the principal will defer to the investigator's judgement as to whether the student should be interviewed independently from the student's parents, whether the school is the most appropriate setting for the interview, and who will be present during the interview.

Students will not be taken from school without the consent of the principal and without proper warrant when applicable. Neb. Rev. Stat. §79-294

IV-AVb Student Fees Policy 504.18

The Board of Education of Columbus Public Schools adopts the following 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 that 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 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, including beginning-of-the-year Student Fee.

c) 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, binders, 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.

d) Damaged or Lost Items. Students are responsible for the careful and appropriate use of school property. Students and their parents or guardians 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.

e) Materials Required for Classes. 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.

f) 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.

g) 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 extracurricular 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 extracurricular activities for the school year are further specified in Appendix 1 of CPS Board Policy 504.18R1. Admission fees are charged for extracurricular activities and events.

5) Post-secondary 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 presenting

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 copy of the requested records to 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 pre-kindergarten services. Students are responsible for fees required for participation in before- and after-school or pre-kindergarten 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 the equivalent (for example, publication may be made in an addendum or a supplement to the student handbook). The Student Handbook or the equivalent shall be provided to every student of the District or to every household in which at least one student resides, at no cost.

13) Student Fee Fund. The School Board hereby establishes a Student Fee Fund. 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.

IV-AW Student Possession of, Sale of, Use of, or Distribution of Drugs

Columbus Public Schools have a responsibility of providing a safe and secure educational environment for the students and staff of this community. Misuse of drugs is a danger to the health and well-being of the members of the school community. The school strives to work with parents to create a helpful, caring environment where learning can occur. Although parents have the ultimate, primary responsibility for their children's health, the schools' responsibility is to maintain a drug-free educational environment.

Students violating the CPS District's drug policy will be assigned disciplinary consequences and, if appropriate, activity consequences (as explained in the Student Handbook.) Consequences will begin when the administration has determined that a violation has occurred and due process has taken place. Disciplinary consequences will vary according to the severity of the violation and the number of times a student has committed violations. When appropriate, students who violate the district drug policy will be referred to law enforcement officials as required by the Nebraska Student Discipline Code. (Juvenile Probation: Sections 29-2270 to 29-2273; Compulsory Attendance: Section 79-211; Student Discipline Act: 79-4, 169 to 79-205.02, Neb. Rev. Stat. § 79-267).

1) Controlled Substances/Alcohol Defined (Neb. Rev. Stat. § 79-267)

Controlled Substance: A drug, substance or immediate precursor in Schedules I to V of section 28-405 of the Nebraska statutes. Controlled substances shall not include distilled spirits, wine, malt beverages, tobacco, or any non-narcotic substance if such substance may, under the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act and the law of this state, be lawfully sold over the counter without prescription. Alcoholic Liquor: Alcoholic liquor includes alcohol, spirits, wine, beer, and every liquid or solid, patented or not, containing alcohol, spirits, wine, or beer and capable of being consumed by a human being.

2) Tobacco/Alcohol/Drugs (CPS Board Policy 504.14)

The CPS Board prohibits the distribution, dispensing, manufacture, possession, use, or being under the influence of alcohol, tobacco, and/or “look alike” substances that appear to be tobacco, any form of inhalant, alcohol or controlled substances by students while on school district property or on property within the jurisdiction of the school district; while on school owned and/or operated transportation; while attending or engaged in school activities; and while away from school grounds if the misconduct will directly affect the good order, efficient management and welfare of the school district. Look alike substances also include prescription drugs (except for diabetes and asthma), non-prescription medications or vitamins.

The term “under the influence” for school purposes 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 drugs 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. In addition, “possession” of alcohol or drugs will be considered to have occurred for purposes of school rules if the student is in such close proximity to alcohol or drugs (for example, a student being in a car where alcohol is present and no adults are present in the car) or to others who are consuming alcohol or drugs (for example, being at student party at which other students are drinking) that school officials may reasonably determine that the student was in “possession” of the items as well).

The Board believes such illegal, unauthorized or contraband materials generally cause material and substantial disruption to the school environment or present a threat to the health and safety of students, employees, or visitors.

Violation of this policy by students will result in disciplinary action including suspension or expulsion. Use, purchase or being in possession of cigarettes, e cigarettes, tobacco or tobacco products for those under the age of eighteen, may be reported to the local law enforcement authorities. Possession, use or being under the influence of beer, wine, alcohol and/or of a controlled substance may also be reported to the local law enforcement authorities.

Students who violate the terms of this policy may be required to satisfactorily complete a substance abuse assistance or rehabilitation program approved by the school board at the parent’s expense. If such a student fails to satisfactorily complete such a program, the student may be subject to discipline including suspension or expulsion.

The Board believes the substance abuse prevention program shall include:

- Age-appropriate, developmentally-based drug and alcohol curriculum for students in grades kindergarten through twelve, which address the legal, social, and health consequences of tobacco, drug and alcohol use and which provide information about effective techniques for resisting peer pressure to use tobacco, drugs or alcohol;
- A statement to students that the use of illicit drugs and the unlawful possession and use of alcohol is wrong and harmful;
- Standards of conduct for students that clearly prohibit, at a minimum, the unlawful possession, use, being under the influence of or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol by students on school premises or as part of any of its activities;
- A clear statement that disciplinary sanctions, up to and including suspension or expulsion and referral for prosecution, will be imposed on students who violate the policy and a description of those sanctions;
- A statement that students may be required to successfully complete an appropriate rehabilitation program;
- Information about drug and alcohol counseling and rehabilitation and re-entry programs available to students;
- A requirement that parents and students be given a copy of the standards of conduct and the statement of disciplinary sanctions required; and
- Notification to parents and students that compliance with the standards of conduct is mandatory.

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

Consequences: The administration may impose lesser or greater consequences dependent on the circumstances in accordance with administrative regulations. The following are the consequences that will ordinarily **result**. Activity Policy: ALL violations carry over from year to year and are enforced 7th through 12th grades. Activity consequences for alcohol, drug, and tobacco violations are determined in accordance with the activity discipline policy and regulations established by the administration; the consequences include activity suspensions.

Under the Influence of Drugs/Alcohol:

1st Offense: 19 days of out-of-school suspension, this could be reduced to 3 days of out-of-school suspension and 3 days of in-school suspension upon the successful completion of a substance abuse evaluation at the parent's expense.

2nd Offense: Expulsion and mandatory reassignment at the Columbus Public Schools Alternative School or an educational placement deemed appropriate by the administration.

Possession/Distribution:

1st Offense: 19 days of out-of-school suspension. This may be reduced to 5- days of out-of-school suspension and 5 days of in-school suspension upon the successful completion of a substance abuse evaluation.

2nd Offense: Expulsion and mandatory reassignment at the Columbus Public Schools Alternative School or an educational placement deemed appropriate by the administration whichever is longer.

IV-AX Columbus Middle School Additional Tobacco/Drug/Alcohol Policies (Policy 504.14 and 504.14R1) (Neb. Rev. Stat. § 79-267)

1) Use of Tobacco/Inhalant Products (Neb. Rev. Stat. § 79-267)

Columbus Middle School students are not to possess, use, distribute or sell tobacco on school grounds (under the jurisdiction of Columbus Middle School), so students will also be disciplined for violating district policies on these grounds, in school, or at school-sponsored events.

Definition: Tobacco products include cigarettes, cigars, chewing tobacco, snuff, or any form of tobacco intended to be smoked, chewed, sniffed, dissolved or inhaled or products intended to replicate tobacco products either by appearance or effect.

Possessing or use of e-cigarettes, vape devices, materials related to vaping (e.g., chargers, empty cartridges) and/or vapor liquids in any form at school is in direct violation of this policy. Tobacco or inhalant products confiscated from the student will be turned over to law enforcement.

Consequences: Students found guilty of possessing, using, distributing, or selling tobacco or an inhalant product will receive school consequences and may be reported to law enforcement.

2) Alcohol and Drugs (Neb. Rev. Stat. § 79-267)

Columbus Middle School reserves the right to use drug testing equipment in partnership with the Columbus Police Department regarding students who may show signs of being under the influence of drugs or alcohol intoxication at school or school sponsored activities.

3) Prescription Drugs (Neb. Rev. Stat. § 79-267)

Definition: Any drug or chemical that is prescribed for a particular individual by a doctor and intended for use only by the individual named on the prescription bottle. Columbus Middle School reserves the right to exercise control of the misuse, misrepresentation,

distribution or selling of prescription drugs. Students are not to misuse, misrepresent, distribute or sell prescription drugs. No prescription drugs can be administered by anyone other than the nurse or other designated persons. All prescription medicines are to be kept in the nurse's office. Students using prescription drugs shall bring them to school in properly labeled prescription containers and said prescriptions shall be accompanied by written parental verification.

Exception: With written permission that parents accept the responsibility for the student taking his/her own medications, students may carry their own prescriptions and medicate themselves in accordance with Policy 504.14. Prescription drugs for asthma and diabetes are also excluded as per policy.

a) Students found guilty of misusing, misrepresenting, distributing, or selling prescription drugs shall be given the following consequences:

- First violation at any time during the school year: up to 19 days out-of-school suspension. Exception: First violation of personal misuse at any time during the school year: up to 19 days out-of-school suspension. However, upon the presentation to the school administration of an evaluation done by a substance abuse appropriate/appropriate professional with information provided to the school, the administration shall reduce the out-of-school suspension to an in-school suspension not to exceed five days. The substance abuse counselor must be approved by the building principal prior to the student seeking services and the student's parents and/or guardian and the substance abuse counselor must agree to the exchange of all pertinent information between school officials and the substance abuse counselor. This evaluation must be accompanied by specific recommendations.
- Should this student at any time during the remainder of his/her attendance fail to comply with any of the given recommendations, the original suspension can be imposed.
- Second or subsequent violations at any time during the school year: 19 days out-of-school suspension or expulsion for the remainder of the semester, whichever is longer.

b) Students found guilty of failure to provide the required written parental verification/permission for their own prescriptions will result in a warning to the student. Subsequent failures will result in disciplinary action.

4) Over the Counter Drugs / Vitamins (Neb. Rev. Stat. § 79-267)

Definition: Any drug or chemical that can be purchased without a prescription and that does not fall under state or federal limitations (i.e. caffeine pills, aspirin, cough syrup, diet pills, substances that can be inhaled, etc.) Columbus Middle School reserves the right to exercise control over the misuse, misrepresentation, distributing or selling over-the-counter drugs. Students are not to misuse, misrepresent, distribute, or sell over-the-counter drugs. Consequences: Students found guilty of misusing, misrepresenting, distributing or selling over-the-counter drugs shall receive the following: 1st violation: up to 5 days OSS, 2nd violation: up to 19 days OSS, 3rd violation: expulsion from school for the remainder of the semester or 19 days OSS, whichever is longer.

5) Records of Violations and Consequences (Neb. Rev. Stat. § 79-267)

Anecdotal notes or violations of the district drug policy will be shared between administrators from one year to another and from one attendance center to another and disciplinary action may carry over from one year to another and from one attendance center to another if the consequence was not completed. However, violations of the drug/alcohol policy are not cumulative from one year to another or from one attendance level to another.

SECTION V STUDENT ATTENDANCE EXPECTATIONS

Student Attendance Expectations

1. Attend school on a regular basis.
2. Pre-arranged absences with school officials.
3. Be on time and present in assigned classes.

To assure that students acquire the knowledge and skills necessary to fulfill the school mission, all students are expected to attend school on a consistent basis. This means all students enrolled in any of the Columbus Schools, regardless of how old they are, must attend school regularly and be in all the classes to which they are assigned, unless properly excused by an official of the school. Arrangements should be made to obtain missed assignments from the homework pages on the school website, emailing teachers, or by contacting the school in the case of a major illness.

School Attendance Expectation #1 – Attend school on a regular basis

Supporting Guidelines

V-A Attendance – Excused/Unexcused

Any student who misses more than ten (10) days or the percentage equivalent to ten (10) days in a semester is in violation of Nebraska statute and the Columbus Public Schools Attendance Policy. Parents, or legal guardians, are expected to telephone, (402) 563-7060, or notify the school by 9:00 am the day or days of student's absence or tardiness unless the absence has been prearranged. Parents or guardians who do not call regarding a student's absence will be called at home or work. If the school is unable to reach parents or legal guardians or parent provided emergency numbers, we cannot be certain of the safety of the child; therefore, one of the building attendance officers (administrators) will be asked to investigate the absence of the child.

Regular attendance by students 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.

Student absences approved by the principal shall be considered allowable absences. Approved absences shall count as days in attendance for purposes of addressing excessive absenteeism, except for notification of the county attorney. These absences include, but are not limited to, medically documented illnesses or appointments, pandemic occurrences identified by local clinics, recognized religious observances and school-sponsored or approved activities.

It shall be the responsibility of the parent to notify the middle school attendance office as soon as the parent knows the student will not be attending school on that day. The principal may request evidence or written verification of the students' reason for absence. (CPS Board Policy 503.03 and Neb. Rev. Stat. § 79-209)

V-B Attendance – Activity Participation

Students who are participating in the activity program are not allowed to practice, perform, or compete on the same day they are absent from school for more than six periods. In addition, should the student participation be scheduled for Saturday, and the student has an unexcused absence on Friday, he/she may not participate. Extenuating circumstances must be approved by the administration, unless due to a prearranged absence.

Students who know they will miss one or more classes due to an activity should communicate with their teacher(s) about the time/date of the absence, about missed classwork, and about when makeup work will be due.

Student Attendance Expectation #2 – Pre-arranged absences

Supporting Guidelines

V-C Pre-arranged Absence Procedures

Students who will be absent for reasons that can be excused in advance must bring notification to the office. The notification of the absence should come from the parent/guardian via written note, email, or phone call. This applies to family obligations and pre-arranged appointments with a health care provider.

The student will be given a Pre-arranged Absence Form (white slip) from the attendance secretary. Classroom teachers will initial these slips and provide make-up work when available. All make-up work is due upon return from the pre-arranged absence.

V-D Sign-Out Procedure

Students must sign out whenever they leave the building except for activities. Students leaving the building with a pre-arranged absence will be counted unexcused if they fail to sign out in the office. Parents must report to the office to pick up their child. Students must sign in upon their return to school. Students must provide a note from parents, dentist, doctor, etc., before the absence will be counted as excused. School officials reserve the right to call parents if it appears the note procedure is being abused.

In the case of illness, the student will be checked by the school nurse or other school official before being excused. Before being released from school, the student's parent or other designated person will be contacted and advised of the student's need to be

dismissed from school. Students who leave school due to illness during the school day are responsible for getting and completing all missed work. Students who have left school during the school day due to illness may not return for any school activities after school hours.

V-E Make-Up Time for Absences

Students are responsible for making up all work missed because of absences. Students will be allowed two days for every day they were absent to make up for missed work. Special arrangements can be made with individual teachers for unusual circumstances. It is the student's responsibility to see instructors for work missed during absences, or assignments may be obtained online on the team pages, Google Classroom, or via email. Students on suspension are expected to have work completed upon their return to class. Students on suspension who do not have their work complete will be assigned to in-school suspension until it is completed. If students are absent for more than one day due to illness, parents may request prior to 10 a.m. to pick up assignments after 4:00 p.m., the office is open until 4:30 p.m.

Student Attendance Expectation #3—Be on time and present in assigned classes

Punctuality to and attendance at school and classes closely correlate with punctuality to and attendance at work later in life. Therefore, we expect students to be on time for school and classes.

V-F Tardies - Late To School or Class

School starts promptly at 8:00 a.m. Students arriving after 8:00 a.m. will be marked tardy. Students must sign in at the main office when reporting to school and/or if they are not in their assigned classes after 8:05 am each day. Students arriving to school between 8:00 - 8:05 a.m. may have a consequence from their teacher. Students who arrive at school after 8:06 a.m. MUST report to the Office. First period teachers will not admit the student after 8:06 to their classrooms without a pass from the office. Tardies after 8:25 will be considered an unexcused absence or a skipped class and students will be required to make any time missed. Students will be allowed three (3) tardies per year before being assigned time as a consequence for tardiness. Students with more than three tardies per year will serve a 30 minute office detention for each additional tardy. Students accumulating five or more tardies in a year will be issued sixty (60) minutes of detention which may be served at Thursday Night School to make up the class time missed.

* If a student is tardy or late to school a total of 15 times, the parents will again be personally contacted by an administrator to discuss the problem, clarify guidelines for how future tardy arrivals will be handled, and assign appropriate disciplinary action.

When a student is tardy to class, it means the student is missing valuable instructional time. The teacher may require the student to serve a teacher detention. On the third tardy and for each additional tardy, the student may earn an office referral. Students may also be required to make up for lost class time by attending Thursday Night School.

V-G Administrative Response to Student Absences

All students are expected to attend school/class on a consistent basis. Students with unexcused absences will make up the time missed from school.

Whenever a student leaves school without permission, skips class, or is absent from school without parental permission and/or for a reason not excused by the school the student is truant. All cases of truancy will be dealt with by an administrator on an individual basis. Possible consequences include: parent conferences, work detentions, in-school and after-school suspensions, Thursday Night School, involvement of the School Resource Officer for violation of the state's compulsory education law, and expulsion. Students will be held accountable for the time and class work they miss as a result of their truancy. Students will make up time for absence and parents will be contacted. After repeated offences, consequences may include double time for absence, referral to attendance monitor, written warning by the police, suspension, and/or summons issued by the police.

Investigative home visits by the school nurse, SRO, and/or an administrator could be conducted for any of the following reasons:

1. When the parent or guardian has not communicated to school officials with why a student is not in attendance, and all attempts to reach parents over a period of time have failed.

2. When the student in question has had significant, ongoing attendance problems, and all attempts to reach parents regarding an unreported absence have failed.
3. Said home visit may result in referrals to other agencies such as, but not limited to, Platte County Assessment Center including the Attendance Monitor program, Professional Partners organization, and the County Attorney's Office.

SECTION VI ACTIVITY STANDARDS AND REGULATIONS

VI-A School Activities

Columbus Middle School offers its students a variety of interscholastic and intramural sports and other social activities which allow students to develop skills and interests at the same time as socializing with friends. These activities, which are sometimes different for students at each grade level, are well-monitored by adult supervisors.

1) School-Sponsored Activities

Columbus Middle School sponsors student activity gatherings, several assemblies, a number of music concerts, and interscholastic sports competitions. All of our students are invited to attend the concerts and sporting events and support their classmates and friends as they participate in these public performances. The activities will be publicized in the school announcements, the school website, and on social media.

Students who attend a school-sponsored activity should represent themselves as a Discoverer: Be Safe, Be Respectful, Be Responsible, and Be Kind. Students should remain in the designated activity area for the entirety of the activity; school lockers and classroom areas are off-limits.

2) Sports and Athletics

SECTION VI ACTIVITY STANDARDS AND REGULATIONS

VI-A School Activities

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Students who attend a school-sponsored activity should represent themselves as a Discoverer: Be Safe, Be Respectful, Be Responsible, and Be Kind. All school rules apply to school-sponsored events outside of the school day. Students should remain in the designated activity area for the entirety of the activity; school lockers and classroom areas are off-limits. The rule is: Once you leave, you may not re-enter.

2) Extracurricular Activities

Students are encouraged to explore the many opportunities for participation in extracurricular activities. We believe students must be good students first and good in their activity second.

Sixth grade students are eligible for a certain number of extracurricular intramural activities. Sixth graders do not need to complete a sports physical in order to participate. Coaches and teachers will meet and confer regarding the academic performance of individual intramural athletes, and when necessary, a student will be required to have all passing grades before being allowed additional competition in intramural games. However, intramural athletes will not have to provide coaches with eligibility cards to verify academic standing.

		Quarter 1			Quarter 2		Quarter 3		Quarter 4			
Grade	Activity	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	
5th	DI	Destination Imagination										
	Drumline	Drumline										
	Play	Play										
6th	Boys Basketball								Boys Basketball			
	Cheer	Cheer										
	DI	Destination Imagination										
	Drumline	Drumline										
	Flag Football	Flag Football										
	Girls Basketball			Girls Basketball								
	Play	Play										
	Volleyball								Volleyball			
	Wrestling			Wrestling								
7th & 8th	Boys Basketball						Boys Basketball					
	Cheer	Cheer										
	DI	Destination Imagination										
	Drumline	Drumline										
	Football	Football										
	Girls Basketball			Girls Basketball								
	Math Counts			Math Counts								
	Musical						Musical					
	Quiz Bowl				Quiz Bowl							
	Robotics				Robotics							
	Student Council	Student Council										
	Volleyball	Volleyball										
	Wrestling			Wrestling								

3) Academic Eligibility

Eligibility will be tracked by quarters, all students will be eligible at the beginning of each activity season and the checks will be conducted every Monday at 8:00 a.m. beginning the second week of the start of the activity. The ineligible period will begin Thursday. If a student is failing any subject on the reporting date, he/she will be suspended from competition and travel beginning on Thursday of the same week. Students will remain ineligible until he/she has brought the failing grades to a passing percentage by completing acceptable work to determine eligibility. The teacher shall have 24 hours to grade/evaluate assignments.

It shall be the coaches and/or activity advisors responsibility to counsel all students that do not meet the academic eligibility guidelines. Once the student regains his/her eligibility, the coaches and/or activity advisors shall inform the activities director in writing.

Extracurricular activity offerings are contingent on School Board approval, availability of coaches/coordinators, an adequate number of participants, and finances.

4) Activity Guidelines will be distributed at the beginning of the season or activity. These guidelines will provide additional rules and expectations for participants. Students and their parent/guardian should refer to the sponsor for more information. If parents of students have a concern related to the activity these concerns should be communicated following this chain of command: 1) Coach, 2) Athletic Director, 3) Administration

4a) Interscholastic Sports Rules/Guidelines (7th & 8th Grade)

- All 7th and 8th graders are to have a completed physical form prior to any participation.
- All 7th and 8th who plan to participate in interscholastic athletics must purchase a "C-Stamp" before the first competition.
- All 7th and 8th graders will be in the pool for random drug testing*
- All academic work and school responsibilities--including detentions, after school suspensions, work assignments, etc.-- assigned by CMS staff will take priority over practices.
- Any athletic participant absent from school for any amount of time, will not be allowed to practice/participate that afternoon or evening without special permission from the administration and coach.
- Only authorized personnel are allowed on buses and school vehicles when making trips with athletic squads.

***Random Drug Testing:** The Board of Education is responsible for maintaining discipline, health and safety. The Board recognizes that substance abuse presents a continuing challenge and a danger to the student population as a whole. The Board is committed to maintaining school sponsored activity programs in a safe, healthy and secure environment. The Board is further committed to being proactive in ensuring that students who participate in extracurricular activities represent the District in a positive manner.

Students who participate in school sponsored competitive extracurricular activities, as defined in the student handbook at the middle school and high school (Grades 7-12) levels are eligible for random testing. Students who do not consent to participate in the testing program shall not be eligible to participate in school sponsored competitive extracurricular activities. (CPS Board Policy 504.50)

5) Clearance to Participate & Head Injury Procedure

With the passage of legislation on the state and federal levels, Columbus Middle School will observe the Nebraska Concussion Awareness Act - Return to Learn protocol on allowing students to participate in activities. (Neb. Rev. Stat. §71-9105; CPS Board Policy 508.15)

A student participating on a school athletic team shall be removed from a practice or game when reasonably suspected of having sustained a concussion or brain injury in that activity after observation by a coach or a licensed health care professional who is professionally affiliated with or contracted by the school.

The injured student shall not be permitted to participate in any school supervised team athletic activities involving physical exertion, including, but not limited to, practices or games, until the student;

1. Been evaluated by a licensed health care professional;
2. Received written and signed clearance to resume participation in athletic activities from the licensed health care professional;
3. Submitted the written and signed clearance to resume participation in athletic activities to the school accompanied by written permission to resume participation from the student's parent or guardian.

If a student is reasonably suspected after observation of having sustained a concussion or brain injury and is removed from an athletic activity as required above, the parent or guardian of the student shall be notified by the school of the date and approximate time of the injury suffered by the student, the signs and symptoms of a concussion or brain injury that were observed, and any actions taken to treat the student.

6) Locker Room Policy

- The activity locker rooms are locked each school day from 8:05 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. Students needing to enter the locker room (when there is teacher supervision) must have a pass from a teacher, coach or administrator.
- The locker rooms will be opened by coaches who are sponsoring that activity. Students who are out for a sport may use the locker room at this time. Students who are not out for a sport are not allowed in the locker room unless they have a pass from a teacher or administrator.
- Locker rooms will be locked during practices and games. If students who are participating in intramural activities or interscholastic sports need to re-enter the locker rooms they must obtain permission from one of their coaches.

7) "Team Selection" and "Playing Time"

"Team selection" and "playing time" decisions are the responsibility of the individual coaches and/or activity advisors of the activity. Consistent, however, with the purposes of the activities program, the coaches and/or activity advisors shall follow the following established guidelines for team selection and playing time decisions, along with such other guidelines as each individual coaches and/or activity advisors may develop which are not inconsistent with these established guidelines:

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.

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.

8) Transportation To and From Events

Team/group members travel to and from out-of-town events as a unit. Certain exceptions concerning travel can be made.

A student involved in school activities may be allowed to ride to or from an event with written permission from his or her parents. Preferably, written permission should be received by the activities director no later than 24 hours before the beginning of the trip. Under no circumstances should a student involved in school activities be allowed to ride to or from an out-of-town event with anyone but their own parents.

9) Activity Regulations

Participation in school sponsored activities is a privilege and not a right. Students participating in Columbus Middle School Activities must be “in good standing” with School Regulations and will be held responsible for knowing and abiding by all activity regulations which are listed in the Columbus Middle School Student Handbook.

It shall be the right of Columbus Public Schools to establish rules of conduct for participation in activities. Students who participate in extracurricular activities shall be held to a higher standard of conduct than those who choose not to participate. Furthermore, it shall be the right of Columbus Public Schools to impose sanctions for violations of those standards if the administration determines to its satisfaction that a violation has occurred.

It is the belief of the Columbus Public Schools that it is important to support the total student. Expectations for our youngsters participating in co-curricular activities include not only behavior at school or at school functions or events, but go beyond the school day and into the community. We believe that part of learning is accepting responsibility for one’s actions. Thus, the school district is extending its authority to hours and places beyond the regularly perceived boundaries in an effort to show strongly to students and the community our intent to work with and help all youngsters in their decision-making. We believe this stance will further help to develop responsible adult citizens while serving as a deterrent to certain unlawful behaviors.

The following actions shall constitute prohibited conduct for students participating in CMS sponsored activities. The conduct can be on or off school grounds and need not be at an educational function or event.

A student accused of a violation shall have due process consisting of the right to know the nature of the alleged violation, the right to tell his or her version of events, and the right to have others comment on his or her behalf. The decision of the administration shall be final. The following regulations will begin the first day of organized practice by a Columbus Middle School sponsored activity, and the regulations will end on the last day of student attendance with the exception of school sponsored events taking place while school is not in session.

Each violation of the activity regulations (academic, violations, tobacco and drug/alcohol) will be handled separately and penalties will be accumulated by each individual regulation.

Start of Suspension - Suspension from activities/sports will begin the day the student admits to a violation or the day the administration declares the student suspended.

10) Columbus Middle School Academic Eligibility Regulation

The following actions shall constitute prohibited conduct for students participating in CMS sponsored activities:

- Intentionally causing or attempting to cause physical injury to any person.
- Fraud/theft/robbery
- Vandalism to public or private property on or off school grounds.
- Harassment, Stalking, Threatening, Public Indecency
- Knowingly possessing, handling or transmitting any object or material that is ordinarily or generally considered a weapon by school board policy.

10a) Consequences

First Offense: Penalty for violating this policy will be suspension from any participation in activities for two calendar weeks and at least one event. Students charged with a violation of this policy will be penalized upon investigation by the Columbus Middle School Administration and after a determination that such a violation has in fact occurred and due process has taken place.

Second offense: by any of the above mentioned violations shall mean the student will be suspended from activities for 28 calendar days and at least one event.

Third offense: by any of the above mentioned violations shall mean the student will be suspended from all school activities for the rest of the school year in question.

In matters involving consequences for infractions in the Columbus Middle School regulations governing student conduct for participation in sponsored school activities, the due process procedures shall be the same.

11) Drug/Alcohol Regulation for Activity Eligibility

Any student involved in extracurricular school activities is subject to consequence if, following an investigation, the administration determines that:

- The student is found to have been involved in either selling, using, possessing or dispensing alcohol, 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 the dispensing of an imitation controlled substance as defined in 28-401 of the Nebraska statutes, or material represented to be alcohol, narcotics, drugs, a controlled substance or inhalant.
- The student was present where alcohol, narcotics, drugs, a controlled substance or an inhalant were being used where in the student had access to the items; or,
- The student admits to a violation as defined above; or,
- The student is cited, charged with being convicted with any controlled substances or alcohol related criminal offense.

11a) Consequences

First Violation of Drugs/Alcohol:

Students determined to have committed a first violation shall be suspended for one third of the scheduled Columbus Middle School competitions/ performances of that given student's current activities season(s). If a student self reports to a sponsor/coach or administrator within 24 hours of the incident, they shall be suspended for one-fourth of the scheduled Columbus Middle School competitions/ performances of that given student's current activities season(s). The student is also prohibited from participating in pep rallies and community services performances that occur within this time frame, but not from practices and/or classes within the school day.

Second Violation of Drugs/Alcohol

Students determined to have committed a second violation at any time during their middle school career ***shall be expelled from participation in all activities for one calendar year.*** If the student self-reports, the suspension is for nine months.

Reinstatement after Second Violation of Drug/Alcohol Policy: Should it be determined that a student has committed a second violation during their middle school career; he or she may apply for re- instatement in activity participation under the following conditions:

- A. The student will undergo a formal drug/alcohol evaluation at his or her own expense. The results of this evaluation will be shared with the school administration and the recommendation(s) made by the evaluation must be followed for reinstatement to stand.
- B. The student will complete a community service project, including approximately 40 hours of service work, as to be agreed upon by the school administration and the student. All expenses incurred for the completion of the community service project are to be the responsibility of the student. The student must complete the community service project prior to being reinstated.

Third Violation of Drugs/Alcohol

Students determined to have committed a third drug/alcohol violation at any time during their middle school careers shall be expelled from participation in all activities for the remainder of the middle school careers.

11b) Due Process: A student accused of a violation shall have due process consisting of the right to know the nature of the alleged violation, the right to tell his/her version of events, and the right to have others comment on his/her behalf. You have the right to appeal the Activities Coordinator's decision provided the appeal is made to the **Middle School Administration** with 5 days. This decision may be appealed to the superintendent provided the appeal is made within 5 days. The superintendent's decision is final.

Note: If a violation occurs toward the end of the activity season, this consequence will carry over to the next season in which the student participates. The student must *complete the entire season* of the activity in which the activity suspension is served.

Drug/Alcohol Suspension Table		
First Offense	Second Offense	Third Offense
* Students is suspended for $\frac{1}{3}$ of scheduled competitions and/or performances * Suspension is reduced to $\frac{1}{4}$ of scheduled competitions and/or performances if student self-reports	* Student is suspended for activity participation for one calendar year. * Suspension is reduced to nine months if student self-reports * Students may apply for reinstatement, providing evaluation & community service project	* Student is suspended from participation in all activities for the remainder of their middle school and high school career

12) Tobacco Regulation for Activity Eligibility Students determined to have possessed, used, distributed or sold tobacco shall receive the following consequences:

12a) Consequences

First Violation of Tobacco: A student determined to have committed a first violation at any time during the school year shall be suspended for $\frac{1}{4}$ th of the season ($\frac{1}{4}$ th of the contests) from participation, competition or play, but not from practice and/or classes within the school day.

Second Violation: A student determined to have committed a second violation at any time during the school year shall be suspended for $\frac{1}{2}$ of the contests, which may carry into the next season.

Third Violation: A student determined to have committed a third violation at any time during his/her middle school careers shall be suspended from participation in all activities for one full year.

12b) Due Process: A student accused of a violation shall have due process consisting of the right to know the nature of the alleged violation, the right to tell his/her version of events, and the right to have others comment on his/her behalf. You have the right to appeal the Activities Coordinator's decision provided the appeal is made to the **Middle School Administration** within 5 days. This decision may be appealed to the superintendent provided the appeal is made within 5 days. The superintendent's decision is final.

SECTION VII GENERAL INFORMATION

VII-A Asthma Protocol

State Law (Rule 59) requires that our school be prepared to implement an emergency treatment plan, called a protocol, anytime a student or staff member experiences a life threatening asthma attack or systemic allergic reaction (anaphylaxis). The protocol requires that 911 be called first. After that call is made, an EpiPen injection will be given and then albuterol is provided through a nebulizer. The protocol steps are designed to provide quick, effective care in order to prevent death from occurring due to severe asthma attack or anaphylaxis. Staff members have been trained to recognize the signs and symptoms of a life-threatening breathing emergency and to properly administer the medications. The protocol is a standing medical order that has been signed by Dr. David Rohwer.

If you know that your student has asthma or a known allergy, it is critically important that you communicate this information to our school staff. You may contact the Middle School Nurse. For each student with a known allergic condition or asthma, you must provide the school with (1) written medical documentation, (2) instructions, and (3) medications as directed by a physician. In the event that your student experiences a life threatening asthma attack or systemic allergic reaction, we will defer to the specific documents and medication that you have provided. If you do not have medical documentation and instructions on file with the school for your student, we will defer to the regulatory protocol described above. If, for whatever reason, you do not want your student to receive the life-saving emergency treatment under the protocol, you must file your written objection with the school. If you have any questions or concerns about the protocol or your student's health issues, please contact the Columbus Middle School Nurse.

VII-B Screenings

Students enrolled in Columbus Public Schools are provided health screening in accordance with Nebraska State Statute (Neb. Rev. Stat. §79-248 - 79-253). The screening is conducted to help identify health concerns in as early a stage as possible, in an effort to enhance learning. Screening is not intended to be diagnostic, but to identify students with potential problems. Each student will be screened for vision, hearing, dental, height and weight. The state statute requiring health inspections in Nebraska does not allow a waiver option. Parents who request that their child not be screened at school must provide current screening results from a medical provider.

VII-C Automated Phone Calls

Columbus Public Schools sends information to parents regarding upcoming events and activities to keep them informed. According to the federal Telephone Consumer Protection Act, all calls—whether live, automated, or prerecorded voice calls or text messages—made to cell phones using an auto-dialer or other automated dialing technology are prohibited unless the calls are made for emergency purposes or made with the prior express consent of the cell phone subscriber.

In order to conform with the rules within the Federal Consumer Protection Act. The school will need to obtain the “prior express consent” of the parent to call the cell phone number. The Federal Communications Commission has stated, “people who knowingly release their phone numbers have given permission to be called at the number which they have given, absent instructions to the contrary.” By signing receipt of this handbook you are giving Columbus Public Schools permission to call all cell phones registered in our student information system (SIS) for school and student purposes.

VII-D Care of Building

Every attempt has been made to provide Columbus Middle School students with an attractive, secure learning environment. The care and protection of our building and its furnishings are essential to its quality appearance.

Posters and locker decorations must be approved by administration before being placed in the building.

It is the responsibility of all of the students to keep the school and its grounds clean and attractive. Students who deliberately create a mess will be held responsible by administrative disciplinary action, restitution for damages, and clean-up cost.

VII-E Elevator Use

Students who have been injured or have a condition to the extent that stair travel must be curtailed will be granted the use of the elevator. A keycard may be checked out from the school nurse and students will be charged a \$5 fee to replace any lost keycards. Elevator keycards should be returned as soon as they are no longer needed.

MEDICAL EXCUSES FROM FITNESS. PARTICIPATION FOR HEALTH REASONS A student may be excused from fitness for reasons of health for one class period with permission of a parent and/or nurse. The student may be excused for additional days by the school nurse if the situation is well-defined, if there is parental input, and/or if the situation is self-limiting. A doctor's statement may be required when deemed necessary. A student may be permanently excused from fitness by a doctor's statement only.

VII-F Grades - Honor Roll

Honor roll is computed at the end of each grading term (this is not cumulative).

4.0 Honor Roll: 4.0 with no grade below "A"

3.5 Honor Roll: 3.5 or better with no grade below "B"

VII-G Grading and Grade Reporting Services

At Columbus Middle School we want students and parents to be informed about student progress and grades so we can provide a basis for students, parents, and teachers to work together in maintaining successful learning or bringing about an improved learning for the student.

Students and parents can check grades online or request updates on grades and academic performance any time by contacting individual teachers at 563-7060.

At the end of each grading period, each teacher reports a grade for each subject or subjects which (s)he teaches. All grades are printed on report cards, which are mailed to parents/guardians. If a student receives an incomplete, they will have 2 weeks after report cards are mailed to finish the work, so the incomplete will change to a grade.

VII-H School Counselors, School Psychologists & School Social Workers Services

Parents can contact school counselors, school psychologists and school social workers by calling the building. School counselors and school psychologists are student-focused and address concerns that affect the student's academic, behavioral, physical, social and emotional health. School counselors will teach lessons in the classroom setting, and lessons will follow the district's curriculum. School social workers are parent/family-focused and address concerns that impact a parent's or family's quality of life requiring community support services.

VII-I Head Injuries & Concussions

Columbus Middle School will follow the Return to Learn protocol for students that have been diagnosed with a head injury and/or a concussion.

VII-J Health Services - School Nurse

The Middle School has a full time nurse assigned to the building. The school nurse is available during regular school hours from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Students who become ill at school should request a pass from a teacher to see the nurse. If a student is genuinely ill, the nurse may suggest over-the-counter medication which could alleviate symptoms, the nurse may suggest a brief rest in the nurse's office prior to returning to class, and may suggest and facilitate the student going home for the remainder of the day.

In addition, the school nurse is responsible for monitoring the administration of all over-the-counter and prescription medications at school. Parents of students who have a health condition or take medications daily must discuss medication procedures with the school nurse and sign a medication release form in order to have medications administered at school. Middle school is a time of increased responsibility for personal health and wellness, to this end, CMS encourages students to take medications at home when possible. If parents would like to discuss the student's readiness for home-administration, parents are encouraged to contact the school nurse.

Finally, the school nurse monitors immunizations required by state law, physicals required by the school and school sports programs, and health screenings required by the school district (Neb. Rev. Stat. §79-217 - 79-253). Any questions related to these topics should first be addressed to the school nurse by phone at 563-7060.

VII-K School Website

To access the Columbus Middle School website, go to www.columbuspublicschools.org and select CMS from the Sites menu. Information on the website may include events, announcements, homework by team, and teacher contact information.

VII-L Social Media

In an effort to better inform parents and the community, Columbus Public Schools will be using social media to share information. Social media includes but is not limited to Facebook, Twitter, blogging, and podcasting. When posting information on Social Networks sites (such as Facebook), the district will only post group photos/videos where no names of students will be used. If a student's name is used, there will be no photo. Students will not be allowed to post on any Social Media pages from the district. Social Media will be monitored by each building principal and only be used with their approval.

VII-M Lanyards, ID Cards & Activity Stamps

Students are required to wear a lanyard with a picture identification card. This adds to the safety and security for all students. Picture identification cards, which will be made at Columbus Middle School, are mandatory for every student. The picture identification cards will have the individual student's picture and barcode. There will be a \$5.00 replacement fee for lost or significantly damaged picture identification cards. Students who have lost or damaged their picture ID cards should get them replaced in the CMS office as soon as possible. Students can only use their current year's ID card and their photo must remain visible. This ID card can also be turned into an activity pass if a student purchases a \$25.00 C-stamp. C-stamps are sold at the middle school front office. The C-stamp permits admission to most Columbus High School and Columbus Middle school events. A record of who has purchased C-stamps is kept in the middle school office, and they can be replaced free of charge.

VII-N Media Center (MC)

Students must have their lanyards, student ID card, and agenda with them in order to check out materials and are responsible for all materials checked out to their bar code and not returned. Resources may be checked out for varying amounts of time. Books are checked out for 3 weeks and may be renewed once. MP3 Audiobooks with an accompanying print book may be checked out for 1 week and may be renewed once. Any student who fails to return their audiobook before it is marked lost will be blocked from checking out any more audiobooks. Back issues of magazines are checked out for one week. Reference books, encyclopedias, dictionaries, etc. are due back on the next school day. Some items may be allowed for check out only by CPS staff members. Students may have up to 3 items checked out at the same time if they do not have outstanding book fines. Exceptions will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Students must pay the full price for replacement of all lost materials (materials not returned after 30 days). At the end of each quarter, parents or guardians will be notified of any unpaid fines. Students who chronically have overdue books or large library fines will have their checkout privileges blocked.

Special procedure for WIN Time: at the beginning of each quarter, students will have 3 MC passes in the back of their agenda. These passes are used at the student's discretion for entry into the MC or room computer lab during WIN Time; however, no extra passes will be issued after the 3 passes are used up. Each student must decide how best to use his or her own passes. These passes are non-transferable and will only be good for the quarter in which they are issued.

VII-O WIN Time

WIN (What I Need) Time is a period at the end of the school day designed to help students receive additional practice, support, and enrichment from their teachers. All students need to report to a WIN session daily and must report to any teacher who has written them a pass in their agenda. Students may only attend WIN Time Study Hall in the cafeteria if they meet certain criteria. Standard 3-minute passing periods apply. Students in the halls after WIN has started will be escorted to the Media Center where they will be supervised by an administrator and assigned a 30-minute detention to be served the next school day.

VII-P Lost and Found

All lost and found articles should be taken to and claimed in the main office. Unclaimed items will be given to charitable organizations at the end of each quarter.

VII-Q Lunch Procedures

Free/Reduced lunch forms will be given to every student at the beginning of the school year; students who are applying for free/reduced status need to return forms promptly. Students are responsible for any charges accrued before the application is approved. Forms can be picked up in the office at any point in the year; these forms should be returned to the office upon completion.

Students may bring sack lunches if they do not wish to eat the school lunch. The Columbus Public Schools requests that, no student bring in commercially prepared food (i.e. McDonalds, Burger King, Subway, Pizza Hut, Taco Johns etc.) Each student is expected to bring only individual-sized portions which (s)he expects to eat. Large containers of chips or boxes containing multiple servings of a food item are not permitted. Students who bring sack lunches may purchase milk or a la carte if they wish to do so. Students may not

bring any candy or pop with them to eat at lunch. Sack lunches should not contain any glass items. All lunches must be eaten in the cafeteria unless special permission or instructions have been given by a school official. Students must use their intact student ID with barcode as they go through the lunch line. Students who do not have their student ID card must wait for permission to join the line. Students may deposit money into their account before school or during lunch periods.

A la carte items will be sold to 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th graders during their lunch time. A la Carte items include such things as: water, yogurt, chips, juice, and additional main entree. A la carte items do cost extra and the student must have a positive student account to purchase items. The cost of the items can be deducted from the student account or the student can pay for the a la carte items in cash. Any student making an a la carte purchase must have their ID. Students should follow their grade-level rules for when to purchase a la carte during their lunch period.

Students and their parents should discuss how to handle the purchase of a la carte items; parents can monitor student accounts online. Parents should monitor lunch balances throughout the year.

Nondiscrimination Statement

In accordance with Federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, the USDA, its Agencies, offices, and employees, and institutions participating in or administering USDA programs are prohibited from discriminating based on race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity in any program or activity conducted or funded by the USDA.

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 Agency (State or local) where they applied for benefits. 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.

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, and at any USDA office, write a letter addressed to the 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) 690-2474; or

(3) Email: program.intake@usda.gov

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

VII-R Parent/Guardian Involvement and Participation

1. •The Parent/Guardian and Student Handbook shall include CPS Board Policy 1005.02 and provide parents/guardians with the information as to when and how they can access instructional materials.
2. •The Parent/Guardian and Student Handbook is available online. Upon request, a paper copy of the handbook can be sent home with students. If sent home with students, parents/guardians shall return to the school a signed form indicating that they have received the Parent/Guardian and Student Handbook.
3. •Parent/guardian permission is required for out of town field trips. Parent/guardian notification is required for town field trips. See also CPS Board Policy 607.05.
4. The Parent/Guardian and Student Handbook shall include an invitation to parents/guardians to attend and monitor instructional activities.
5. Administrators shall notify parents/guardians in advance of special activities, such as assemblies, unless time does not permit.

6. If a principal denies a parent's/guardian's request to attend and monitor instructional and/or special activities, the principal shall notify the parent/guardian of his/her rights of appeal as described in this regulation. Also, a full report including, but not limited to, the circumstances and rationale for the denial shall be sent to the Superintendent.
7. Administrators shall notify parents/guardians if a substitute teacher will teach their child for four or more weeks.
8. Administrators shall have available for parent/guardian access and review the curriculums, instructional materials, and school climate surveys used in their schools. Administrators shall provide additional opportunities for parents/guardians to review the materials. Parents/guardians shall be notified in advance of such opportunities.
9. Administrators shall take advantage of opportunities to inform parents/guardians of how they can be more involved in the schools by contacting school staff and/or the Volunteer Coordinator at the Administration Building.
10. Parents/guardians may obtain copies of curriculum for review by checking them out from the Professional Library located at the Administration Building. Parents/Guardians may obtain a personal copy of materials at their own expense.
11. Parents/guardians shall be notified in the parent/student handbook, that lessons may be taught by a school counselor in the classroom setting. Lessons shall follow the district's curriculum.
12. Parent/guardian permission is required for student participation in counseling groups or individual counseling sessions conducted by school counselors unless the student's safety is in question.
13. Parents/guardians are encouraged to attend conferences in the fall and spring.
14. Parents/guardians are encouraged to notify teachers if there are topics of concern to them. Teachers shall notify the parents/guardians in advance if these topics are to be used in planned lessons. The administrator shall be responsible for annually advising staff in August that there are subjects which may be sensitive or of concern to parents/guardians as part of classroom discussion. Such subjects which may arise that are not in the District curriculum may include, but are not limited to: death and dying; religious events and holidays; magic, witches, and sorcery. Teachers are also to be reminded by principals that any classroom discussion of a controversial topic should be in accordance with current Board Policy.
15. Parents/guardians shall be notified in advance of Family Life instruction involving human sexuality (grades 5-12). Permission slips will be included with the notification. If the notification is mailed to the home, the school shall require a parental/guardian response only if the parent/guardian does not give permission for the student to participate. If notification is sent home with the students, the school shall require a parent/guardian response indicating whether the student will or will not participate.
16. If a parent/guardian has an objection to any instructional material or school experience, the school shall provide the parent/guardian with an appropriate form which may be used to express his or her objection. Forms and appeal procedures may be obtained from building secretaries.
17. It shall be the responsibility of the administrator to notify parents/guardians in advance when their children will be taking standardized tests.
18. It shall be the responsibility of the administrator to notify parents/guardians in advance of school-sponsored surveys beyond the school climate surveys. If the notification is mailed to the home, the school shall require a parent/guardian response only if the parent/guardian does not give permission for the student to participate. If notification is sent home with the students, the school shall require a parent/ guardian response indicating whether the student will or will not participate.
19. The Board of Education shall hold an annual public hearing on Parent/Guardian Involvement and Participation in accordance with the statute. Neb. Rev. Stat. §79-533

VII-S Parent-Teacher Conferences

Parent-teacher conferences will be held at mid-1st quarter and mid-3rd quarter. There will also be an Open House for parents to meet their child's teachers. Refer to the school calendar for the schedule. Conferences with teachers, at any other time, are possible by contacting the school office and making arrangements with the teachers.

VII-T Passes

Students in the hall during the instructional period must have a lanyard, student ID and a signed pass from a staff member. Students who fail to comply with this rule will have their pass privileges suspended with the exact time based on frequency and severity of the offense.

VII-U Physical Examinations

Nebraska State Law requires that each student entering the 7th grade must be examined by a qualified physician prior to entrance in

the school. Physical forms may be obtained from the Middle School Office. Parent(s)/guardian(s) must comply with this law or object to the physical in writing. Students will be excluded from school if they fail to meet this requirement. Refusal forms are available from the school nurse. Transfer students, all grades, from out-of-state are also required to complete the physical examination. Parent(s)/guardian(s) having a question regarding this requirement should contact the school nurse.

VII-V School Resource Officer

Columbus Public Schools will have the services of a School Resource Officer during school hours. Columbus Middle School works closely with the officers of the court and will use the school resource officer in matters relative to federal, state, and local violations. The School Resource Officer and Police/Sheriff's officers are allowed to interview students during the school day in the presence of a school official. Probation and parole officers are also in regular contact with school officials.

VII-W Severe Weather and School Cancellations

The Superintendent may alter district schedules as appropriate to the particular condition. The Superintendent will notify local news media when inclement weather warrants such action. Local radio and television stations will broadcast the information along with the district website and social media site. Parents who are signed up for Remind or other notifications will receive a message.

VII-X Smoke-Free Environment

All of our school buildings and grounds are smoke and tobacco-free.

VII-Y Drug-Free School

Columbus Middle School 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.

VII-Z Student Agenda Books

CMS has designed and printed student agenda books with the intent of improving the organizational habits of students. Students will be expected to carry their agenda books at all times as several uses have been built into the structure of this book. Students will be responsible for replacing lost or damaged agenda books at a cost of \$3.00. Agenda books remain the property of the school until the end of the school year.

VII-AA Student Schedule Changes

Students needing schedule changes should notify their School Counselor. Final approval of all schedule changes will be made by the Administration.

VII-AB Health/Accident Insurance

Students shall have the opportunity to participate in the health and accident insurance plan selected by the school district. The cost of the health and accident insurance program shall be borne by the student. Participation in the insurance health and accident plan is not a contract with the school district, but rather, a contract between the insurance company and the student.

VII-AC Transportation Services

The school provides transportation for students on field trips and when participating in school activities. Students are expected to follow the behavioral expectations for riding school buses. While riding school buses or other school vehicles 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.

VII-AD Tobacco, Alcohol, and Drug - Education and Prevention

Columbus Middle School promotes comprehensive, age appropriate, developmentally based drug and alcohol education and prevention programs.

VII-AE Teacher Assistance – Before and After School

Teachers are on duty beginning at 7:45 a.m. each morning, but many of them are actually at school earlier than that. Teachers are willing to help students in the morning as long as they know that the students are coming in for help. Students will need a pass to see a teacher in the morning before school and should request that pass before they leave school on the day before.

All students will be dismissed at 3:30 p.m. unless they are asked to stay later by a teacher and/or administrator because they have not completed work of acceptable quality or turned in work on time or because they have not behaved appropriately in the classroom.

Students can also make arrangements to complete work or receive assistance after school between the times of 3:30 and 4:00 p.m..

VII-AF Visitors Policy

During school hours, all visitors, people who are not employees of the Columbus Public Schools or Columbus Middle School students, are to report immediately to the Middle School Office upon entering the building. Visitors are required to sign-in and wear a visitor's badge. Any violation of this rule may be considered trespassing and appropriate action may be taken. Student visitors from other schools are not allowed because they tend to disrupt the teaching and learning environment.

**Columbus
Middle School**



**MS Acceptable Use Agreement
2020-2021**

NOTICE OF NONDISCRIMINATION

Employees, students, and parents of secondary school students, are hereby notified that this institution does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or handicap in admission or access to, treatment or employment in its programs and activities. Any person having inquiries concerning Columbus Public School District #1 compliance with the regulations implementing Title VI, Title IX, or Section 504 is directed to contact Dr. Troy Loeffelholz, Superintendent, Columbus Public School District #1, 2508 27th Street, Columbus, Nebraska 68601, telephone number 402-563-7000. Dr. Troy Loeffelholz has been designated by Columbus Public School District #1 to coordinate the institution's efforts to comply with the regulations implementing title VI, Title IX, and Section 504. Any person may also contact the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Education, regarding the institution's compliance with the regulations implementing Title VI, Title IX, or Section 504.

NOTIFICATION OF AMERICAN DISABILITIES ACT

If you have any special needs requests that will assist you in participating in programs, services or activities of the Columbus Public Schools, please contact Dr. Troy Loeffelholz, Superintendent.

Columbus Middle School

2200 26th Street
Columbus NE 68601
Phone: 402-563-7060
Fax: 402-563-7068
www.columbuspublicschools.org

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Jordon Anderson
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Staff Assignments

Office Phone Number: 402-563-7060

School Counselors

Kim Shevlin - 8th Grade
shevlink@discoverers.org

Mandy Boesch - 7th Grade
boeschm@discoverers.org

Jared Johnson - 6th Grade
johnsonj@discoverers.org

Angie Kruse - 5th Grade
krusea@discoverers.org

Office Support

Angie Andreasen - Secretary to Principal
Bridget Runquist - Secretary to Assist Principal
Traci Seim - Counselor's Secretary
Ashley Braithwait - Attendance Secretary
Sharon Danhauer - Secretary

Media Center

Amy Jahn- jahna@discoverers.org

School Social Worker

Heidi Luebbe - luebbeh@discoverers.org

After-Hours After-School Program

Stacey Whiting - Supervisor 402-563-4901
2610 14 St

School Nurse

Karla Bartlett - bartlettk@discoverers.org

Continuous Improvement Goals

Building Continuous Improvement Goals

Mathematics: CMS students will increase mathematics achievement.

Reading: CMS students will increase reading achievement.

Dear Parents and Students,

Our district mission statement of “Engaging All Learners to Achieve Success” is alive and well at Columbus Middle School. We are glad that you chose to learn here. We know that you will be able to find classes and activities that are of interest to you at CMS. Several factors make middle school a unique setting that is much different from the elementary level and high school.

Columbus Middle School provides:

- A strong core curriculum of reading language arts, math, science, and social studies
- Exploratory programs and activities in all areas of the curriculum to help students discover and extend interests and abilities
- An involved counseling curriculum
- A supportive environment for the physical and social development of every student
- An intramural and activity-oriented program to accommodate the needs of the early adolescent
- A positive climate that fosters self-esteem, self-discipline, and student responsibility
- Knowledgeable educators who are committed to the middle school design
- An on going program of training and professional skills that are based on the characteristics and needs of the adolescent
- Close contact and communication between parents and school
- Opportunities for intervention and acceleration when needs are identified
- A strong careers program that encourages post-secondary education
- An after-school program with workshops that reach out to a wide-range of student interests
- Interdisciplinary teams in which all students are “One of the family”

We hope that you find the information that you need in this book. Our counseling department will assist you with the registration process and make sure that you and your child have no unanswered questions.

Again, welcome to Columbus Middle School. We look forward to working with your child and you.

Amy Haynes, Principal

Teaming

What is a TEAM?

Every student who comes to Columbus Middle School will be placed on a team. Teaming is a middle school concept that enables teachers to build relationships and better monitor students' social and academic needs in a smaller learning community. Teachers within a team consistently communicate with one another about the progress of their students and work together to help them achieve success.

will have the same set of core teachers for their required classes. This team of teachers meets twice a week to discuss classroom and school activities, accomplishments, and concerns.

Are there differences between teams?
Teams are divided evenly. School counselors do placement on teams at the beginning of every school year.

All students assigned to a particular team

Grading Procedures

Grade Policy

For grade point average purposes, Columbus Middle School will implement a 10 point scale.

A+	=	4.0	98 - 100%	C+	=	2.0	77 - 79%
A	=	4.0	90 - 97%	C	=	2.0	70 - 76%
B+	=	3.0	87 - 89%	D+	=	1.0	67 - 69%
B	=	3.0	80 - 86%	D	=	1.0	60 - 66%
				F	=	0.0	Below 60%

Daily Schedule

REGULAR BLOCK SCHEDULE

5th Grade

Advisory	8:00 - 8:15
1	8:15 - 8:49
2	8:52 - 9:25
3	9:28 - 10:01
4	10:04 - 10:39
5	10:41 - 11:13
6	11:16 - 11:51
7	11:54 - 12:29
8 (lunch)	12:31 - 1:01
Read/Fluency	1:03 - 1:09
9	1:09 - 1:44
10	1:47 - 2:20
11	2:23 - 2:57
WIN	3:00 - 3:30

WEDNESDAY SCHEDULE

5th Grade

Advisory	8:00 - 8:10
1	8:10 - 8:40
2	8:40 - 9:10
3	9:13 - 9:41
4	9:44 - 10:13
5	10:16 - 10:44
6	10:47 - 11:16
7	11:19 - 11:49
8 (lunch)	11:52 - 12:22
9	12:25 - 12:55
10	12:58 - 1:26
11	1:29 - 1:58
WIN	2:01 - 2:35

REGULAR BLOCK SCHEDULE

6th Grade

Advisory	8:00 - 8:15
1	8:15 - 8:49
2	8:52 - 9:25
3	9:28 - 10:01
4	10:04 - 10:38
5 (lunch)	10:40 - 11:10
Read/Fluency	11:13 - 11:21
6	11:21 - 11:54
7	11:57 - 12:31
8	12:34 - 1:08
9	1:11 - 1:44
10	1:47 - 2:20
11	2:23 - 2:57
WIN	3:00 - 3:30

7th Grade

Advisory	8:00 - 8:15
1	8:18 - 8:58
2	9:01 - 9:41
3	9:44 - 10:24
4	10:27 - 11:07
Lunch 7S	11:15 - 11:35
7M	11:20 - 11:40
5-6	11:10 - 12:10
7	12:13 - 12:53
8	12:56 - 1:36
9	1:39 - 2:19
10	2:22 - 3:02
WIN	3:05 - 3:30

**7M and 7S will switch the lunch schedule at semester

8th Grade

Advisory	8:00 - 8:15
1	8:18 - 8:58
2	9:01 - 9:41
3	9:44 - 10:24
4	10:27 - 11:07
Lunch 8S	11:45 - 12:05
8M	11:50 - 12:10
5-6	11:10 - 12:10
7	12:13 - 12:53
8	12:56 - 1:36
9	1:39 - 2:19
10	2:22 - 3:02
WIN	3:05 - 3:30

**8M and 8S will switch the lunch schedule at semester

WEDNESDAY SCHEDULE

6th Grade

Advisory	8:00 - 8:10
1	8:10 - 8:38
2	8:41 - 9:10
3	9:13 - 9:41
4	9:44 - 10:13
5 (lunch)	10:16 - 10:46
Read/Fluency	10:46 - 10:52
6	10:52 - 11:20
7	11:23 - 11:52
8	11:55 - 12:23
9	12:26 - 12:55
10	12:58 - 1:26
11	1:29 - 1:58
WIN	2:01 - 2:35

7th Grade

Advisory	8:00 - 8:10
1	8:13 - 8:47
2	8:50 - 9:24
3	9:27 - 10:01
4	10:04 - 10:38
Lunch 7S	10:48 - 11:08
7M	10:52 - 11:12
5-6	10:41 - 11:39
7	11:42 - 12:12
8	12:15 - 12:49
9	12:52 - 1:26
10	1:29 - 2:03
WIN	2:05 - 2:35

**7M and 7S will switch the lunch schedule at semester

8th Grade

Advisory	8:00 - 8:10
1	8:13 - 8:47
2	8:50 - 9:24
3	9:27 - 10:01
4	10:04 - 10:38
Lunch 8S	11:15 - 11:35
8M	11:19 - 11:39
5-6	10:41 - 11:39
7	11:42 - 12:12
8	12:15 - 12:49
9	12:52 - 1:26
10	1:29 - 2:03
WIN	2:05 - 2:35

**8M and 8S will switch the lunch schedule at semester

5th through 8th Grade Class Sequence

Career and Technical Education

Grade	Required	Elective
5th Grade	Keyboarding STEM 5	
6th Grade	Discovering STEM 6 Keyboarding 6 Family and Consumer Sciences 6	
7th Grade	Computers I 7/8 Investigating STEM Skills 7	Fashion and Finance 7 Foods and Family 7
8th Grade	Computers I 7/8 Investigating STEM Skills 8	Child Development and Care 8 Computers II Digital Media 8 Fashion and Finance 8 Foods and Family 8

English

Grade	Required	Elective
5th Grade	Reading Language Arts/Writing	
6th Grade	Reading Language Arts/Writing	
7th Grade	Language Arts 7	Reading Skills ** Yearbook **
8th Grade	Language Arts 8	Reading Skills ** Yearbook
		** Entry based on selection process

Fine Arts

Visual Arts Electives

5th Grade	Art Media and Elements
6th Grade	
7th Grade	Art Advanced Elements Art Advanced Principles
8th Grade	Art Contemporary Ideas Art Creative Methods

Music Electives

5th Grade	Music 5
6th Grade	Band 6 Music 6
7th Grade	Band 7 Chorus 7 Music 7
8th Grade	Band 8 Chorus 8 Vocal Tech (must audition)

Theater

7th Grade	Musical (must audition, extracurricular)
8th Grade	Musical (must audition, extracurricular)

Physical Education & Health

5th Grade	Fitness 5
6th Grade	Fitness 6
7th Grade	Health/Fitness 7
8th Grade	Health/Fitness 8

Mathematics

Grade	Required	Elective
5th Grade	Math 5	Math Skills **
6th Grade	Math 6	Math Skills **
7th Grade	Math 7 or Pre-Algebra 7	Math Skills **
8th Grade	Algebra 1 or Pre-Algebra 8	Math Skills **

**** Entry based on selection process**

Science

5th Grade	Science 5
6th Grade	Science 6
7th Grade	Science 7
8th Grade	Science 8

Social Studies

Grade	Required	Elective
5th Grade	Social Studies 5	
6th Grade	Social Studies 6	
7th Grade	Social Studies 7	Pre-Spanish
8th Grade	Social Studies 8	Spanish 1

5th through 8th Grade Course Descriptions

5th/6th Grade

CORE REQUIREMENTS

Year Long (required)

The courses for English-Language Arts, Math, Science, and Social Studies are aligned with Nebraska Standards.

Please visit the following link:

**[https://www.education.ne.gov/
AcademicStandards/index.html](https://www.education.ne.gov/AcademicStandards/index.html)**

5th Grade

Exploratory Classes (required)

STEM 5

1 Trimester / Required

Students are introduced to the basic (STEM) Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math concepts. Students will take part in an activity from each STEM area with hands-on activities that put their STEM skills to the test. Students will enjoy the hands-on, mind-on approach to robotics, design, flight, and problem solving.

KEYBOARDING 5

1 Trimester / Required

Students in this class will focus on typing technique. Students will demonstrate appropriate keyboarding skills using home row keys, proper finger placements, and key reaches. Students will spend time learning about and practicing digital citizenship. Students will demonstrate ethical behavior when using technology. Students will learn the various ways to use the Google Suite.

MUSIC 5

Yearlong / Required

This is a year long class for students with the goal of improving their musical literacy, creating a rap, composing a song with loops on GarageBand, and improving vocal techniques and part-singing. Students will be exposed to various kinds of musical styles-both singing and listening. Students will be given an opportunity to be in a public performance.

ART MEDIA & ELEMENTS 5

1 Trimester / Required

In Art Media & Elements students will learn the basics of various art media. Art media used in the course will include paint, pastel, clay, pencil and paper, and more. Students will also learn the basics of art elements. Students will apply their knowledge of the art elements and art media to create unique and exciting projects.

6th Grade

Exploratory Classes (required)

STEM 6

1 Trimester / Required

Students are introduced to the basic (STEM) Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math concepts. Students will take part in an activity from each STEM area with hands-on activities that put their STEM skills to the test. Students will enjoy the hands-on, mind-on approach to robotics, design, electronics, drafting, manufacturing, and problem solving.

FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES 6

1 Trimester / Required

Students will explore the four areas of family and consumer sciences in this course. Units covered include; Focus on Food, Money Management, Myself and Others, and Creative Sewing. This course will feature many hands-on and cooperative learning activities, including cooking experiences and the creation of a strip-quilt pillow. **Students provide their own materials for the pillow project.

KEYBOARDING 6

1 Trimester / Required

Students in this class will focus on typing technique. Students will demonstrate appropriate keyboarding skills using home row keys, proper finger placements, and key reaches. Students will spend time learning about and practicing digital citizenship. Students will demonstrate ethical behavior when using technology. Students will learn the various ways to use the Google Suite.

MUSIC 6

Yearlong / Required

This is a year long class for students with the goal of improving their musical literacy, creating a rap, composing a song with loops on GarageBand, and improving vocal techniques and part-singing. Students will be exposed to various kinds of musical styles-both singing and listening. Students will be given an opportunity to be in a public performance.

Elective Classes

BAND 6

Year-Long / Elective

This class will provide students with the opportunity to learn a musical instrument. No previous instrumental experience is necessary. All students will be expected to perform in two evening concerts as well as a few others outside of the school day.

7th Grade

CORE REQUIREMENTS

Year Long (required)

HEALTH/FITNESS 7

Year-Long / Required

This class is a combination of health and fitness concepts. Students will learn about prevention of drug, alcohol, and tobacco use; healthy foundations and wellness; consumerism and media influences on your health; personal fitness development; dynamic and static stretches of muscles; and personal fitness development focusing on muscular strength/endurance and aerobic capacity.

LANGUAGE ARTS 7

Year-Long / Required

Students in seventh grade Language Arts will read a variety of fiction and nonfiction texts relating to various genres. The texts will include high-interest, short stories, and informational articles. Students will interact with the text by analyzing various literature concepts, author's purpose, literary devices, and text elements. Learning to summarize as well as answering literal and inferential questions will be a focus of this course. Using a variety of context clue strategies, students will build their vocabulary in order to construct meaning from text. Students will write descriptive essays by applying the writing process and the six traits of writing.

MATH 7

Year-Long / Required

This is general course in mathematics designed to help students understand the basic structure of mathematics and to develop ever-increasing mathematical ability. Topics such as integers, number theory, geometry, ratios and proportions, percents, problem solving, and estimation will be studied. Students will also study introductory Algebra concepts such as equation solving.

PRE-ALGEBRA 7 (must qualify)

Year-Long / Required

This is a course for students with a high ability in mathematics. This course includes an introduction to Algebra concepts, ratio/proportion/percent applications, and some geometry applications.

SCIENCE 7

Year-Long /Required

This is an integrated science course, which includes units on Earth Science and Space Science. The Earth Science portion will focus on plate tectonics (including earthquakes and volcanoes), erosion, the rock cycle, fossils, and soil. The Space Science portion will include phases of the moon, seasons, eclipses, constellations, tides, asteroids, meteors, and comets. Throughout the entire year the scientific method will be used. Students will use laboratory and problem solving skills. Students will be required to use appropriate math skills while developing these science skills.

SOCIAL STUDIES 7

Year-Long / Required

This social studies course focuses on the ancient cultures of Mesopotamia, Egypt, India, China, Greece, Rome, and the Middle Ages. We will study the geography, religion, achievements, politics, economics, and social structures of these cultures.

Exploratory Classes (required)

COMPUTERS I 7/8

1 Quarter / Required (7th or 8th Grade)

* prerequisite for Computers II/Digital Media

Students will expand their knowledge and understanding of basic computer functionality while working to advance their skills in Using Google tools for the classroom setting. Students will gain exposure using word processing, presentations, and spreadsheets in varying platforms. Responsible use will continue to be a focus in this course.

7th Grade

INVESTIGATING STEM SKILLS 7

1 Semester / Required

In 7th grade STEM, students use the Design Process to solve problems. We do lots of projects to give students an opportunity to work with things that they normally wouldn't be able to do in the core classroom. We have three main sections during the semester. In the woodshop, we use basic hand tools and machines to build trebuchets. In the computer lab we use a program called SolidWorks to do 3D modeling. The third area is the engineering room where student design and build scale model homes out of cardboard and build water bottle rockets.

Elective Classes

ART PRINCIPLES

1 Quarter / Elective

This art class offers art at a more advanced level than in 5th grade and would be a suggested course for students interested in creating more advanced art. Art Principles focuses on the Principles of Art: Balance, emphasis, movement, proportion, space, unity, and pattern. Possible projects include creating a clay container for holding things, learning how to draw in 3D, and more. Projects are subject to change based on the teacher's discretion.

ART ELEMENTS

1 Quarter / Elective

This art class offers art at a more advanced level than in 5th grade and would be a suggested course for students interested in creating more advanced art. Art Elements focuses on the Elements of Art: color, form, line, shape, space, texture, and value. Possible projects include creating a clay sculpture, creating abstract art, and more. Projects are subject to change based on the teacher's discretion.

BAND 7

Year-Long / Elective

This class is open to all students who have previous experience playing a band instrument. Students in this class will perform in 2 formal concerts, 2-3 pep band performances at local basketball games, and can audition for various area honor bands.

CHORUS 7

Semester / Elective

Chorus class is designed to give students an experience in part singing and performance. Styles of music covered will vary and include pop, contemporary, and traditional. This class is designed for the student who enjoys singing and desires to explore the potential in their singing voice. Multiple performing opportunities will be given, including participating in the annual CMS Talent Show. This is a semester class, which may be repeated the 2nd semester if the student chooses.

FASHION AND FINANCE 7

1 Quarter / Elective

Learn how to stretch your dollars by developing consumer skills that help you make smart financial decisions. Use those consumer skills to select fabric and supplies to sew an item of clothing such as pajama pants, shorts, or a skirt. You will learn and practice new sewing techniques in the creation of your sewing project. Celebrate the completion of your project by helping to plan and present a fashion show with your class at the end of the quarter!

FOODS AND FAMILY 7

1 Quarter / Elective

In this class students will learn the basics of good nutrition. Students will prepare recipes from different food groups. They will become familiar with kitchen equipment and how to prepare a recipe in the kitchen. Students will get to practice safe and sanitary work habits. Students will identify personal skills necessary to build positive relationships.

GENERAL MUSIC

1 Quarter / Elective

This is a non-performance music class that lasts one quarter. We will study how to read and write music, how to play some basic piano skills, listen in depth to a variety of music genres and movie soundtracks/scores. Students who sign up for this class should have a desire to learn about music history and basic music theory.

7th Grade

PRE-SPANISH 7

1 Semester / Elective

This class will introduce material that will be used in Spanish I (8th grade). The purpose of this class is to make the transition easier to Spanish I and to help students gain an understanding of learning a world language. Upon successful completion of this class, students will be able to enter Spanish I (8th grade).

YEARBOOK 7

Year-Long

(must qualify)

Yearbook will offer students the opportunity to design, assemble and distribute the annual CMS yearbook. Students will learn the elements of good design by creating computer-generated yearbook layouts. Students will also study and practice using the elements of good photography. Time commitments outside of regular class hours are required for those who participate in yearbook.

8th Grade

CORE REQUIREMENTS

Year-Long

ALGEBRA 1

Year-Long (must qualify)

This is a course for eighth grade students with high ability in mathematics. Students will learn Algebra concepts, some geometry, and statistic integration. This is the traditional freshman level Algebra course.

HEALTH/FITNESS 8

Year-Long / Required

In this class, students will study health and fitness-related concepts and the correlation between the two areas. Typical areas of study will include: prevention of drug, alcohol and tobacco use; mental and emotional health; nutrition; growth and development; dynamic and static stretches of muscles; and personal fitness development focusing on muscular strength/endurance and aerobic capacity.

LANGUAGE ARTS 8

Year-Long / Required

Students in language arts will read a variety of fiction and nonfiction text of various genres. The texts will include high-interest selections, short stories, and informational articles. Students will interact with the text by analyzing various literature concepts, author's purpose, literary devices, and text elements. Students will write in a variety of modes by applying the writing process and the six traits of writing.

PRE-ALGEBRA 8

Year-Long / Required

This is a general course in mathematics pertaining to Pre-Algebra concepts and making connections within mathematics. Topics studied will include the real number system, measurement and geometry, algebraic concepts, and data analysis and probability. This is the traditional course for eighth graders.

SCIENCE 8

Year-Long / Required

This course will begin with a unit on the scientific method. The culmination of this unit will be a science fair project and presentation. Students will also learn about basic cell structure, mitosis, explore differences in types of cells, and genetics during the life science unit. They will study physics by investigating energy and Newton's 3 Laws of Motion. Students will complete a unit of chemistry and investigate chemical changes and their reactions, properties of matter, atomic structure, and properties and uses of metals, nonmetals, and metalloids.

SOCIAL STUDIES 8

Year-Long / Required

Students will study the social science topics of American history, government, and economics. Students will complete a variety of projects, which tie these units of study to real world applications.

Exploratory Classes (Required)

INVESTIGATING STEM SKILLS 8

Semester / Required

In 8th grade STEM, students use the Design Process to solve problems. We do lots of projects to give students an opportunity to work with things that they normally wouldn't be able to do in the core classroom. We have three main sections during the semester. In the woodshop, we use basic hand tools and machines to build mousetrap cars. In the computer lab use a program called SolidWorks to do 3D modeling. The third area is the engineering room where students build VEX robots and design challenges or for the robots to complete.

8th Grade

COMPUTERS I 7/8

1 Quarter / Required (7th or 8th Grade)

* prerequisite for Computers II/Digital Media

Students will expand their knowledge and understanding of basic computer functionality while working to advance their skills in Using Google tools for the classroom setting. Students will gain exposure using word processing, presentations, and spreadsheets in varying platforms. Responsible use will continue to be a focus in this course.

Elective Classes

ART IDEAS

1 Quarter / Elective

This class focuses on new and current trends in the art world that have developed into the last 50 years. Students may create works using both digital and experimental mediums. Artwork in this class will focus more on creating thoughtful and meaningful compositions versus function. 8th grade art classes encourage more freedom and choice when creating artwork, and with this a high level of maturity and interest is required.

ART METHODS

1 Quarter / Elective

Art Methods focuses on more traditional art methods used in the art world throughout history. Students may learn various techniques such as using a printing press, painting, drawing, and creating art that serves a function. 8th grade art classes encourage more freedom and choice when creating artwork, and with this a high level of maturity and interest is required.

BAND 8

Year-Long / Elective

This class is open to all students with at least 2 years of experience playing a band instrument. Students in this class will perform in 3 formal concerts, a possible clinic day and/or concert band festival, and 3-4 pep band performances at local basketball games. Students will also have the opportunity to audition for various area honor bands.

CHILD DEVELOPMENT AND CARE 8

1 Quarter / Elective

In this class you will learn about four stages of childhood: infants, toddlers, preschoolers, and school-age children. You will study how children grow and develop, and how to keep them safe. You will create activities that will help children learn and put together a portfolio of ideas you can use when you are caring for children.

CHORUS 8

Semester / Elective

Chorus class is designed to give students an experience in part singing and performance. Students will sing and explore the potential in their singing voice with a variety of music including pop, contemporary, and traditional. Multiple performing opportunities will be given including participating in the annual CMS Talent Show. This is a semester class which may be repeated the 2nd semester if the student chooses.

COMPUTERS II 8

1 Quarter / Elective

*Must have completed Computer I in 7th or 8th

Students in this class will continue to advance skills learned in Computers I. Students will learn intermediate skills in spreadsheets, while gaining exposure to drawing tools and graphic design. Students will complete an independent coding unit in Computers II.

DIGITAL MEDIA 8

1 Quarter / Elective

*Must have completed Computer I in 7th or 8th

Students will expand their knowledge of basic computer skills and explore advanced software elements in the Microsoft, Google, and Apple Suites. This class will explore different coding platforms and advanced hypermedia software, such as iMovie, Garageband and other multimedia formats.

8th Grade

FASHION AND FINANCE 8

1 Quarter / Elective

Does your money seem to disappear quickly? Develop the skill of budgeting to wisely manage your money and learn how to deal with spending temptations.

The world of fashion will be explored with a unit in Textiles, Clothing, & Design. After learning the elements of design, you will use paint or another selected technique to create a design on a t-shirt or other fabric item. You will practice your sewing skills in the creation of a table runner or other home decor item and a drawstring bag. Learn new sewing technology and be creative by using the serger and embroidery machines on your projects!

FOODS AND FAMILY 8

1 Quarter / Elective

Students will learn the basics of making healthy eating choices. Students will prepare foods from different meals of the day. They will become familiar with kitchen equipment and how to prepare a recipe in the kitchen. They will explore kitchen management and meal planning. Students will identify personal skills necessary to build positive relationships.

JAZZ CHOIR-VOCAL TECH 8

(must audition)

Semester / Elective

This is a higher-level voice class that will involve the in-depth study of the voice and jazz singing. Students enrolled in this class must possess a sincere desire to sing. Students will study how the voice functions, techniques to improve the quality of the voice, and advanced styles of jazz and pop literature. The student will learn the basics of a sound system and how to use it correctly. There will be opportunities for students to sing at the NCDA Jazz Festival and several other public performance opportunities. Students must audition to be admitted in this class.

SPANISH I 8

Year-Long / Elective

Prerequisite: Middle School students enrolling in Spanish I, must have a C average or higher in both the first semester and second semester of 7th grade English.

In this class, you will dive into the Spanish language. You will be expected to memorize vocabulary, incorporate vocabulary in class, and conjugate a variety of verbs. Upon successful completion of this class, students will be able to enter Spanish II in high school.

YEARBOOK 8

Year-Long

(must qualify)

Yearbook will offer students the opportunity to design, assemble and distribute the annual CMS yearbook. Students will learn the elements of good design by creating computer-generated yearbook layouts. Students will also study and practice using the elements of good photography. Time commitments outside of regular class hours are required for those who participate in yearbook.

Special Programs

5th through 8th Grade

MATH SKILLS 5, 6, 7, 8

1 Quarter (repeated as needed)

Prerequisite: MTSS Team Decision

This course is designed to help students improve their math skills. It is an extra math class in addition to the student's regular math class. The STAR Math assessment is administered to determine strengths and weaknesses, and the lessons and activities are targeted to help improve the weak skill areas.

READING SKILLS 5, 6, 7, 8

This course is designed to provide extra instruction and support to improve students' reading skills. It is an extra reading class in addition to the student's regular Language Arts class. The STAR Reading assessment and Core Phonics Survey are used to determine areas of needed improvement. The lesson and activities are focused on improving weak skill areas.

English Language Learner

ENGLISH LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT 5-8 (must qualify)

A general course in ELL English for English Language Learners. This class is for sixth grade ELL students that will provide extra English practice and aid in the writing, reading, speaking and listening aspects of the English Language. Students will read a variety of fiction and nonfiction texts relating to various genres. The texts will include classic, award-winning, and high-interest works. The focus will be on English language acquisition.

ELL MATH 5-8 (must qualify) Year-Long / Required

ELL Math 5-8 is a general course in mathematics for English Language Learners. Students will learn basic operations with whole numbers, decimals, and fractions. Topics such as place value, measurement, number theory, ratios and proportions, integers, graphs, and estimation strategies will be studied. Sheltered instruction in English and increased attention to vocabulary will be used for instruction. Newcomers (less than 2 years of English language instruction) may have bilingual support to increase understanding of math concepts. The focus will be on the acquisition of mathematical terms in the English language.

RECENTLY ARRIVED ENGLISH 5-8 (must qualify) Year-Long / Required

ELL Recently Arrived English is an English Language Development class. Speaking, listening, reading, writing, and comprehension skills of the English language will be developed. The focus will be on acquisition of social studies terms in the English language.

RECENTLY ARRIVED SCIENCE 5-8 (must qualify) Year-Long / Required

Recently Arrived Science is a general course in science for English Language Learners and helps students to develop confidence to question and seek answers based upon evidence and independent thinking. Students will be given an opportunity to explore and investigate their world using content and hands-on approach with instructional materials readily available. The focus will be on acquisition of science terms using the English language.

RECENTLY ARRIVED SOCIAL STUDIES 5-8 (must qualify) Year-Long / Required

ELL Recently Arrived Social Studies is an English Language Development class. Speaking, listening, reading, writing, and comprehension of the English language are developed using Social Studies concepts including geography, community, school, history, and government topics. The focus will be on the acquisition of social studies terms in the English language.

RECENTLY ARRIVED WRITING 5-8 (must qualify) Year-Long / Required

A general course in writing for English Language Learners who are recently arrived. The Write Steps program will be used for this course. The focus will be on basic writing skills and conventions. Writing complete sentences and paragraphs in English is the goal of the class.

High Ability Learner

DISCOVERY 7

(must qualify)

1 Quarter / Elective

Discovery 7 is a class for students identified for the Gifted and Talented Program at Columbus Middle School. (Students identified for the Discovery High Ability program at the elementary level or at the 6th grade level are already identified for the Middle School Program.) The activities in the class include: logical thinking, critical thinking, creative thinking, and computer applications. Students will apply research, mathematical and writing skills to complete several projects.

DISCOVERY 8

(must qualify)

1 Quarter / Elective

Discovery 8 is a class for students identified for the Gifted and Talented Program at Columbus Middle School. (Students identified for the Discovery high ability learner program at the elementary level are already identified for the Middle School Program.) The activities in the class include: developing the school newspaper, logical & creative thinking, and applying research skills to complete projects of personal interest.

Special Education

BEHAVIOR SUPPORT PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Year-Long

Prerequisite: IEP Team Decision

The Behavior Support Program focuses interventions on the social, emotional and behavioral needs of students while providing instruction to support the students' participation and progress in the general curriculum. Behavior intervention plans will be individualized to meet the needs of each student. Students will be integrated into general education classrooms whenever possible.

HIGH NEEDS AND THE AUTISM COMMUNICATION LIFE SKILLS PROGRAM

Year-Long

Prerequisite: IEP Team Decision

High Needs and the Autism Communication Life Skills Programs are designed to meet the daily living needs of students with varying disabilities while teaching skills needed for the students to become as self-sufficient as possible. The areas covered in the High Needs and ACLS programs include: daily living skills, basic academics, social skills, sensory awareness, community awareness, personal hygiene skills, and communication skills. All students are on individualized programs according to their own personal needs as determined by the IEP (Individual Education Plan) team.

CURRICULUM LIFE SKILLS PROGRAM (CLSP)

Year-Long

Prerequisite: IEP Team Decision

This program is designed to equip students with basic skills they will need to be successful in today's society. The program is individualized for each student based upon his or her Individualized Education Program goals.

CURRICULUM LIFE SKILLS MATH

The main goal of our math program is to develop competency in the four basic functions of addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division for positive, whole numbers. Identifying coins by name and value as well as adding money and making change. They will be introduced to basic story problem that deal with everyday issues. They will also be able to build on their time telling skills. Students will also be exposed to and using fractions and patterns. Other math topics will be covered based on the students need.

CURRICULUM LIFE SKILLS READING

Our reading program focuses on word identification, sentence structure and meaning and reading comprehension. Students will read several short stories and chapter books throughout the year, both fiction and non-fiction. Students will be asked to write summaries over chapters as well as answering various 5WH questions. They will also work on sequencing events from both short stories and chapter books. Students will also work building their predicting skills.

CURRICULUM LIFE SKILLS DAILY LIVING

This course will cover several areas of daily living skills and intended to build a student's independence skills. Students will work on understanding nutrition and making healthy choices which will build into them creating appropriate meal plans. They will work on creating grocery lists based off of recipes and meals. They will on how to read and follow recipes as well as cook simple meals in the kitchen. They will work on knowing their personal information and identify situations when they need to share it. Students will also work on reading and following map directions. They will also be exposed to several community experiences where they will be able to demonstrate the skills that they have learned. Students will also work on proper safety skills. Other topics in the daily living class could be covered based on a student's need.

Extracurricular Activities

5th/6th

After-Hours Program
Destination Imagination
Intramural Basketball (6th grade, boys & girls)
Drumline
Flag Football (6th)
Geography Bee
Intramural Volleyball (6th)
Intramural Wrestling (6th)
Science Quiz Bowl

7th

After-Hours Program
Basketball (boys & girls)
Cheer
Destination Imagination
Drumline
Football
Geography Bee
Mathcounts
Musical
Science Quiz Bowl
Student Council
Talent Show
Track (boys & girls)
Volleyball
Wrestling
Yearbook

8th

After-Hours Program
Basketball (boys and girls)
Destination Imagination
Football
Geography Bee
Mathcounts
Musical
Science Quiz Bowl
Student Council
Talent Show
Track (boys & girls)
Volleyball
Wrestling
Yearbook

AFTER-HOURS PROGRAM (after-school program) in partnership with Communities-Together-Can Quarterly

After-Hours is an after-school program that focuses on enriching students' lives through a variety of workshops offered in a safe and inviting atmosphere. Inclusion, respect and social responsibility are key elements of this program. Before and after workshop time, tutors are available to help with students' homework. Each quarter, students are offered the opportunity to select one or two workshops in an area that they are interested. An example of workshops offered could include: robotics, cooking, dodge ball, or drawing. Each workshop meets a total of fifteen times during the quarter. Information sheets go out to all students each quarter. The program operates Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday until 6:00 p.m., and Wednesday until 5:30 p.m. Each workshop charges a one-time \$6 material fee.

2020-21 CMS Course Description Book Changes

Page 4- updated the counselors new grade level

Page 6-- Took out the team names Marron 1, Maroon 2, Silver 1, Silver 2
New 5th and 6th grade team names are Anchors, Explorers, and Navigators
7th and 8th grade will remain Maroon and Silver

Page 6 and 7- corrected the bell schedule for each grade

Page 8-- Changed the name of Keyboard 6 (was Computer Skills 6)
Added Computer II as an elective option

Page 14

Changed the name of Computer Skills 6 to Keyboarding 6 and updated the description

Keyboarding 6 (required trimester, grade 6)

Students in this class will focus on typing technique. Students will demonstrate appropriate keyboarding skills using home row keys, proper finger placements, and key reaches. Students will spend time learning about and practicing digital citizenship. Students will demonstrate ethical behavior when using technology. Students will learn the various ways to use the Google Suite.

Page 15 Changed the name of Computer Applications 7/8 to Computers I and updated the description

Computers I (quarter, required grade 7 or 8)

- prerequisite for Computers II / Digital Media

Students will expand their knowledge and understanding of basic computer functionality while working to advance their skills in using Google tools for the classroom setting. Students will gain exposure using word processing, presentations, and spreadsheets in varying platforms. Responsible use will continue to be a focus in this course.

Page 19 Changed the name of Computers Application 7/8 to Computers I and updated description.

Added Computers II and description

Computers II (quarter, elective grade 8) - *must have completed Computers I in 7th or 8th*

Students in this class will continue to advance skills learned in Computers I. Students will learn intermediate skills in spreadsheets, while gaining exposure to drawing tools and graphic design. Students will complete an independent coding unit in Computers II.

Page 19 Updated the description of Digital Media

Digital Media (quarter, elective grade 8) - *must have completed Computers I in 7th or 8th*

Students will expand their knowledge of basic computer skills and explore advanced software elements in the Microsoft, Google, and Apple Suites. This class will explore different coding platforms and advanced hypermedia software, such as iMovie, Garageband and other multimedia formats.

Page 25

Added Drumline to 5th- 8th grade

Added Cheer to 7th and 8th grade

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF PLATTE COUNTY SCHOOL
DISTRICT NO. 71-0001, A/K/A COLUMBUS PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT
REGARDING THE FALL REOPENING AND RETURN TO SCHOOL**

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

WHEREAS, for the past several months, various local, state, and national emergency orders, recommendations, guidance and directives have been issued regarding the COVID-19 global pandemic, including the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services Directed Health Measure Order 2020-008 (dated April 1, 2020), which required that “All schools; public, private and parochial: are hereby ordered to cease all in-person instruction . . .;” and

WHEREAS, since the entry of Directed Health Measure Order 2020-008, the District has provided student instruction via remote or distance means; and

WHEREAS, since the end of the 2019-2020 school year, District administrators and staff members have worked diligently with key stakeholder groups, including public health officials and medical experts, to develop a plan to return to in-person student instruction during the 2020-2021 school year; and

WHEREAS, the evolving COVID-19 pandemic presents numerous challenges to developing a definitive return-to-school plan, given how the COVID-19 pandemic continues to rapidly develop in a fluid environment (including the possibility of a frequently updated “risk dial”); and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education supports the ongoing efforts to develop and implement a return-to-school plan, and the Board of Education believes that it is in the best interests of student learning that students return to in-person instruction during the 2020-2021 school year; and

WHEREAS, in order for the District to effectively and timely respond to the ever changing COVID-19 situation, the Board hereby desires to delegate certain authority and decision-making responsibility to the Superintendent or Superintendent’s designee so that the Superintendent or Superintendent’s designee may continue to plan for and ultimately implement without delay a return to in-person instruction during the 2020-2021 school year.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Board of Education hereby finds, determines, and adopts the following:

1. Ratification of Actions Taken to-Date. The Board of Education hereby ratifies, supports, and affirms all actions taken to-date by District administrators and staff in response to and planning for student instruction during the COVID-19 pandemic.

2. Delegation of Safety and Health Requirements. Pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. § 79-526, the Board of Education “shall make rules and regulations as it deems necessary for the government and health of the pupils and devise any means as may seem best to secure the regular attendance and progress of children at school.” In fulfillment of that statutory requirement, and

pursuant to all other applicable law, the Board of Education hereby expressly delegates to the Superintendent or Superintendent's designee the authority to develop rules and regulations deemed necessary for the government and health of the District's students and devise any means as may seem best to secure the regular attendance and progress of students at school. These rules and regulations may include a mask requirement or recommendation, sanitizing procedures, social distancing guidelines, building entry and admission protocols, and the like. In formulating, preparing, and implementing said rules and regulations, the Superintendent shall consult with appropriate stakeholder groups, including public health officials and medical experts.

In formulating, preparing and implementing such rules and regulations, the Board further expressly delegates and authorizes the Superintendent or Superintendent's designee to develop and implement any and all other health and safety measures in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, including modifications or changes to the District's 2020-2021 school calendar, transportation provisions and opportunities, extra-curricular and after-school activities, before-and-after-school care programs, and so forth.

By passage of this Resolution, the Board hereby expresses its expectation that all persons, including students, staff, community members, and other visitors comply with such rules and regulations.

3. Delegation of Student Handbook Provisions. The Board of Education hereby delegates to the Superintendent or Superintendent's designee the authority to amend, update, or otherwise revise student handbooks for the 2020-2021 school year, so long as such amendments, updates, or revisions relate to the COVID-19 pandemic. Such amendments, updates, or revisions shall have the effect of rules and standards validly established pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 79-257, 79-259, 79-261, 79-262 and 79-264. Further, any such amendments, updates, or revisions (including a possible mask requirement) shall comply with Nebraska law, including Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 79-734 and 79-2,127, *et seq.*

The Board expects students to comply with such amendments, updates, revisions and any other directives from District administrators and staff.

4. Delegation of Staff Handbook Provisions. The Board of Education hereby delegates to the Superintendent or Superintendent's designee the authority to amend, update, or otherwise revise staff handbooks for the 2020-2021 school year, so long as such amendments, updates, or revisions relate to the COVID-19 pandemic. Such amendments, updates, or revisions shall have the effect of Board-approved expectations and directives. The Board further delegates to the Superintendent or Superintendent's designee the authority to determine and implement staff return-to-work requirements, staff health and safety precautions, and, to the extent permitted by law, staff compensation arrangements, including the payment (or nonpayment) of extra duty stipends if a season or activity is cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Board expects all staff to comply with such amendments, updates, and revisions.

5. Temporary Suspension of Board Policies and Delegation of Authority to Develop Rules. By passage of this Resolution, the Board hereby acknowledges that it has balanced its desire for in-person student instruction with the fluid COVID-19 situation and the need for the

District to achieve a proper balance with the limitations of the District's current budget, existing facilities, staffing levels, and limited resources. After balancing these competing interests, and to the extent permitted by law, the Board hereby suspends any Board policies that conflict with this Resolution or conflict with any action taken by the Superintendent or Superintendent's designee pursuant to this Resolution. Further, any Board policies that would otherwise prevent, hinder, or delay necessary action in carrying out or implementing the same in order to cope with the COVID-19 emergency are hereby waived and suspended. Once this Resolution expires, all Board policies (even those that conflict with this Resolution) will become and remain effective.

6. Decision-Making Process. The Superintendent and/or Superintendent's designee is expected to keep the Board reasonably informed of any meaningful actions taken pursuant to this Resolution.

7. Balancing Interests. The Board intends that the return to in-person instruction be implemented in a way that prioritizes the health and safety of students, families, and staff members. However, the Board acknowledges that a return to in-person instruction plan may mitigate, but will not completely eliminate, the associated risks of in-person instruction in the middle of the COVID-19 pandemic. As public health professionals have recognized, no single act or set of actions will eliminate the risk of COVID-19. The Board balances this risk while simultaneously recognizing that the need for quality, effective, in-person student instruction is a priority during the 2020-2021 school year. As a result, the Board has balanced these competing interests and has based its preference to return to in-person instruction on the Board's own unique and particular social, economic, and policy-making determinations.

8. Subsequent or Emergency Changes. The Superintendent or Superintendent's designee is hereby delegated and authorized to take any subsequent or emergency measures or actions in planning for or implementing a return to in-person student instruction and in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, including those measures that may not be explicitly referenced in this Resolution.

9. Subsequent Ratification. The Board intends to ratify the actions of the Superintendent or Superintendent's designee at a subsequent Board meeting.

10. Expiration. This Resolution, and all of the content, powers, delegation and authority therein, shall expire upon the earlier of: (1) a vote by a majority of the quorum of the Board or (2) the end of the 2020-2021 school year.

THIS RESOLUTION was adopted this ____ day of _____, 2020 by at least a majority vote of a quorum of the Board of Education at a duly held public meeting.

PRESIDENT, BOARD OF EDUCATION

SECRETARY, BOARD OF EDUCATION

Regular Meeting
Monday, June 15, 2020 5:30 PM Central

ESU7/CPS Student Center 2563 44th Avenue
2508 27th Street

Held via ZOOM <https://zoom.us/j/91780918568?pwd=NjF5bWRMdXZBc3U3dlpDYlkwMnIrQT09>

Candace Becher: Present
Ken Curry: Present
Michael Jeffries: Present
Doug Molczyk: Present
Theresa Seipel: Absent
Douglas Willoughby: Present
Present: 5, Absent: 1.
Theresa Seipel: Present
Present: 6.

I. Board Meeting

I.A. Call to Order

I.B. Roll Call of Board

I.C. Pledge of Allegiance

I.D. Notice of Open Meeting Posted

I.D.1. President insures all can hear proceedings

I.E. Mission Statement

Doug Willoughby read the mission statement.

I.F. Opportunity for Public to be Heard

I.F.1. Executive Session

Motion to go into Executive Session Passed with a motion by Douglas Willoughby and a second by Doug Molczyk.

Candace Becher: Yea, Ken Curry: Yea, Michael Jeffries: Yea, Doug Molczyk: Yea,
Theresa Seipel: Yea, Douglas Willoughby: Yea
Yea: 6, Nay: 0

Motion to come out of executive session. Passed with a motion by Theresa Seipel and a second by Ken Curry.

Candace Becher: Yea, Ken Curry: Yea, Michael Jeffries: Yea, Doug Molczyk: Yea,
Theresa Seipel: Yea, Douglas Willoughby: Yea
Yea: 6, Nay: 0

I.G. Board Special Functions

I.G.1. Receive Alternative Calendars for 2020-2021

We are planning for next fall as if at any given time, we need to go back to online learning. Alternative calendar #2 is the recommendation of the two presented. It is set for starting August 25th. New calendars take away flexibility for snow days. The calendar gives us

time for professional development on the platforms CPS is using for online learning. Dr. Loeffelholz says there is 99% chance we will be in school. This calendar shows that kindergarten will need to start earlier and seniors will need to go to the last day. It also shows many of the same breaks with a professional development day at the end of each quarter. Students would still get out before Memorial Day. Alternative #2 shows starting the same time with a scheduled spring break, and getting out a week later. There is a #3 is yet to come, Dr. Loeffelholz will share it as soon as it's ready.

I.G.2. Supplies List Information

Dr. Loeffelholz shared an idea about ordering school supplies online, the supplies would be shipped to the buildings as ordered.

I.G.3. Superintendent Contract for July 1, 2020-June 30, 2023

Motion to approve the Superintendent's Contract with a 2.1% increase, as submitted. Passed with a motion by Douglas Willoughby and a second by Theresa Seipel.
Candace Becher: Yea, Ken Curry: Yea, Michael Jeffries: Yea, Doug Molczyk: Yea, Theresa Seipel: Yea, Douglas Willoughby: Yea
Yea: 6, Nay: 0

Dave Melick, Executive Director of Business and Human Relations spoke about how the process went for Dr. Loeffelholz's contract. Mr. Melick checked with our array of districts to compare where Dr. Loeffelholz stood with those districts, 3 districts are making decisions this month. The average increase in the array is 3.36%, the committee looked at this information to make a decision on what they wanted to offer for compensation. They settled on 2.46%. The Transparency Act was followed, Mr. Melick published the information, as required. Included in the information for comparison was that Kearney was compensating their superintendent 8%. The question was asked if his compensation should be in line with CPS's other administrators at 2.46%. Proposed compensation would put him at third behind Fremont and Kearney. Dr. Loeffelholz made a counter offer of 2.1%. He spoke to the board and shared his appreciation for all they have done for him, he feels very blessed and he has never needed to negotiate his salary until now. He also shared he wants to set a precedent for staff. The board appreciated the offer, Theresa Seipel said that will certainly help next year's negotiations, she also feels it says a lot to the community and staff regarding his commitment to our school district. Board Member Ken Curry says he thinks so much of Dr. Loeffelholz, and admires him and his leadership and reminds the others not to let him fall behind his peers for all of his efforts with CPS. An amendment was made to the motion to change the percentage of the offer.

I.H. Items to be removed from the Consent Agenda

Motion to remove letter to BOE from Jamie Badsteiber. Passed with a motion by Doug Molczyk and a second by Ken Curry.

Candace Becher: Yea, Ken Curry: Yea, Michael Jeffries: Yea, Doug Molczyk: Yea, Theresa Seipel: Yea, Douglas Willoughby: Yea
Yea: 6, Nay: 0

Motion approve Jamie Badstieber and place her on Step 6 at MA+27. Upon completion of her endorsement in Special Education the district will honor her 12 years of experience on the salary schedule. Passed with a motion by Ken Curry and a second by Candace Becher.

Candace Becher: Yea, Ken Curry: Yea, Michael Jeffries: Yea, Doug Molczyk: Yea,
Theresa Seipel: Yea, Douglas Willoughby: Yea
Yea: 6, Nay: 0

I.I. Consent Agenda

Motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Passed with a motion by Ken Curry and a second by Doug Molczyk.

Candace Becher: Yea, Ken Curry: Yea, Michael Jeffries: Yea, Doug Molczyk: Yea,
Theresa Seipel: Yea, Douglas Willoughby: Yea
Yea: 6, Nay: 0

I.I.1. Approval of Minutes

I.I.2. Financial Reports M2, M3, M4a

Mr. Melick highlighted some of the items in the financial reports. Receipts were quite a bit higher, based on a good month of property tax receipts. The Nutrition Fund is extremely low, this is because numbers between meals served and meals charged need to match. March and April counts did not align, it has now been reconciled, and submitted. The account just about went negative, so funds were transferred. Special Building Fund is showing billing on the Kramer project and some communication expenses associated with students accessing wifi in our building parking lots.

Revenue is showing property tax payment was more than usual, State Aid is received 10 months of the year. There is a reimbursement for ELL grants.

Some expenditures are for the Lunch Fund and the Omaha World Herald for job postings. We have not been using the World Herald much because it isn't our greatest resource, we have saved a lot in using other resources. Three jobs were advertised in the World Herald for \$1000.00. Also, a payment to Paper 101-for white and colored paper for next school year. The carpet for Lost Creek project was paid out.

I.I.3. Financial Report M5

Mr. Melick shared a few of the expenditures on Financial Report M5. Commonwealth was paid for licenses and Quadient Finance was paid for postage; several large mailings went out regarding COVID-19. Remind101 Inc. was paid their annual subscription fees, and TC Ceilings received payment for the Lost Creek project. Imagine Learning for student licenses for K-12 math resources and Home Depot Pro was paid for cleaning supplies and masks. Edgenuity is who we pay for Oddysey Ware. The City of Columbus Finance Dept. was paid for our portion of 1 quarter of school resource officers.

I.I.4. Certified Personnel

I.I.5. Classified Personnel

I.I.6. Professional Travel

I.J. Acceptance of Gifts/Donations

The Superintendent recommends that the Board accept the attached gifts/donations.
Passed with a motion by Doug Molczyk and a second by Michael Jeffries.

Candace Becher: Yea, Ken Curry: Yea, Michael Jeffryes: Yea, Doug Molczyk: Yea,
Theresa Seipel: Yea, Douglas Willoughby: Yea
Yea: 6, Nay: 0

I.K. Business Operations and Human Relations

I.K.1. Administrative Functions

I.K.1.1. Classified Staff Handbook 2020-2021

The Superintendent recommends that the Board approve the 2020-2021 Classified Staff Handbook, as submitted. Passed with a motion by Theresa Seipel and a second by Michael Jeffryes.

Candace Becher: Yea, Ken Curry: Yea, Michael Jeffryes: Yea, Doug Molczyk: Yea,
Theresa Seipel: Yea, Douglas Willoughby: Yea
Yea: 6, Nay: 0

Mr. Melick updated the group on the changes that were made to the 20-21 handbook which included adding the board approved internal complaint process, the old reference was removed, text from the policy has been included. Bereavement leave was modified. Salary Schedule will be included. To ensure everyone in each building has access to the handbook copies will be left in each building's work room. It is always available online.

I.K.1.2. Teacher Handbook 2020-2021

The Superintendent recommends that the Board approve the 2020-2021 Teacher Handbook, as submitted. Passed with a motion by Douglas Willoughby and a second by Doug Molczyk.

Candace Becher: Yea, Ken Curry: Yea, Michael Jeffryes: Yea, Doug Molczyk: Yea,
Theresa Seipel: Yea, Douglas Willoughby: Yea
Yea: 6, Nay: 0

Mr. Melick went over a very short list of changes to the Teacher's Handbook. The old Grievances and Complaints reference was replaced with the new and the modifications of Bereavement Leave was added.

I.K.1.3. Surplus

The Superintendent recommends that the Board declare listed items as surplus property. Passed with a motion by Theresa Seipel and a second by Doug Molczyk.

Candace Becher: Yea, Ken Curry: Yea, Michael Jeffryes: Yea, Doug Molczyk: Yea,
Theresa Seipel: Yea, Douglas Willoughby: Yea
Yea: 6, Nay: 0

Cassette House is not using the chairs listed in the surplus request.

I.K.2. Updates

Mr. Melick updated the board on the Return To School Committee and LB1186. He also noted that this will be his last board meeting.

I.L. Buildings & Sites/Technology

I.L.1. Administrative Functions

I.L.1.1. Approval of ServiceMaster Contract for 2020-2021

The Superintendent recommends that the Board approve the ServiceMaster Contract for 2020-2021, as submitted. Passed with a motion by Ken Curry and a second by Douglas Willoughby.

Candace Becher: Yea, Ken Curry: Yea, Michael Jeffries: Yea, Doug Molczyk: Yea, Theresa Seipel: Yea, Douglas Willoughby: Yea
Yea: 6, Nay: 0

Leonard Kwapnioski, Executive Director of Building/Sites and Technology talked about the 20-21 ServiceMaster Contract. There will be a 1% increase from last year. We received a \$4000.00 credit because of the pandemic and the change in work being done. They are interviewing for 2 open custodial positions, starting next week. He has included a pricing analysis, it shares some information in the event of losing someone for a long term absence.

I.L.2. Updates

Mr. Kwapnioski updated the group on the finalization of the Lost Creek Project and said he would like to show off the work that was done there, if anyone would like to visit the building.

I.M. Curriculum and Instruction

I.M.1. Administrative Functions

I.M.1.1. Biology Resource Approval 2020

The Superintendent recommends the Board approve the Biology Resources for 2020, as submitted. Passed with a motion by Michael Jeffries and a second by Theresa Seipel.

Candace Becher: Yea, Ken Curry: Yea, Michael Jeffries: Yea, Doug Molczyk: Yea, Theresa Seipel: Yea, Douglas Willoughby: Yea
Yea: 6, Nay: 0

Dr. Amy Romshek, Executive Director of Curriculum explained the purchase of new Biology resources for CHS. This is a required course for all 9th graders. This purchase includes online/ digital access and 3 sets of hard copy texts. Two products were piloted to make the decision on this product. Funds are budgeted from curriculum accounts.

I.M.1.2. Solidworks II Curriculum

The Superintendent recommends that the Board approve the Solidworks II Curriculum, as submitted. Passed with a motion by Ken Curry and a second by Michael Jeffries.

Candace Becher: Yea, Ken Curry: Yea, Michael Jeffries: Yea, Doug Molczyk: Yea, Theresa Seipel: Yea, Douglas Willoughby: Yea
Yea: 6, Nay: 0

Dr. Romshek said that Solidworks II is an additional course being offered in the design technology. This is a computer aided drafting program. CPS purchased the program a few years ago with Perkins Funds.

I.M.2. Updates

Dr. Romshek shared that the Curriculum Dept. is very busy working with the Return To School Committees.

I.N. Student Services

I.N.1. Administrative Functions

I.N.1.1. B.I.S.T. Services Agreement

The Superintendent recommends that the Board approve the B.I.S.T. Services Agreement, as submitted. Passed with a motion by Douglas Willoughby and a second by Theresa Seipel.

Candace Becher: Yea, Ken Curry: Yea, Michael Jeffries: Yea, Doug Molczyk: Yea, Theresa Seipel: Yea, Douglas Willoughby: Yea

Yea: 6, Nay: 0

Jason Harris, Executive Director of Students Services and SPED gave a brief description of the BIST Service Agreement. This training is on how to respond to tier 2 and tier 3 behaviors. It includes 5 days of consultation with certified trainers that work with staff, they also consult on specific students. This is divided between the 7 buildings.

I.N.1.2. Contract for Music Therapy Services with Melissa J. Hyde, MT-BC

The Superintendent recommends that the Board approve the Contract for Music Therapy Services, as submitted. Passed with a motion by Ken Curry and a second by Doug Molczyk.

Candace Becher: Yea, Ken Curry: Yea, Michael Jeffries: Yea, Doug Molczyk: Yea, Theresa Seipel: Yea, Douglas Willoughby: Yea

Yea: 6, Nay: 0

Mr. Harris spoke about the Music Therapy and the differences from other music teachers is this is tailored to the specific accommodations for higher needs students.

I.N.1.3. Request for Extra Duty Pay for CPS Crisis Team Co-Leaders for 2020-2021

The Superintendent recommends that the Board approve the Request for Extra Duty Pay for Crisis Team Co-Leaders for 2020-2021. Passed with a motion by Theresa Seipel and a second by Doug Molczyk.

Candace Becher: Yea, Ken Curry: Yea, Michael Jeffries: Yea, Doug Molczyk: Yea, Theresa Seipel: Yea, Douglas Willoughby: Yea

Yea: 6, Nay: 0

Mr. Harris shared the need for the request for extra duty pay for Crisis Team Leaders. He said these people are very valuable to him during a crisis, they help lead the team. They should receive a stipend as they go above and beyond for their help and leadership in these situations. They also assist in working on the handbook. Mr. Melick added information about other positions that are paid on the extra duty salary schedule. This is very similar to some other positions.

I.N.2. Updates

Mr. Harris said he is very busy with the Return To School Committee. They will have recommendations soon.

I.O. Superintendent's Report

Jeanne Schieffer and Sandy Fisher from the Columbus Chamber of Commerce joined the meeting to ask for a special request from the Board. The Red, White, and Kaboom can not be held at Ag Park this year because it is closed. They would like to use the northern most field at CHS. It is a nice location with many parking lots in the area. They are looking at having the

event as a drive in and park aerial show only. They will solicit funds for the show. It costs about \$20,000.00-\$30,000.00 for the 19 minute show. They would like to have the pyrotech come and assess the area. The committee would let businesses know how this would work. Concerns about the clean up and people parking in places they don't want them to be parked. A lot of communication would need to go out regarding no alcohol on school property. The city has been contacted for police support. Tim Hofbauer said he would help with blocking off areas that they do not want people to park. This is something we can do for our community to get back to some normalcy. Dr. Loeffelholz said this would be a good community partner for CPS. He knows some folks will make bad choices. Board member Ken Curry feels we could get people to help with cleaning and directing traffic, etc. All agree to move forward to see if it would work out. A meeting with the City, Dr. Loeffelholz, and Mr. Kwapnioski to talk about logistics and planning is being scheduled.

The COVID-19 DHMs change from day to day, we are at phase III, many DHMs have been lifted. There are a lot of activities happening now, Dr. Loeffelholz is optimistic about being in school, pessimistic about numbers going up and having to call off school for a second time. Trying to prepare for the worst and hope for the best. Many area doctors are certain COVID-19 was here in December. He has also heard that vaccinations will be a 2 dose procedure. Graduation looks like a go with limited number of guests per student. July 16th for the Board Meeting will be live. Dr. Loeffelholz will be on vacation the beginning of July.

I.P. Board Sharing

The board thanked Mr. Melick for his years of service and shared their appreciation for his work. Thumbs up for all the work that is being done by the Return To School Committees. Doug Willoughby said credit goes to Dr. Loeffelholz for putting a great team together. Ken Curry said it is a great honor to sit on the stage at graduation and requested that Dr. Loeffelholz invite Mike Goos, past Board Member to be there for all of his time on the board. They thanked Dr. Loeffelholz for negotiating a lower raise for himself and said it speaks volumes about his dedication to CPS. Candy Becher, Board President said she can't say enough about the people volunteering for the Return to School Committees.

II. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn Passed with a motion by Theresa Seipel and a second by Doug Molczyk.

Candace Becher: Yea, Ken Curry: Yea, Michael Jeffries: Yea, Doug Molczyk: Yea,

Theresa Seipel: Yea, Douglas Willoughby: Yea

Yea: 6, Nay: 0

Meeting adjourned at 8:22pm.

I, the undersigned, being the duly qualified Secretary for the School District No. 1 of Columbus, Nebraska, certify that the preceding is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Regular School Board meeting of Monday, June 15, 2020.

President

Secretary

Columbus Public Schools
Summary of Cash Balances
June 30, 2020

Attachment M2
1

DESCRIPTION	BALANCE	RECEIPTS	EXPENDITURES	BALANCE	PRIOR YEAR
Attachment M4a			\$ 235,320.05		
Attachment M5 (prior Bd Mtg)			\$ 3,288,179.13		
GEN FUND - GREAT PLAINS STATE BANK	\$ 6,719,080.95	\$ 6,011,696.85	\$ 3,523,499.18	\$ 9,207,278.62	\$ 7,533,745.16
Dividends		\$ 1,229.67	\$ -		
Management Fees			\$ 237.85		
Investment Loss		\$ -	\$ 42.41		
GENERAL FUND - FNB TRUST	\$ 933,854.69	\$ 1,229.67	\$ 280.26	\$ 934,804.10	\$ 916,993.40
PAYROLL - PINNACLE BANK	\$ 318,418.83	\$ 2,965,878.04	\$ 3,021,151.95	\$ 263,144.92	\$ 213,154.32
PAYFLEX - PINNACLE BANK	\$ 36,474.43	\$ 10,266.33	\$ 9,519.59	\$ 37,221.17	\$ 23,837.49
Dividends		\$ 2,067.39			
Management Fees			\$ 366.33		
Investment Loss/Gain		\$ 307.35			
Columbus School lunch fund			\$ 300,000.00		
Scoreboard Ad		\$ 4,500.00			
DEPRECIATION - FNB	\$ 1,449,628.83	\$ 6,874.74	\$ 300,366.33	\$ 1,156,137.24	\$ 153,904.01
Administration	\$ 566,610.25	\$ 1,251.96	\$ 73,478.14	\$ 494,384.07	\$ 585,015.52
Middle School	\$ 90,223.03	\$ 1,122.62	\$ 346.10	\$ 90,999.55	\$ 66,784.27
High School	\$ 400,879.23	\$ 8,910.62	\$ 19,804.45	\$ 389,985.40	\$ 373,269.14
ACTIVITY FUNDS - COLUMBUS BANK	\$ 1,057,712.51	\$ 11,285.20	\$ 93,628.69	\$ 975,369.02	\$ 1,025,068.93
Other deposit		\$ 300,000.00			
Student Meals		\$ 310.80			
Federal Reimbursement		\$ 321,912.50			
Interest Income		\$ 264.00			
NUTRITION FUND - CORNERSTONE BANK	\$ 551.73	\$ 622,487.30	\$ 313,627.93	\$ 309,411.10	\$ 245,908.96
Platte County Treasurer		\$ 630,605.17			
Butler County Treasurer		\$ 3,433.83			
Dividends		\$ 1,167.15			
Management Fees		\$ -	\$ 503.49		
Investment Loss			\$ 36.23		
First National Bank of Omaha			\$ 1,073,087.50		
BOND FUND - FNB	\$ 1,995,656.08	\$ 635,206.15	\$ 1,073,627.22	\$ 1,557,235.01	\$ 1,988,834.52
Dividends		\$ 343.40			
Management Fees		\$ -	\$ 102.36		
Investment Gain		\$ -	\$ 19.97		
SPECIAL BLDG FUND - FNB TRUST	\$ 397,912.12	\$ 343.40	\$ 122.33	\$ 398,133.19	\$ 492,155.67
BCDM Architects			\$ 12,187.50		
Electronic Engineering			\$ 14,000.00		
SPECIAL BLDG FUND - BANK OF THE VALLEY	\$ 747,737.62	\$ 187,845.56	\$ 26,187.50	\$ 909,395.68	\$ 178,669.35

Columbus Public Schools
General Fund Revenue Detail
June 30, 2020

Attachment M3

1

Account Number	Description	Budget	Month To Date	Year To Date	Balance	Percent
01.1.01100.000.000	Property Taxes	(\$19,887,824.00)	(\$3,626,654.40)	(\$18,797,277.51)	(\$1,090,546.49)	94.52%
01.1.01115.000.000	Carline Taxes	(\$25,000.00)	\$0.00	\$0.00	(\$25,000.00)	0.00%
01.1.01120.000.000	Public Power District Sales Ta	(\$450,000.00)	\$0.00	\$0.00	(\$450,000.00)	0.00%
01.1.01125.000.000	Motor Vehicle Taxes	(\$2,025,000.00)	(\$130,320.28)	(\$1,634,775.78)	(\$390,224.22)	80.73%
01.1.01312.000.000	Tuition, Summer School	(\$3,000.00)	(\$100.00)	(\$1,830.00)	(\$1,170.00)	61.00%
01.1.01323.000.000	Tuition, SpEd School Age	(\$150,000.00)	(\$365,577.00)	(\$2,175,181.00)	\$2,025,181.00	1450.12%
01.1.01335.000.000	Tuition, SpEd Preschool	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	#DIV/0!
01.1.01370.000.000	Tuition and Fees, Preschool	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	#DIV/0!
01.1.01422.000.000	Transportation, SpEd	\$0.00	\$0.00	(\$119,513.00)	\$119,513.00	#DIV/0!
01.1.01510.000.000	Interest	(\$105,000.00)	(\$15,632.84)	(\$92,466.56)	(\$12,533.44)	88.06%
01.1.01910.000.000	Rental Fees	(\$7,500.00)	\$0.00	(\$4,800.00)	(\$2,700.00)	64.00%
01.1.01911.000.000	Local License Fees	\$0.00	\$0.00	(\$8,620.00)	\$8,620.00	#DIV/0!
01.1.01921.000.000	Police Court Fines	(\$15,000.00)	\$0.00	\$0.00	(\$15,000.00)	0.00%
01.1.01925.000.000	Grants from Private Sources	(\$13,000.00)	\$0.00	\$0.00	(\$13,000.00)	0.00%
01.1.01965.000.000	Distance Education Receipts	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	#DIV/0!
01.1.01990.000.000	Miscellaneous Local Receipts	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	#DIV/0!
01.1.02110.000.000	County Fines&License Fees	(\$230,000.00)	(\$7,954.25)	(\$138,714.56)	(\$91,285.44)	60.31%
01.1.02130.000.000	Other County Receipts	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	#DIV/0!
01.1.03110.000.000	State Aid	(\$16,269,523.00)	(\$1,626,955.00)	(\$16,269,523.00)	\$0.00	100.00%
01.1.03120.000.000	SpEd Receipts from the State	(\$2,020,000.00)	\$0.00	(\$2,400.00)	(\$2,017,600.00)	0.12%
01.1.03125.000.000	SpEd Transportation Receipts f	(\$130,000.00)	\$0.00	\$0.00	(\$130,000.00)	0.00%
01.1.03130.000.000	Homestead Exemption	\$0.00	(\$127,449.66)	(\$509,798.64)	\$509,798.64	#DIV/0!
01.1.03131.000.000	Property Tax Credit	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	#DIV/0!
01.1.03155.000.000	Textbook Loan Receipts	\$0.00	\$0.00	(\$19,356.72)	\$19,356.72	#DIV/0!
01.1.03180.000.000	Pro-Rate Motor Vehicle	(\$55,000.00)	\$0.00	(\$11,670.79)	(\$43,329.21)	21.22%
01.1.03300.000.000	In Lieu of Taxes	\$0.00	\$0.00	(\$851,436.19)	\$851,436.19	#DIV/0!
01.1.03400.000.000	State Apportionment	(\$600,000.00)	\$0.00	(\$669,688.67)	\$69,688.67	11.61%
01.1.03500.000.000	State Categorical Programs	(\$26,489.00)	\$0.00	\$0.00	(\$26,489.00)	0.00%
01.1.03512.000.000	Distance Education Incentive P	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	#DIV/0!
01.1.03535.000.000	High Ability Learner Allocatio	(\$23,264.00)	\$0.00	(\$22,957.00)	(\$307.00)	98.68%
01.1.03540.000.000	State Early Childhood Grant	(\$138,336.00)	\$0.00	(\$318,921.00)	\$180,585.00	230.54%
01.1.03541.000.000	Early Childhood Endowment Gran	(\$160,000.00)	\$0.00	(\$64,244.00)	(\$95,756.00)	40.15%
01.1.03990.000.000	Other State Receipts	(\$11,150.00)	\$0.00	\$0.00	(\$11,150.00)	0.00%
01.1.04418.000.000	PEAK Receipts	(\$29,460.00)	\$0.00	\$0.00	(\$29,460.00)	0.00%
01.1.04505.000.000	ESSA Title I Receipts	(\$650,289.00)	\$0.00	(\$568,710.00)	(\$81,579.00)	87.45%
01.1.04506.000.000	ESSA Title I Accountability Re	\$0.00	\$0.00	(\$15,704.00)	\$15,704.00	#DIV/0!
01.1.04509.000.000	ESSA Title II Receipts	(\$112,146.00)	\$0.00	(\$34,314.00)	(\$77,832.00)	30.60%
01.1.04510.000.000	ESSA Title IV SSAE Grant	(\$32,171.00)	\$0.00	(\$28,285.00)	(\$3,886.00)	87.92%
01.1.04512.000.000	IDEA Base Allocation	\$0.00	\$0.00	(\$292,811.00)	\$292,811.00	#DIV/0!
01.1.04516.000.000	IDEA Preschool Enrollment/Pove	(\$22,937.00)	\$0.00	(\$21,407.00)	(\$1,530.00)	93.33%
01.1.04519.000.000	IDEA Enrollment/Poverty Grant	(\$836,644.00)	\$0.00	(\$563,807.00)	(\$272,837.00)	67.39%
01.1.04521.000.000	IDEA Proportionate Share	(\$144,938.00)	\$0.00	(\$128,532.00)	(\$16,406.00)	88.68%
01.1.04525.000.000	Carl Perkins Grants	(\$47,305.00)	\$0.00	(\$61,168.00)	\$13,863.00	129.31%
01.1.04527.000.000	ESSA Title III LEP Grant	(\$62,406.00)	\$0.00	(\$59,587.00)	(\$2,819.00)	95.48%

Columbus Public Schools
General Fund Revenue Detail
June 30, 2020

Attachment M3

2

Account Number	Description	Budget	Month To Date	Year To Date	Balance	Percent
01.1.04528.000.000	Title III Immigrant	\$0.00	\$0.00	(\$13,497.00)	\$13,497.00	#DIV/0!
01.1.04531.000.000	ESSA Title IV Part B 21st Cent	(\$149,163.00)	\$0.00	(\$26,839.00)	(\$122,324.00)	17.99%
01.1.04708.000.000	Medicaid in Public Schools	(\$700.00)	(\$23,452.59)	(\$65,073.91)	\$64,373.91	9296.27%
01.1.04710.000.000	Other Federal Receipts	(\$20,567.00)	\$0.00	\$0.00	(\$20,567.00)	0.00%
01.1.04996.000.000	Covid 19 Revenue	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	#DIV/0!
01.1.05200.000.000	Transfers from Other Funds	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	#DIV/0!
01.1.05690.000.000	Other Non-Revenue Receipts (Rt	(\$740,000.00)	\$0.00	\$0.00	(\$740,000.00)	0.00%
01.1.06968.000.000	Columbus After School Program	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	#DIV/0!
		(\$45,193,812.00)	(\$5,924,096.02)	(\$43,592,909.33)	(\$1,600,902.67)	96.46%
	Transfers		\$0.00			
	Reimbursements/Refunds		(\$89,546.91)			
	Interest- other accounts		\$1,946.08			
	Total Revenue		\$6,011,696.85			

Check Number	Vendor	Amount
6635	SCHOOL DISTRICT #1-PAYROLL	\$2,918,070.26
6636	AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	\$1,355.86
6637	BERRY, KIMBERLY	\$100.00
6638	CARNEGIE LEARNING	\$8,578.50
6639	CENTRAL NEBRASKA REHAB. SERV	\$9,052.25
6640	COLUMBUS AREA CHAMBER COMMERCE	\$100.00
6641	COMMONWEALTH COMMUNICATIONS	\$17,325.52
6642	COMMONWEALTH ELECTRIC COMPANY	\$2,870.72
6643	DAVIS, STEPHANIE	\$50.00
6644	EARLEY, ERICA	\$138.58
6645	FIALLO, ISAIRIS	\$80.00
6646	FRAUENDORFER, RUSSELL	\$100.00
6647	GRIFFITHS, DORIS	\$50.00
6648	HOUGHTON MIFFLIN HARCOURT	\$7,438.80
6649	HY-VEE FOOD STORES	\$13.72
6650	JARECKI, TIFFANY	\$50.00
6651	KUDRON, LYNAE	\$100.00
6652	LEARNING A-Z	\$1,473.93
6653	MENDEZ, ALICIA	\$100.00
6654	MILLER, BRENDA	\$100.00
6655	MORA, MONICA	\$50.00
6656	MOUNZENZE, ALBERTINE	\$50.00
6657	NCSA	\$9,770.00
6658	NDE EARLY CHILDHOOD TRAINING	\$20.00
6659	NEBRASKA NOTARY ASSOCIATION	\$154.00
6660	NYLAND, KATIE	\$50.00
6661	PAYFLEX SYSTEMS USA, INC.	\$384.40
6662	PLUNKETTS PEST CONTROL	\$670.00
6663	QUADIENT FINANCE USA, INC	\$279.46
6664	ROMERO, HERMINIA	\$100.00
6665	SEALCO	\$21,000.00
6666	STEALTH BROADBAND	\$2,289.34
6667	SUPER SAVER	\$59.34
6668	WALMART-CHARGE	\$257.93
6669	WINCHESTER, KRISTINA	\$100.00
6670	POSTMASTER	\$55.85
6671	AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	\$4,300.64
6672	HOBBY LOBBY	\$55.86
6673	HY-VEE FOOD STORES	\$125.90
6674	WALMART-CHARGE	\$636.00
6675	CLARK CREATIVE GROUP	\$325.00
6676	COGNIA INC	\$9,600.00
6677	CORNHUSKER STATE INDUSTRIES	\$12,233.00
6678	CPM EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM	\$150.00
6679	CRAIGS RESOURCES INC DBA CRAIG HOMECARE	\$144.10

Check Number	Vendor	Amount
6680	CUNA MUTUAL GROUP	\$600.84
6681	EMPOWER CONSULTING INC	\$19,900.00
6682	ESU #7 SPECIAL EDUCATION	\$8,683.85
6683	FATHER FLANAGAN'S BOYS' HOME	\$57,450.00
6684	FIRST NATIONAL BANK OMAHA	\$2,618.50
6685	FIRST NATIONAL BANK OMAHA	\$195.00
6686	FIRST NATIONAL BANK OMAHA	\$75.15
6687	FIRST NATIONAL BANK OMAHA	\$9.99
6688	FIRST NATIONAL BANK OMAHA	\$2,467.04
6689	NACIA (NE ASSOC. FOR CURRICULUM INSTR.)	\$30.00
6690	U AND I SANITATION LLC	\$584.35
6691	UNIVERSITY OF OREGON	\$8.00
6692	ACE HARDWARE-COLUMBUS	\$97.48
6693	AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	\$706.69
6694	BEARD-WARREN HEATING AIR	\$63,000.00
6695	BOMGAARS	\$146.98
6696	CENGAGE LEARNING	\$223.20
6697	CENTRAL PARTS AND MACHINE	\$252.97
6698	COMPUTERS ETC	\$49.29
6699	EAKES OFFICE SOLUTIONS	\$375.47
6700	ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING & EQUIP	\$45.12
6701	FOLLETT SCHOOL SOLUTIONS, INC.	\$337.15
6702	IMAGE TECH & PRINTING	\$77.00
6703	MCGRAW-HILL EDUCATION HOLDINGS LLC	\$1,404.38
6704	MENARDS-COL	\$712.16
6705	MID-AMERICAN RESEARCH CHEMICAL	\$552.00
6706	MIDWEST DOOR & HARDWARE	\$462.07
6707	O'KEEFE ELEVATOR CO.	\$3,354.25
6708	SANITIZING SOLUTIONS LLC	\$8,000.00
6709	SCHOOL HEALTH CORPORATION	\$52.56
6710	SCHOOL SPECIALTY/CLASSROOM DIRECT	\$717.69
6711	SHERWIN-WILLIAMS	\$549.99
6712	THE HOME DEPOT PRO	\$124.96
6713	TRUCK CENTER COMPANIES	\$14.42
6714	TWOREK, KRYSTAL	\$39.44
6715	UHL, SUSAN	\$932.37
6716	VEX ROBOTICS, INC.	\$906.68
6717	WEST MUSIC	\$493.50
6718	AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	\$2,257.61
6719	AMERICAN SCHOOL COUNSELOR ASSOCIATION	\$328.00
6720	CITY OF COLUMBUS WATER & SANITATION DEPA	\$2,228.11
6721	COLUMBUS FAMILY PRACTICE	\$146.00
6722	CORNERSTONES OF CARE	\$9,276.00
6723	ESU #7 DISTANCE LEARNING	\$3,500.00
6724	FATHER FLANAGAN'S BOYS' HOME	\$1,009.88

Check Number	Vendor	Amount
6725	FIRST NATIONAL BANK OMAHA	\$181.13
6726	FIRST NATIONAL BANK OMAHA	\$284.79
6727	FIRST NATIONAL BANK OMAHA	\$331.80
6728	HY-VEE FOOD STORES	\$158.47
6729	LAKESHORE LEARNING MATERIALS	\$809.75
6730	LOUP POWER DISTRICT	\$29,766.90
6731	SERVICEMASTER BY SHEVLIN	\$11,850.22
6732	STATE OF NE/DEPT OF LABOR	\$200.00
6733	TEACHER DIRECT	\$44.64
6734	U AND I SANITATION LLC	\$1,885.00
6735	WALMART-CHARGE	\$6.53
6736	ZERO TO THREE	\$998.00
6737	AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	\$637.02
6739	SYMMETRY ENGERGY SOLUTIONS, LLC	\$2,745.00
6740	AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	\$899.95
6741	ACE HARDWARE-COLUMBUS	\$2.00
6742	AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	\$2,668.89
6743	APPLE INC.	\$10,133.94
		\$3,288,609.13
	Previously reported M5 ck# 6569	(\$30.00)
	voided check # 5468 prior month	(\$400.00)
		\$3,288,179.13

Check Number	Vendor	Amount
6744	BATTLE, JEREMY	\$150.00
6745	CITY OF COLUMBUS WATER & SANITATION DEPA	\$36.68
6746	CITY OF COLUMBUS-GARBAGE FEE	\$19.06
6747	KSB SCHOOL LAW	\$252.00
6748	LINCOLN JOURNAL STAR	\$200.20
6749	LOUP POWER DISTRICT	\$232.43
6750	PERRY, GUTHERY, HAASE, & GESSFORD, P.C.	\$300.00
6751	PRESTO-X-COMPANY	\$15.51
6752	QUALITY SOUND & COMMUNICATIONS INC	\$16.17
6753	SYMMETRY ENGERGY SOLUTIONS, LLC	\$34.13
6754	VERIZON WIRELESS	\$352.85
6755	ACE HARDWARE-COLUMBUS	\$98.73
6756	APPLE INC.	\$3,538.00
6757	B-D CONSTRUCTION INC.	\$1,058.00
6758	BEARD-WARREN HEATING AIR	\$9,320.00
6759	BOMGAARS	\$181.07
6760	CDW GOVERNMENT, INC.	\$27,840.40
6761	CENTRAL PARTS AND MACHINE	\$773.68
6762	CLARK CREATIVE GROUP	\$5,931.25
6763	COLUMBUS CUSTOM EMBROIDERY	\$228.36
6764	COMMONWEALTH ELECTRIC COMPANY	\$15,473.76
6765	CPM EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM	\$400.00
6766	CPSI	\$2,000.00
6767	CULLIGAN	\$30.70
6768	EAKES OFFICE SOLUTIONS	\$1,355.32
6769	ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING & EQUIP	\$113.36
6770	ENTERPRISE ELECTRIC-COLUMBUS	\$30.98
6771	ESU #7 SPECIAL EDUCATION	\$9,136.05
6772	ESU #7	\$20,013.60
6773	ESU #7 DISTANCE LEARNING	\$687.96
6774	FERGUSON ENTERPRISES INC #1657	\$422.60
6775	FIREGUARD, INC.	\$11,817.55
6776	FOLLETT SCHOOL SOLUTIONS, INC.	\$1,242.76
6777	KELLY SUPPLY CO.	\$115.04
6778	MATHESON TRI-GAS INC	\$53.75
6779	MENARDS-COL	\$737.09
6780	MID-AMERICAN RESEARCH CHEMICAL	\$627.00
6781	MID-PLAINS INDUSTRIES	\$15.00
6782	MID-WEST 3 D SOLUTIONS	\$995.00
6783	O'NEILL TRANSPORTATION & EQUIPMENT	\$38,898.00
6784	O'REILLY AUTO PARTS-COL	\$34.99
6785	ONE SOURCE	\$278.00
6786	PAPER TIGER, INC.	\$90.00
6787	PLATTE VALLEY EQUIPMENT LLC	\$193.03

Check Number	Vendor	Amount
6788	PLATTE VALLEY PRINTING	\$949.14
6789	PREFERRED PLUMBING & HTG. INC	\$250.00
6790	PRINTCO GRAPHICS, INC	\$702.66
6791	RAPIDS WHOLESALE EQUIPMENT CO	\$491.76
6792	SANITIZING SOLUTIONS LLC	\$80.00
6793	SAPP BROS PETROLEUM	\$42.00
6794	SAVVAS LEARNING COMPANY LLC	\$32,864.70
6795	SCHOOL SPECIALTY/CLASSROOM DIRECT	\$388.10
6796	SHERWIN-WILLIAMS	\$1,249.63
6797	TIRE OUTLET INC	\$10.00
6798	TRUCK CENTER COMPANIES	\$49.58
6799	U AND I SANITATION LLC	\$244.87
6800	ULTRA GRAPHICS	\$63.99
6801	VAN DIEST HEATING AND AIR, LLC.	\$10,775.00
6802	VIVIAL	\$66.50
6803	WOODWORKER'S HARDWARE	\$138.68
Total Fund Expenditures		<u><u>\$203,706.67</u></u>

Travel Report

July 2020

DATE	# DAYS	NAME	EVENT NAME	EST COSTS	
6/22/2020	5.00	JASON HARRIS	MANDT TRAINING - DES MOINES	\$1,092.50	
				\$0.00	
				\$0.00	
				\$0.00	
				\$0.00	
				\$0.00	
				\$0.00	
				\$0.00	
				\$1,092.50 Total	



2508 27th Street, P.O. Box 947, Columbus, NE 68602-0947 Phone: 402-563-7000, Ext. 13033 Fax: 402-563-7005

July 7, 2020

Candy Becher
Board of Education
Columbus Public Schools

Dear President Becher and Members of the Board:

The Foundation contributed the following items to Columbus Public Schools during the month of June. On behalf of the Board of Directors for the CPS Foundation and the officers of the thirteen umbrella organizations, we respectfully submit these items to the Board of Education for acceptance.

Foundation

\$1,888.65 - Stem on the Go	\$1,000.00 Columbus After School Program
\$3,346.79 - Communities for Kids	\$51,899.37 - Community & Family Partnership
\$1,500.67 - Newsletter	\$200.00 - Nonprofit Membership
\$1,595.00 - College/Career T-shirts	\$1,995.00 - Homecourt Subscription

Emerson PTO

\$1,550.00 - Teacher Appreciation Gifts

West Park PTO

56.16 - Retirement Gift

Band Boosters

\$20,000.00 - Marching Band Trip Travel

Alumni

\$88.36 - Alumni Postcards

The total contributions for the month of June was **\$85,120.00**

The total contributions for the FY 2019-2020 (Sept-Aug) total is **\$482,172.81**

Thank you for your consideration.
Sincerely,

Nicole Anderson
Director of Marketing & Foundation

DATE	6/29/20
BUILDING	WP
PROGRAM	Media
PRINCIPAL/DIRECTOR SIGNATURE	Paula Lawrence
Description of materials to surplus: Old Television, Out-dated teacher resource magazines, VHS plastic containers, other Out-dated materials.	

[illegible]



July 10, 2020

To: Board of Education
From: Chip Kay
Subject: Breakfast/Lunch Price Recommendations 2020-2021 School Year

Based on the Paid Lunch Equity calculation tool provided by the NDE's Nutrition Services we are permitted to increase prices by the full allowable amount of \$.10 per meal. Currently, the Nutrition Fund Balance is behind last year at this time due to serving meals during the closure and the timing of receipts for reimbursement.

I am requesting board approval for the following prices for the 2020-2021 school year which includes a \$.10 increase in regular meal prices and the reduced amount is set by the Federal Food Program:

	Reduced Breakfast	Paid Breakfast	Reduced Lunch	Paid Lunch
Elementary	\$0.30	\$2.00	\$0.40	\$2.75
Middle/High School	\$0.30	\$2.00	\$0.40	\$3.00
Adult	N/A	\$2.55	N/A	\$3.80