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Omaha School District
K-12
Student Handbook
2016-2017

Approved on June 9, 2016

School Board
Scott Edwards, President
Frances Blevins, Vice President
Joe Ellis, Secretary
Susan Moore
Ingrid Sciarra

Dr. Jacob Sherwood
Superintendent

Nathan White
7-12 Principal

Amanda Green
K-6 Principal/Federal Programs Coordinator

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### Elementary School – Ph. 870.426.3366

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<th>Name</th>
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<td>High School – Ph. 870.426.3366</td>
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<tr>
<td>Principal</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td>5-12 Special Education Literacy</td>
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<td>High School Science</td>
<td>Morgan Keener</td>
<td><a href="mailto:morgan.keener@omaha.k12.ar.us">morgan.keener@omaha.k12.ar.us</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K-12 Art</td>
<td>Sarah Jenkins</td>
<td><a href="mailto:sarah.jenkins@omaha.k12.ar.us">sarah.jenkins@omaha.k12.ar.us</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health/Jr. High PE</td>
<td>Sharla Mathes</td>
<td><a href="mailto:sharla.mathes@omaha.k12.ar.us">sharla.mathes@omaha.k12.ar.us</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business and Technology</td>
<td>Holly Perry</td>
<td><a href="mailto:holly.perry@omaha.k12.ar.us">holly.perry@omaha.k12.ar.us</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family and Consumer Science</td>
<td>Rachel Nations</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ranchel.nations@omaha.k12.ar.us">ranchel.nations@omaha.k12.ar.us</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EAST, Career 101</td>
<td>Scott Jones</td>
<td><a href="mailto:scott.jones@omaha.k12.ar.us">scott.jones@omaha.k12.ar.us</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Athletic Director/High School PE</td>
<td>Rocky Dodson</td>
<td><a href="mailto:rocky.dodson@omaha.k12.ar.us">rocky.dodson@omaha.k12.ar.us</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>K-12 Music</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
June 1 — Teacher In-Service @ Omaha School (1)

June – August: In-Service Days (3)

FIRST QUARTER
  August 10 – 14
  August 13
  Monday, August 17
  Monday, September 7
  Wednesday, October 14
  Teacher In-Service Days (5-9)
  Open House 6:00 – 7:30 p.m.
  First Day of Classes
  Labor Day – No School
  End of 1st Quarter (42 days)

SECOND QUARTER
  Thursday, October 22
  Friday, October 23
  November 25 – 27
  Thursday, December 17
  Friday, December 18
  Parent/Teacher Conferences
  1:00 – 7:00 p.m. (Dismiss @ 12:30)
  Teacher In-Service Day (10)—No School
  Thanksgiving Holiday
  Semester Exams – Dismiss @ 12:30
  Semester Exams – Dismiss @ 12:30
  End of 2nd Quarter (43 days) & 1st Semester (85 days)
  Christmas & New Year Holiday

THIRD QUARTER
  Monday, January 4
  Monday, February 15
  Wednesday, March 9
  Classes Resume
  President’s Day Holiday—No School
  Built-In Snow Day (#1)
  End of 3rd Quarter (47 days)

FOURTH QUARTER
  Thursday, March 17
  March 21 -25
  Friday, May 13
  Wednesday, May 18
  Thursday, May 19
  Parent/Teacher Conferences
  1:00 – 7:00 p.m. (Dismiss @ 12:30)
  Spring Break
  Graduation – 7:00 p.m.
  Semester Exams – Dismiss @ 12:30
  Semester Exams – Dismiss @ 12:30
  End of 4th Quarter (46 days) & 2nd Semester (178 days)
  Built-In Snow Days (2-5)

If we use the five built-in snow days and need additional days, we will use the following dates in this order: May 26, 27, 31, and June 1 & 2. Any days needed thereafter will begin on Friday, June 3.
August 18, 2016

Dear Parent or Guardian,

Part of our school’s budget comes from federal dollars under Title I-A of the *No Child Left Behind Act of 2001*. Along with the federal funding come certain responsibilities. One of those is to let you know that as a parent or guardian of a student in our school, you may ask for information on the professional qualifications of your child’s teacher. If a paraprofessional also works with your child; you may request their qualifications as well.

If you make the request, the district will provide you with the following information as soon as possible:

1. Whether the teacher has met state licensure requirements for the grade level and subject areas in which the teacher is providing instruction;
2. Whether the teacher is teaching under an emergency status for which state licensure requirements have been waived;
3. The type of college degree the teacher earned and his or her major, along with the degree major and the field of study for any graduate degrees or certificates; and information about the professional qualifications of any instructional assistant who might be serving your child.

If you would like to receive this information, please submit your request in writing to:

Jerry Parrett  
Superintendent of Schools  
Omaha School District  
522 W. College Road  
Omaha, Arkansas 72662

Thank you for your interest and involvement in your child’s education.

Amanda Green  
Federal Programs Coordinator
August 10, 2016

Dear Parent or Guardian,

The Omaha School District has in place a parental involvement plan for the district, the High School, and the Elementary School. These plans are developed so that the student’s parent or guardian has access to upcoming opportunities for continued parental involvement. These plans include such opportunities as:

- Open House
- Parent-Teacher Conferences
- Career Day
- School Sponsored Activities (Music, Art, Drama, Athletics)
- Parent Teacher Organizations
- Booster Clubs
- Financial Aid Workshops
- Family Nights

These are just a few of the opportunities that are available through our parental involvement plan. It is our hope to reach out to the parents and guardians of our students in order to involve them in their student’s education as much as possible.

We realize that parents and guardians lead busy lives but that should not interfere with the opportunities for their involvement with their student’s education. As partners in our student’s educational endeavors the Omaha School District strives to make available information and other opportunities for parent involvement.

Each campus has a parent information center that is available for parents that contains information about issues that may affect their student as well as information on helping to prepare their student to be college and career ready. More information can be found on our website.

Thank you for your interest and involvement in your child’s education.

Laura King and Pam Keafer
Parent Involvement Coordinators
Omaha School District
**Smart Core Curriculum and Graduation Requirements**

All students are required to participate in the Smart Core curriculum unless their parents or guardians, or the students if they are 18 years of age or older, sign and Informed Consent Form to not participate. Those students not participating in the Smart Core curriculum will be required to fulfill the Core curriculum or the requirements of their IEP (when applicable) to be eligible for graduation. The signed Informed Consent Form shall be attached to the student’s permanent transcript. Informed Consent Forms are required to be signed prior to registering for seventh grade classes, or if enrolling in the district for seventh through twelfth grade classes. Counseling by trained personnel shall be available to students and their parents or legal guardians prior to the time they are required to sign the consent forms. Parents or guardians may waive the right for a student to participate in Smart Core and to instead participate in the Core Curriculum. The parent must sign the separate Smart Core Waiver to do so.

This policy, the Smart Core curriculum, and the courses necessary for graduation shall be reviewed by staff, students, and parents at least every other year to determine if changes need to be made to better serve the needs of the district’s students. The superintendent, or his/her designee, shall select the composition of the review panel.

Smart Core is Arkansas’s college- and career-ready curriculum for high school students.

College- and career-readiness in Arkansas means that students are prepared for success in entry-level, credit bearing courses at two-year and four-year colleges and universities, in technical postsecondary training, and in well-paid jobs that support families and have pathways to advancement. To be college-and career ready, students need to be adept problem solvers and critical thinkers who can contribute and apply their knowledge in novel contexts and unforeseen with additional rigorous coursework within their career focus.

**Successful completion of the Smart Core curriculum is one of the eligibility requirements for the Arkansas Academic Challenge Scholarship.** Failure to complete the Smart Core curriculum for graduation may result in negative consequences such as conditional admission to college and inability for scholarship programs.

**Graduation Requirements:**
The number of units students must earn in grades nine through twelve (9-12) to be eligible for high school graduation are to be earned from the following categories. A minimum of 22 units is required for graduation for student participating in either the Smart Core or Core curriculum. There are some distinctions made between Smart Core units and Graduation units. Not all units earned toward graduation necessarily apply to Smart Core requirements.

**SMART CORE: Twenty-two (22) units**

- English - 4 units
  - English 9th grade
  - English 10th grade
  - English 11th grade
  - English 12th grade
- Mathematics-4 units
  - Algebra I
  - Geometry or its equivalent* — 1 unit
  - Algebra II
  - Beyond Algebra II: Pre-Calculus, Advanced Topics in Modeling in Mathematics or Computer Science with Mathematics, or Advanced Placement mathematics. (Comparable concurrent credit college courses may be substituted where applicable.)
- Natural Science- 3 units with lab experience chosen from:
  - One unit of Biology; and two units chosen from the following three categories
  - Physical Science
  - Chemistry
  - Environmental Science
- Physics
- Social Studies- 3 units
  - Civics or Civics/American Government- 1 unit
  - World History- 1 unit
  - American History- 1 unit
- Oral Communications- ½ unit
- Physical Education- ½ unit (No more than 1 unit can count towards graduation credit requirements)
- Economics- ½ unit (may be counted toward Social Studies or Career Focus)
- Health and Safety- ½ unit
- Fine Arts- ½ unit
- Career Focus- 6 units

**CAREER FOCUS: Six (6) units**

All career focus unit requirements shall be established through guidance and counseling based on the student’s contemplated work aspirations. Career focus courses shall conform to the curriculum policy of the district and reflect state curriculum frameworks through course sequencing and career course concentrations where appropriate.

The Core and career focus units must total at least twenty-two (22) units to graduate.

**CORE: Twenty-Two (22) units**

- English- 4 units
  - English 9th grade
  - English 10th grade
  - English 11th grade
  - English 12th grade
- Mathematics: four (4) units (years)
  - Algebra I or its equivalent* -- 1 unit
  - Geometry or its equivalent* -- 1 unit
  - All math units must build on the base of algebra and geometry knowledge and skills.
  - (Comparable concurrent credit college courses may be substituted where applicable)
  - **A two-year algebra equivalent or a two-year geometry equivalent may each be counted as two units of the four (4) unit requirement.**
- Science: three (3) units (years)
  - at least one (1) units of biology
  - one (1) unit of a physical science
- Social Studies- 3 units
  - Civics or Civics/American Government- 1 unit
  - World History- 1 unit
  - American History- 1 unit
- Oral Communications- ½ unit
- Physical Education- ½ unit (No more than 1 unit can count towards graduation credit requirements)
- Economics- ½ unit (may be counted toward Social Studies or Career Focus)
- Health and Safety- ½ unit
- Fine Arts- ½ unit
- Career Focus- 6 units

**Advanced Placement:**

High School students will be allowed to access Advanced Placement courses when available. All current Advanced Placement regulations will apply to each course.

**Common Core State Standards:**

Omaha School District has adopted the use of Common Core State Standards. The District feels that these standards are more in line with student career-readiness and real-world skills.
### Course Offerings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Omaha Campus Courses</th>
<th>Virtual Arkansas (DLC Courses)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>English 9, 11, 12</td>
<td>AP Calculus</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pre-AP English 10</td>
<td>Transitional Math Ready</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pre –AP Algebra 1</td>
<td>AP Computer Science</td>
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<tr>
<td>Algebra 2</td>
<td>AP English Literature and Composition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pre-Calculus/Trigonometry</td>
<td>AP English Language and Composition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advanced Topics in Mathematics</td>
<td>AP US History</td>
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<tr>
<td>Physical Science</td>
<td>AP World History</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chemistry</td>
<td>Essentials of Computer Programming</td>
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<td>Environmental Science</td>
<td>ACT Prep</td>
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<td>Civics</td>
<td>Journalism</td>
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<td>Economics</td>
<td>Oral Communications</td>
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<tr>
<td>World History</td>
<td>Transitional Literacy Ready</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pre-AP American History</td>
<td>French – 1, 2</td>
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<td>German – 1, 2</td>
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<td>Spanish – 1, 2, 3</td>
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<td>Computer Science and Mathematics</td>
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<td>Geometry</td>
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<td>NAC Technical Center</td>
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<td>Automotive Service Technology</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Collision Repair Technology</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Engineering Technology</td>
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<td>Information Technology</td>
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<td>Welding</td>
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<td>Construction Technology</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Engineering Technology</td>
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<td>Information Technology</td>
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<td>Medical Professions Education</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Virtual Arkansas (DLC Courses)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ACT Prep</td>
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<td></td>
<td>French – 1, 2</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Spanish – 1, 2, 3</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Computer Science and Mathematics</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Geometry</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Concurrent Credit Course</td>
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<td>Entrance</td>
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<td>English – 11, 12</td>
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<td>Human Behavior and Disorders</td>
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<td>Medical Procedures</td>
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<td>Medical Terminology</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Pathology</td>
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<td>Programming – 1, 2</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Web Page Design 1</td>
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<td></td>
<td>NAC Technical Center</td>
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<td>Information Technology</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Medical Professions Education</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### Graduation of Students Receiving Special Education Services

Special students will spend from one to three periods per day in the resource room depending on the severity of the disability or handicapping condition. Health and physical education will be required courses. Activity courses will be optional. Courses may be taught either in modified (as per IEP) regular class programs or in the resource room-this will depend on scheduling and will be stated in the student I.E.P. Special students may also be given a lesser load than regular students. All of these modifications and graduation requirements are “individual” for each student, and must be agreed upon by the I.E.P. committee.

### Alternative Learning Environment

“Alternative Learning Environment “(ALE) is a non punitive student intervention program that seeks to eliminate traditional barriers to student learning. Students referred to ALE must meet strict criteria, as determined by a referral committee, in order to be eligible for ALE each alternative learning student with access to the services of a school.
Students Attending North Arkansas College Vo-Tech School
1. Students will be responsible for understanding and abiding by all North Arkansas College rules and regulations.
2. Students will ride the school bus to and from North Arkansas College, unless prior arrangements have been approved by the administration.
3. If students are absent, they must follow all absentee regulations as listed in this handbook in order to receive an excuse card to take to the college. If the student was at Omaha Public Schools and then did not attend classes at North Arkansas College, the student will not receive an excuse card to take to North Arkansas College.
4. Failure to follow school rules, failure to pass a required course for graduation, failure to follow transportation rules, failure to abide by the rules and regulations at North Arkansas College could result in being removed from the Vo-Tech program.

Students taking Virtual Arkansas Classes
1. Students will be responsible for understanding and abiding by all Virtual Arkansas rules and regulations.
2. Students will respect one another in the learning environment, understanding that distractions will not be tolerated and will be subject to disciplinary actions as with any other classroom.
3. Students will use only the laptop that they are assigned. Students will participate in the required video conferencing with their instructor using the ZOOM software.
4. Failure to follow school rules, failure to pass a required course for graduation, failure to abide by the rules and regulations of Virtual Arkansas could result in being denied the opportunity to participate in Virtual Arkansas classes in the future.

Dropping a Class
The last day to change the schedule in each semester is the fifth day unless allowances are made in advance with the guidance counselor and administration.

Reporting of Student Performance
Teachers will contact parents/guardians of each student at least once a semester. Contact may be through a parent-teacher conference, telephone conference, a two way written communication or a home visit. Parents may check student grades via eSchool. Grades shall be updated by teachers on a weekly basis.

At the end of the fifth week of any nine weeks grading period, failing progress reports will be mailed to the parents/guardians of students in grades 7-12. Reports for those passing all subjects will be given to the students to take home to parents.

Report cards are issued on a quarterly basis following each nine weeks of class work. This is a grade report made by the teacher to the parents/guardians. Please feel free to confer with your child’s teacher about this report.

There will be a parent/teacher conference day held during the first and third grading periods.

Grading of Kindergarten, First, and Second Grade Students
Students in Kindergarten, First, and Second grades will be graded relative to their levels of performance exhibited by mastery of skills in Literacy and Mathematics. Each 9 weeks they will receive a 1-4 on each skill. Students may receive U’s and S’s for subjects such as Social Studies, Science, Art, Music, and P.E.

Standards Based Scoring Scale

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Score</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Meets Standards with Independence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Meets Proficiency</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Developing Proficiency</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Below Proficiency</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Students may receive U’s and S’s for subjects such as Social Studies, Science, Art, Music, and P.E. A rubric has been developed to support the assignment of U’s and S’s. Grades are based on progress on educational objectives.
Grading Scale for Grades 3-12
A    90 - 100
B    80 - 89
C    70 - 79
D    60 - 69
F    59 & below

Calculation of Grades (3-12)
A minimum of nine numerical scores-averaging at least one per week-will be recorded for each student during each nine week grading period for each subject.

Grading may be given as numerical scores by showing the number correct on a test or assignment over the number of points possible Example: 26/40 would represent a score of 26 correct responses out of a possible 40. Grades may also be represented as percentages such as 70% or 83% correct responses on the test or assignment. Graded work will include unit tests, pop quizzes, daily work, graded homework, special assignments, projects or any learning or teaching activity that teachers might use in their classrooms.

Comprehensive “Unit Tests” may be given after the completion of a “Unit Lesson”.

Semester grades for students 7-12 will be determined by multiplying 40% for each nine week period and 20% for the semester exam.

Grades assigned to students for performance in a course shall reflect only the extent to which a student has achieved the expressed academic objective of the course. Teachers will make determinations of weighting as it fits the subject area. Teachers will, however, give students adequate opportunities to improve grades. No one assignment should fail a student.

Grades are based on progress on educational objectives.

Semester Test Policy for Grades 7-12
The semester tests will be held the last three days of each semester. The first day of testing is for first hour class only. These classes will have an extended testing time with an abridged schedule for second through fourth periods. Periods five through seven will be on regular schedule. Day two will test periods two, three, and four on a modified schedule. Day three will test period five, six, and seven on a modified schedule. Tests will be proctored by the teacher of instruction according to the corresponding period. All non-core subjects will test at the discretion of the teacher or as required by the appropriate educational institution prior to exam days.

1. A teacher may use a comprehensive project or research paper in lieu of a semester exam with prior administrative approval.
2. Any student may be exempt from a semester tests if they meet the following criteria and the subject teacher approves:
   A. Student must maintain a “B” or higher in the class for each quarter.
   B. Student must miss no more than 5 days during the corresponding semester for any reason other than school functions to be exempt in that class.
   C. No exemption can be earned if student received ISS or OSS during the current semester.

The primary purpose of assessment should be diagnosis of student learning. As a result assessment is an integral part of instruction. Successful student learning should be based on providing appropriate educational experiences at the appropriate level of challenge in order to ensure the maximum level of achievement for each student. Prior student success and student mastery of learning should be rewarded by a clear exemption policy.

Homework Policy
Teachers at each grade level shall provide for the development of students’ independent study skills. Teachers will endeavor to present new material, instructions and assignments in such a way that the student will know what is expected of him/her. Homework is given to re-enforce concepts taught in class and therefore should be done and turned in to the teacher when assigned. Consequences for failing to do/complete homework may be given according to the teacher’s policies.
As the student advances through the grades, more homework may be expected. Basic textbooks used in teaching reading are not taken home except by special permission from the teacher. This is to develop independent reading ability and not memorization of a textbook.

Schools have found that parent-teacher-student teamwork paves the way to successful homework. Some suggestions are offered for parents in helping with homework.

- Provide a suitable place for work and study.
- Provide encyclopedias, a dictionary and other resource materials.
- Assist with drill and routine work.
- Give encouragement and show interest, but avoid undue pressure.
- Exercise patience in helping the student.
- Work out a schedule of family activities and study time so that they do not interfere with each other.
- See that the student uses his/her time wisely while studying and for a limited time.
- Work should never be done for the student, but assistance and encouragement may be given.

Procedures and Policies Regarding Make-Up Work

In an effort to better serve the student needs of the Omaha School District, the following system will be used in obtaining homework for students who are absent from school but who wish to receive their homework assignments:

1. Parents may call the school and request that work and assignments be collected for their child. To allow sufficient time to prepare the assignments, please contact the school by 8:30 a.m.
2. The teachers will not be asked to take time from teaching their classes to answer the requests but will use their planning period to complete the requests and return them to the office before 3:00 p.m.
3. Parents may come by the office after 3:00 p.m. or request that the assignments be sent home with another student. The office staff will ensure that parent requests are granted.
4. Parents may also email their child’s teacher directly to obtain missing work. Email addresses are on the school website—www.omahaschool.weebly.com
5. Upon returning to school, it is the student’s responsibility to determine what work has been missed and to make arrangements with his/her instructor to make-up the work.
6. **One (1) day** will be allowed for each day missed up to the allowed number of absences.
7. The teacher may extend the times for make-up work if time and circumstances dictate.
8. Students assigned **out-of-school suspension** will be **allowed** to make up work **during the 1st suspension only**. All class work/homework assigned during the suspension period must be turned in by the start of each class the day the student returns from the suspension. Any tests must be made up the day of the students’ return or as determined by the teacher.
9. When it appears that a student will be absent three or more days, it is suggested that the parents contact the school to see what assignments and study materials may be obtained for use while the student is out.
10. **If a student is assigned a project, test, and/or assignment prior to an absence, they may be expected to turn in project, test, and/or assignment upon return from absence.**

Cheating and Plagiarism

The consequences for cheating and/or plagiarism are as follows:

**Kindergarten – 6th Grade**

- 1st offense—All students involved will receive a zero on the assignment/test and the parents will be notified. Students will receive 1 day of detention.
- 2nd offense—All students involved will receive a zero on the assignment/test and the parents will be notified. Students will receive 2 days of detention.
- 3rd offense—In any course may result in loss of credit. Parents will be notified and all students involved will receive a zero on the assignment. Students will receive 1 day of ISS.

**7th Grade – 12th Grade**

- 1st offense—All students involved will receive a zero on the assignment/test and the parents will be notified. Students will receive 2 detentions.
- 2nd offense—All students involved will receive a zero on the assignment/test and the parents will be notified.
Students will receive 1 day of ISS.
- 3rd offense—In any course may result in loss of credit. Parents will be notified and all students involved will receive a zero on the assignment. Students will receive 2 days of OSS.

**Promotion Policy for Grades K-8**

Parents or guardians will be kept informed concerning progress of their student(s). Promotion for K-8 will be determined by a team of teachers, counselors, and administrators who will make determination of retention. Special Education: The determination of promotion or retention of a student placed in the Special Education Department will be the responsibility of the student’s I.E.P. committee.

A student and/or the student’s parent/guardian may petition the school board, within ten (10) working days of the end of the school year, to reverse the decision of the committee on promotion.

Notice of a student’s possible retention or required retaking of a course shall be included with the student’s grades sent home to each parent/guardian or the student if 18 or older. If there is doubt concerning the retention of a student, or their required taking of a course, a conference between the parents/guardians, teacher(s), other pertinent personnel, and principal shall be held before a final decision is made. The conference shall be held at a time and place that best accommodates those participating in the conference. The school shall document participation or non-participation in required conferences. If the conference attendees fail to agree concerning the student’s placement, the final decision to promote or retain shall rest with the principal or his/her designee.

**School Choice Statement**

Students and their parents wishing to exercise their rights under the School Choice Act (Act 1227 of 2013) must submit in writing their desire to exercise that right by May 1st of each year for the upcoming school year.

**State Mandated Test, Remediation, and Academic Improvement Plans and Response to Intervention**

Students are required by law to participate in the state mandated tests.

Students who do not score proficient or advanced on a benchmark will be expected to participate in an Academic Improvement Plan (AIP). Students in Grades 3-6, identified for an AIP who do not participate in the remediation program shall be retained. Students not proficient on the End-of-Course tests or on the high school Literacy test shall participate in an AIP to receive credit for the corresponding course.

Any student failing to meet one of these conditions shall not be entitled to graduate:
The student is identified as meeting a satisfactory pass level on a subsequent end-of-course assessment. No student that is identified as having failed to meet the satisfactory pass levels on an initial end-of-course assessment shall be entitled to take more than three (3) additional subsequent end-of-course assessments. ADE will determine annually the schedule for administration of additional assessments. The student is identified as a student with disabilities who, because of the nature of the disabilities, cannot meet the requirements. In such case that student may graduate from high school by demonstrating alternate competencies or alternate levels of competency as contained in the student’s individualized education program. The results of End-of-Course assessments shall become a part of each student’s transcript or permanent record. Each course for which a student completes the assessment shall be recorded with the performance level (advanced, proficient, basic or below-basic).

Students who fail to meet adequate progress on state testing, school course work, or show consistent and pervasive behavior issues may be placed in the Response to Intervention (RTI) program. The RTI program is designed to meet the needs of students by providing a tiered system of interventions to correct the deficit being experienced by the students. The school RTI committee will be responsible for coordinating the RTI process with the student, guardians, and teachers as appropriate. The school administrator can be contacted with any questions about the RTI program.
**Acceleration of Students**

The board believes that acceleration is an effective and research-based intervention for the academic growth of students who are ready for an advanced or faster-paced curriculum. It can allow a student to move through the traditional educational setting more rapidly, based on assessed readiness, capability, motivation, social behavior, emotional stability, and maturity. At the same time, the Board understands that acceleration is not a replacement for gifted education services or programs.

Generally, acceleration can occur through one of two broad categories: content based and grade-based. Grade based acceleration shortens the number of years a student would otherwise spend in K-12 education, while content based acceleration occurs within the normal K-12 time span. Either form of acceleration can be triggered by either a parent/guardian, teachers and/or other licensed school personnel. In either case, the process of determining the appropriateness of the request shall be under the direction of the principal and district/school G/T Coordinator, who shall convene the individuals necessary to make an informed decision which shall include the student’s parents/guardians.

While the needs of the student should dictate when acceleration decisions are considered, the Board believes the optimal time for referrals is in the spring, which gives adequate time for working through the determination process and preparing those concerned for a smooth transition to the acceleration beginning in the following school year.

A written guide to refer students for acceleration and the acceleration process itself is available in both the elementary and high school office.

The parents/guardians of any student whose request for acceleration has been denied may appeal the decision, in writing, to the principal. The principal and the Acceleration Placement Committee will again thoroughly review the case study that was completed on the student. Upon completion of the review, the Committee will either request additional new testing be conducted to help the Committee make its determination, or it will uphold the initial decision. The Committee’s decision may not be further appealed.

**Valedictorian/Salutatorian Guidelines**

1. In order to qualify for valedictorian and salutatorian a student must be enrolled at Omaha the spring semester of their Junior year and their entire senior year. Candidates for senior class valedictorians and salutatorians will be selected at the midterm of the fourth quarter of the senior year.

2. Grade point averages will be calculated according to the following scale:
   
   \[
   \begin{align*}
   A &= 4 \\
   B &= 3 \\
   C &= 2 \\
   D &= 1 \\
   F &= 0
   \end{align*}
   \]

   Any classes, such as Advanced Placement classes or college classes, approved for 5.0 credit:

   \[
   \begin{align*}
   A &= 5 \\
   B &= 4 \\
   C &= 3 \\
   D &= 2 \\
   F &= 0
   \end{align*}
   \]

3. International Baccalaureate must take the AP test to receive a 5 point scale for the class. In order for a student to obtain grades from the five (5) point grading scale, the following criteria must be met:
   
   - The Advanced Placement (AP) course must be taught by a certified AP teacher,
   
   - The student must successfully complete the AP course, and the student must take the corresponding College Board Advanced Placement exam.

4. Honors Diploma - In order to qualify for honor graduate of a public high school, students must have completed the minimum core of courses recommended by the State Board of Higher Education and the State Board of Education, or have completed the technical preparation program established by the State Board of Education, and must maintain a 2.75 GPA. Students may see the school counselor for the list of core courses.

**Concurrent Credit (Grades 9-12)**

Upon receipt of a college transcript showing courses that would be equivalent to the high school courses needed for graduation, the school may issue a high school diploma. A three (3) credit semester course shall count as one (1) unit of high school credit in the same subject. College credit earned at a publicly supported community college, technical college or four-year College or university or private institution by an eligible student shall be counted by the high school toward graduation, including credit earned during summer terms. Approval for Concurrent Credit must be obtained prior to the class and through the administration.

**Part-time College Entry (Grades 9-12)**
It is hereby declared to be the policy of this State that qualified students enrolled in a public or private high school in this State shall, upon request, be accepted for enrollment in a public institution of higher education as a part-time student. For purposes of this Act, “qualified student” shall mean a student who is recommended for enrollment in such institution by the principal of the high school in which such student is enrolled and who meets the minimum criteria for advanced placement. (Act 57 of 1983)

1. Student Criteria
   A. Each student must be recommended by the principal of the high school in which such student is enrolled.
   B. Each student must meet the criteria contained below:
      a. 3.0 Grade Point Average (GPA).
      b. Minimum of a 19 on the subject test on the ACT.

**Early College Entry (Grades 9-12)**
For high school students who can benefit from entering a college or university before completing high school graduation, the following guidelines shall apply:
1. The student must give a reason acceptable to the School Board for wanting to leave high school early.
2. The student must make arrangements prior to withdrawing from high school and entering college.

**Student Aides**
Senior students may be used as student aides, if approved by the school administration. The role of all aides should be limited to clerical work for the classroom teacher, and to limited student supervision under the direct, visual, administration of the teacher. No student aide will be allowed to supervise or teach students without the direct involvement and participation of the classroom teacher. Attendance during aide periods will be required the same as for all classes.

**Science Labs**
The Omaha Board of Education recognizes the physical danger that can exist in a science lab where dangerous chemicals or equipment is being used. The science lab instructor is expected to maintain appropriate discipline standards that are stricter, more severe and rigid than that which are maintained in a regular science class, or other school department, because of the unique dangers that exist in this instructional area. Twenty percent (20%) of time spent in Science class should be spent in Labs.

Repeated offenses may result in the student being suspended from the lab for the remainder of the class and a zero for the lab portion of the grade will be recorded.

**General Policies**

**Enrollment in School**
The schools of the District shall be open and free through the completion of the secondary program to all persons between the ages of five (5) and twenty one (21) years whose parents, legal guardians, or other persons having lawful control of the person under an order of a court reside within the District and to all persons between those ages who have been legally transferred to the District for educational purposes.

Any person eighteen (18) years of age or older may establish a residence separate and apart from his or her parents or guardians for school attendance purposes. In order for a person under the age of eighteen (18) years to establish a residence for the purpose of attending the District’s schools separate and apart from his or her parents, guardians, or other persons having lawful control of him or her under an order of a court, the person must actually reside in the District for a primary purpose other than that of school attendance. However, a student previously enrolled in the district who is placed under the legal guardianship of a noncustodial parent living outside the district by a custodial parent on active military duty may continue to attend district schools.

Omaha School District does not discriminate against students who are considered homeless. Homeless students may transfer into the district or participate in school choice. Students who are foster children may be accepted as transfer students or participate in school choice.
Upon enrollment, parents and/or guardians will fill out medical information forms, registration forms, and other and necessary enrollment forms. Parents/guardians shall provide:

- Copy of birth certificate, statement of the local registrar or county recorder certifying child’s date of birth, an attested baptismal certificate, passport, an affidavit from the child’s parents/guardians attesting date and location of birth, U.S. Military Identification, or previous school records.
- Copy of immunization records or immunization waiver from the State Department.
- Evidence of a physical examination (kindergarten physical)
- Social Security Number (not required—in the event one is not provided, a random 9 digit number will be assigned for data purposes).

Parents/Guardians of students who are eligible (turn 5 on or before August 1) may opt to start their child the following year. If such an election is made, the parent, guardian, or other person having custody or charge of the child must file a signed kindergarten waiver form with the local district administrative office. Such form shall be prescribed by regulation of the Department of Education. On filing the kindergarten waiver form, the child shall not be required to attend kindergarten in that school year.

Any relevant medical or psycho-educational information can be given to the school at this time.

**Transfer of Students into the District**

Any student transferring from a school accredited by the Arkansas Department of Education to another school accredited by the Department shall be placed into the same grade the student would have been in had the student remained at the former school.

Any student transferring from home school or a school that is not accredited by the Arkansas Department of Education to a school that is accredited by the Department shall be evaluated by the staff of that accredited school to determine that student’s proper placement in the accredited school.

Students transferring to the Omaha School District from out-of-state who were previously placed in kindergarten, but whose birthday falls after the August 1 deadline may be reevaluated to determine the appropriate placement within the school according to the guidelines set forth within school policy and state guidelines.

Except as required or permitted by law, the responsibility for transportation of any nonresident student admitted in this District lies with the student or the student’s parents.

**Policy Regarding Students Who Are Foster Children**

The Omaha School District will afford the same services and educational opportunities to foster children that are afforded to other children and youth. The District shall work with DHS, the ADE, and other involved individuals to ensure he/she is able to maintain a continuity of educational services to the fullest extent that is practical and reasonable.

A foster child’s grades shall not be lowered due to absence that is caused by a change in the child’s school enrollment, the child’s attendance at dependency-neglect court proceedings, or other court-ordered counseling or treatment.

**Policy Regarding Homeless Children**

The Omaha School District will afford the same services and educational opportunities to homeless children as are afforded to non-homeless children. The Superintendent or his/her designee shall appoint an appropriate staff person to be the local educational liaison for homeless children and youth whose responsibilities shall include coordinating with the state educational liaison for homeless children and youth to ensure that homeless children are not stigmatized or segregated on the basis of their status as homeless and such other duties as are prescribed by law and this policy.

Homeless students living in the district are entitled to enroll in the district’s school that non-homeless students who live in the same attendance area are eligible to attend. If there is a question concerning the enrollment of a homeless child due to a conflict, the child shall be immediately admitted to the school in which enrollment is
sought pending resolution of the dispute. It is the responsibility of the District’s local educational liaison for homeless children and youth to carry out the dispute resolution process.

The District shall act, according to the best interests of a homeless child and to the extent feasible do one of the following. (For the purposes of this policy — school of origin means the school the child attended when permanently housed or the school in which the child was last enrolled.)

1. continue educating the child who becomes homeless between academic years or during an academic year in their school of origin for the duration of their homelessness;
2. continue educating the child in his/her school of origin who becomes permanently housed during an academic year for the remainder of the academic year; or
3. enroll the homeless child in the school appropriate for the attendance zone where the child lives.

If the District elects to enroll a homeless child in a school other than their school of origin and such action is against the wishes of the child’s parent or guardian, the District shall provide the parent or guardian with a written explanation of their reason for so doing which shall include a statement of the parent/guardian’s right to appeal. In any instance where the child is unaccompanied by a parent or guardian, the District’s local educational liaison for homeless children and youth shall assist the child in determining his/her place of enrollment. The Liaison shall provide the child with a notice of his/her right to appeal the enrollment decision.

The District shall be responsible for providing transportation for a homeless child, at the request of the parent or guardian (or in the case of an unaccompanied youth, the Liaison), to and from the child’s school of origin. For the purposes of this policy, students shall be considered homeless if they lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence and (a) are sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason; are living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or camping grounds due to the lack of alternative adequate accommodations; are living in emergency or transitional shelters; are abandoned in hospitals; or are awaiting foster care placement. (b) have a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings; (c) are living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations, or similar settings; and includes (d) are migratory children who are living in circumstances described in clauses (a) through (c).

Omaha School District’s Homeless Liaison is Madison Neves and can be reached at 870-426-3366. The Omaha School District has a Homeless Liaison who can be reached by calling 870-426-3366

Withdrawing from School
All students withdrawing from school must report to notify the office. The student must obtain a form from the counselor; check out with the librarian, school secretary and classroom teachers to see that all books have been returned and all fines and fees paid.

Placement of Students in K-6 Classrooms
Omaha Elementary does not accept requests for teachers or classrooms. Parents, however, have the right to discuss any concerns about the upcoming school year with the elementary principal.

Pursuant to Arkansas Code 6-18-106, parents or guardians of multiple birth siblings in grades PreK-6 may request that either the siblings be placed in the same or separate classrooms. The request shall be in writing no later than the fourteenth day before the start of the current school year. The school shall honor the request unless it would require the school to create an additional class. If one parent requests placement that differs from the other parent of the same siblings, the school shall determine the appropriate placement of the siblings.

The school may make changes to the placement to one or more of the multiple birth siblings if:

- There has been a minimum of 30 instructional days since the start of the year; and
  - After consulting with each classroom teacher of the siblings, the school determines the parent’s classroom placement request is:
    - Detrimental to the educational achievement of the one or more of the siblings;
    - Disruptive to the siblings assigned classroom learning environment; or
    - Disruptive to the school’s educational or disciplinary environment.

The parent may make complaints regarding their belief the school has not placed the multiple birth siblings as required or appeal a decision to the Superintendent. The Superintendent’s decision is final.
**Attendance**

Education is more than the grades students receive in their courses. Important as that is, students’ regular attendance at school is essential to their social and cultural development and helps prepare them to accept responsibilities they will face as an adult. Interactions with other students and participation in the instruction within the classroom enrich the learning environment and promote a continuity of instruction which results in higher student achievement.

If any student’s Individual Education Program (IEP) or 504 Plan conflicts with this policy, the requirements of the student’s IEP or 504 Plan take precedence.

Ark Code 6-18-202 states the schools of the district shall be open and free through the completion of the secondary program to all persons between the ages of five (5) (on or before August 1) and twenty one (21) years whose parents, legal guardians, or other persons having lawful control of the person under an order of a court reside within the district and to all persons between those ages who have been legally transferred to the district for educational purposes. All children between the above ages must attend school unless an appropriate exemption applies. (Ark Code Ann. 6-18-201).

**Excused Absences**

Excused absences are those where the student was on official school business or when the absence was due to one of the following reasons and the student brings a written statement to the principal or designee upon his/her return to school from the parent or legal guardian stating such a reason. A written statement presented for an absence having occurred more than five (5) school days prior to its presentation will not be accepted.

1. Student illness or when attendance could jeopardize the health of other students. A maximum of six (6) such days are allowed per semester unless the condition(s) causing such absences is of a chronic or recurring nature, is medically documented, and approved by the principal.
2. Death or serious illness in their immediate family. Immediate family is defined for these purposes as parents, siblings, grandparents, or any other relative that lives in the home with the student.
3. Observance of recognized holidays observed by the student’s faith.
4. Attendance at an appointment with a government agency.
5. Attendance at a medical appointment
6. Exceptional circumstances with prior approval of the principal; or
7. Participation in an FFA, FHA, or 4-H sanctioned activity;
8. Participation in the election poll workers program for high school students.
9. Absences generated to allow a student to visit his/her parent or legal guardian who is a member of the military and been called into active duty, or has returned from deployment to a combat zone or combat support posting. The number of additional excused absences shall be at the discretion of the superintendent or designee.
10. Absences granted, at the Superintendent’s discretion, to seventeen (17) year-old students who join the Arkansas National Guard while in the eleventh grade to complete basic training between grades eleven (11) and twelve (12).

Students who serve as pages for a member of the General Assembly shall be considered on instructional assignment and shall not be considered absent from school for the day the student is serving as a page. Additional travel days may be considered as excused absence upon approval of the Superintendent or designee.

It is the Arkansas General Assembly’s intention that student have excessive absences be given assistance in obtaining credit for their courses. Excessive absences may, however, be the basis for denial of course credit, promotion, or graduation.

**Unexcused Absences**

Absences not defined above or not have an accompanying note from the parent or legal guardian, presented in the timeline required by this policy, shall be considered as unexcused absences. Students with 12 unexcused absences in a course in a semester shall not receive credit for that course. Students who do not receive credit for a course
will have a zero (0) for the semester in the course and it will figure into the students GPA. At the discretion of the principal after consultation with persons having knowledge of the circumstances of the unexcused absences, the student may be denied promotion or graduation. Excessive absences shall not be a reason for expulsion or dismissal of a student.

When a student has five (5) unexcused absences, his/her parents, guardians, or persons in loco parentis, shall be notified. Notification shall be by telephone by the end of the school day in which the absence occurred and by regular mail with a return address no later than the following school day.

When a student has ten (10) unexcused absences, his/her parents, guardians, or persons in loco parentis, shall be notified. Notification shall be by telephone by the end of the school day in which the absence occurred and by regular mail with a return address no later than the following school day.

**Whenever a student exceeds 10 unexcused absences in a semester, the District shall notify the prosecuting authority and the parent, guardian, or persons in loco parentis shall be subject to a civil penalty as prescribed by law.**

At any time prior to when a student exceeds the number of unexcused absences permitted by this policy, the student, or his/her parent, guardian, or person in loco parentis may petition the school or district’s administration for special arrangements to address the student’s unexcused absences. If formal arrangements are granted, they shall be formalized into a written agreement which will include the conditions of the agreement and the consequences for failing to fulfill the agreement’s requirements. The agreement shall be signed by the student, the student’s parent, guardian, or person in loco parentis, and the school or district administrator or designee.

Students who attend in-school suspension shall not be counted absent for those days.

Days missed due to out-of-school suspension or expulsion shall be [unexcused absences](#).

### Tardiness

Excessive tardiness is not acceptable because it is detrimental to the student’s educational endeavors as well as being an interruption within the school day.

**Grades K-6**

4 Tardies = 1 day absence

Tardies are determined as follows for grades 7-12:

1. A student is tardy if they are not in their seat when the bell rings for class to begin.
2. If a student is 15 minutes late to class then that student is absent for that class.
3. If a student leaves class more than 15 minutes before the end of class then that student is absent for that class.
4. The following consequences are in place for excessive tardiness, tardiness records will reset every semester:

   2 Tardies in a course – 2 Detentions, Teacher will contact parents
   3 Tardies in a course – 4 Detentions, Teacher will contact parents
   4 Tardies in a course – 1 day of ISS, Administrator will contact parents
   5 Tardies in a course – 2 days of ISS, Administrator will contact parents
   4 Tardies – 1 Class Absence

   This pattern will repeat as needed. Teachers will assign detentions as they are needed.

### Attendance for the Purposes of a Driver’s License

The District shall notify the Department of Finance and Administration whenever a student fourteen (14) years of age or older is no longer in school. The Department of Finance and Administration is required to suspend the former student’s operator’s license unless he/she meets certain requirements specified in the statute.
Applicants for an instruction permit or for a driver’s license by persons less than eighteen (18) years old on October 1 of any year are required to provide proof of a high school diploma or enrollment and regular attendance in an adult education program or a public, private, or parochial school prior to receiving an instruction permit. To be issued a driver’s license, a student enrolled in school shall present proof of a “C” average for the previous semester or similar equivalent grading period for which grades are reported as part of the student’s permanent record.

Check In/Checkout Procedures
1) Students in grades 7-12 must report to the office the day they return to school from being absent to obtain an admit slip.
2) Students are tardy after 8:15 8:00 am and must have their parents sign-in and get an admit slip. 7-12 Students tardy to school must sign-in and get an admit slip from the office. If any 7-12 student misses more than fifteen (15) minutes of class, he/she will be counted absent for that class, but sent on to class. K-6 students must be present for 3 hours in order to be counted one-half day present or 6 hours present to be counted a full day. In addition, late arrivals or early dismissals will be counted as a tardy.
   a) Elementary Times
      i)  8:00 – 8:15 Tardy
      ii) 8:00 – 10:15 Absent
      iii) 10:16 – 10:30 Early Dismissal
      iv) 10:30 – 11:45 Tardy
      v)   11:46 – 2:00 Absent
      vi)  2:01 – 3:00 Early Dismissal
3) Students who ride a “late” bus are not counted tardy.
4) Omaha is a closed campus for students. Parents/guardians must call/visit the office to check-out their children.
5) Students returning to campus must have a doctor’s note, legal notification (subpoena, etc.), or other supporting documentation to return to campus for the day that they check out.
6) No person under 21 years of age will be listed on the emergency form unless that person is the student’s legal guardian, plus two other individuals approved by the legal guardian.
7) Students are not to be counted absent when participating in a school-sponsored activity.
8) Act 675 - All students in grades 9-12 are required, beginning in the 2004-2005 school year, to attend a full day of school. A senior student waiver of this policy can be given by the high school principal or superintendent if the parents can prove that having their child attend a full day would cause a financial hardship for their family.
9) Individuals checking a child out may be subject to showing identification for safety reasons.

Contact by Parents
Parents wishing to speak to their children during the school day shall register first with the office.

Contact by Non-Custodial Parents
If there is any question concerning the legal custody of the student, the custodial parent shall present documentation to the principal or his/her designee establishing the parent’s custody of the student. It shall be the responsibility of the custodial parent to make any court ordered —no contact or other restrictions regarding the non-custodial parent known to the principal by presenting a copy of a file-marked court order. Without such a court order on file, the school will release the child to either of his/her parents. Non-custodial parents who file with the principal a date-stamped copy of current court orders granting visitation may eat lunch, volunteer in their child’s classroom, or otherwise have contact with their child during school hours and the prior approval of the school’s principal. Such contact is subject to the limitations outlined in Board Policy, and any other policies that may apply.

Unless prior arrangements have been made with the school’s principal, Arkansas law provides that the transfer of a child between his/her custodial parent and non-custodial parent, when both parents are present, shall not take place on the school’s property on normal school days during normal hours of school operation

Pledge of Allegiance
Omaha School, in compliance with Act 1333 of 2003, will require all students in grades K-12 to participate in a daily recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance during the first class of each school day. The students shall stand and recite the
pledge while facing the flag with their right hand over their hearts. Any student’s parent or guardian who objects to the recitation of the Pledge may stand quietly, sit quietly in their seats, or stand outside the classroom door.

**Minute of Silence**
Omaha School, in compliance with Act 576 of 2013, will require all students in grades K-12 to observe a minute of silence during the first class of each school day. Students may reflect, pray, or engage in a silent activity. The teacher or school employee in charge of the classroom shall ensure that all students remain silent and do not interfere with or distract another student during the period of silence.

**Petitions**
A petition for any cause may not be circulated in a school building without prior approval of the Superintendent of Schools.

Every student and district resident has a right to write, sign, and present petitions to the School Board and school administration. Petitions may be presented directly to the Principal, Superintendent, and Board of Education. Any student signing a petition will be free from recrimination or retribution from members of the staff and administration.

All petitions shall be free of obscenities, libelous statements, and personal attacks and shall be within the bounds of reasonable conduct. The signing of petitions shall not take place during, or disrupt, normal class activities.

**Publication Policy**

**Purpose:** School sponsored publications are produced as part of the Omaha School District’s educational curriculum to provide a supervised learning experience for journalism students (and are taught as a regular classroom activity). Students may exercise their right of expression subject to the requirements of this policy.

**Principles:** Truth, fairness, accuracy and responsibility are essential to the practice of journalism. The following types of publications by students are not authorized:
1) Publications that are obscene as to minors, as defined by state law.
2) Publications that are libelous or slanderous, as defined by state law.
3) Publications that constitute an unwarranted invasion of privacy, as defined by state law.
4) Publications that so incite students as to create a clear and present danger of the commission of unlawful acts on school premises or the violations of lawful school regulations or the material and substantial disruption of the orderly operation of the school.

**Review of Content by School Officials:** In order to reserve student publications for their intended educational purpose, school officials shall retain ultimate editorial control over the determinations of what constitutes responsible journalism in a school-sponsored newspaper. The publications advisor (journalism teacher) in conjunction with student editors will determine what material shall be considered by school officials for publication. All material selected in this way shall be submitted to the building principal. The building principal shall review the material, taking into account such things as emotional maturity of the intended audience; whether the materials associates the school with a non-neutral position in a political controversy; whether the material might be perceived as advocating drug or alcohol use, irresponsible sex or conduct inconsistent with the shared values of the larger community.

Any material that the building principal deems to be inconsistent with the education purpose of the publication shall be modified and resubmitted or withdrawn from consideration for publication. The decisions of the building principal shall be final, and there shall be no appeal. Only material that has been approved by the building principal may be published.

**Distribution:** School officials shall direct the distribution of student publications to ensure that school operations are not disrupted.

**Distribution of Literature**
Students shall have the right to distribute and possess any form of literature including, but not limited to, newspapers, magazines, leaflets and pamphlets; except that the principal may prohibit a specific issue of a specific
publication if there is a substantial, factual cause or is causing substantial disruption with school activities.

The principal or any member of the school staff shall not require that literature, including school-sponsored publications, be submitted for approval or consent prior to distribution. The principal may require that no literature be distributed unless a copy thereof is submitted to the principal or designee no later than the time distribution commences.

The time, place, and the manner of student distribution of literature may be reasonably regulated by the principal provided such regulations

1. Are uniformly applied to all forms of literature;
2. Do not prohibit distribution at times or places either inside or outside the school building for which no factual basis exists to conclude that any interference with school activities would occur;
3. Are specific as to places and times where distribution is prohibited;
4. Do not inhibit a person’s right to accept or reject any literature distribution in accordance with rules.

Visitors
Parents/Guardians or other visitors must report to the office of the respective campus they wish to visit and receive a visitor’s pass.

Student Grievance Procedure for Title VI, Title IX, and Section 504
DEFINITIONS:

A. DISCRIMINATION COMPLAINT: A written complaint alleging any policy, procedure or practice which discriminates on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, qualified handicap, religion, or age.
B. STUDENT GRIEVANT: A student of the Omaha School District who submits a complaint alleging discrimination based on race, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, qualified handicap, religion, or age
C. EMPLOYEE GRIEVANT: An employee of the Omaha School District who submits a complaint alleging discrimination based on race, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, qualified handicap, religion, age, or status as a veteran.
D. EQUITY COORDINATOR: The person(s) designated to coordinate efforts to comply with and carry out responsibilities under the Civil Rights Laws and other State and Federal laws addressing equal educational opportunity. The Coordinator is responsible for processing complaints and serves as moderator and recorder during hearing.
E. RESPONDENT: The person alleged to be responsible for the violation alleged in a complaint. The term may be used to designate persons with responsibility for a particular action or those persons with supervisor responsibility for procedures and policies in those areas covered in the complaint.
F. DAY: Day means a working day. The calculation of days in complaint processing shall exclude Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays.

PRE-FILING PROCEDURES:

A. Prior to the filing of a written complaint, the student or employee is encouraged to visit with the Equity Coordinator, and reasonable effort should be made to resolve the problem or complaint.

FILING AND PROCESSING DISCRIMINATION COMPLAINTS:

A. GRIEVANT: Submits written complaint to Equity Coordinator stating name, nature and date of alleged violation; names of persons responsible (where known); and requested action. Complaint must be submitted within thirty (30) days of alleged violation. Complaint forms are available in the school office or other designated area.
B. EQUITY COORDINATOR: Notifies respondent within ten (10) days and asks respondent to:
   1. Confirm or deny facts.
   2. Indicate acceptance or rejection of student or employee’s requested action; or
   3. Outline alternatives.
C. RESPONDENT: Submits answer with ten (10) days to Equity Coordinator.
D. EQUITY COORDINATOR: Within ten (10) days after receiving respondent’s answer, Equity Coordinator refers the written complaint and respondent’s answer to the principal or other designee. The Equity Coordinator also schedules a hearing with the grievant, the respondent and the principal or other designee.

E. PRINCIPAL, GRIEVANT, RESPONDENT, AND EQUITY COORDINATOR: Hearing is conducted.

F. PRINCIPAL: Issues within ten (10) days after the hearing, a written decision to the student or employee, respondent, and Equity Coordinator.

G. GRIEVANT OR RESPONDENT: If the grievant or respondent is not satisfied with the decision, they must notify the Equity Coordinator within ten (10) days and request a hearing with the Superintendent.

H. EQUITY COORDINATOR: Schedule within ten (10) days of request a hearing with the grievant, respondent, and Superintendent.

I. SUPERINTENDENT, GRIEVANT, RESPONDENT AND EQUITY COORDINATOR: Hearing is conducted.

J. SUPERINTENDENT: Issues a decision within ten (10) days following the hearing.

K. GRIEVANT: If the grievant or respondent is not satisfied with the decision, they must notify the Equity Coordinator within ten (10) days and request a hearing with the governing Board.

L. EQUITY COORDINATOR: Notices governing Board within ten (10) days after receiving request. Equity Coordinator schedules hearing with the governing Board. Hearing is to be conducted within thirty (30) days from the date of notification to the governing Board.

M. GOVERNING BOARD OR HEARING PANEL ESTABLISHED BY THE BOARD, GRIEVANT, AND EQUITY COORDINATOR: Hearing is conducted.

N. GOVERNING BOARD: Issues a final written decision within ten (10) days after the hearing regarding the validity of the grievance and any action to be taken.

GENERAL PROVISIONS:

A. EXTENTION OF TIME: Any time limits set by these procedures may be extended by mutual consent of parties involved. The total number of days from the date that complaint is filed until complaint is resolved shall be no more than 180 days.

B. APPEAL: The grievant shall have the right to appeal the governing Board’s decision within thirty (30) days after the receipt of the decision to the Equity Assistance Center, #4 Capitol Mall, Room 402-A, Little Rock, Arkansas 72201, phone number: (501) 682-4213. The appeal should be in writing, signed and dated.

C. ACCESS TO REGULATIONS: The Omaha School District shall provide copies of all regulations prohibiting discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age, qualified handicap, sexual orientation, or veteran upon request.

D. CONFIDENTIALLY OF RECORDS: Complaint records will remain confidential unless permission is given by the parties involved to release such information. No complaint record shall be entered in the personnel file. Complaint records shall be maintained on file for three years after complaint resolution.

No student in the Omaha School District shall, on the grounds of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, or qualifying handicap be excluded from participation in, or denied the benefits of, or subjected to discrimination under any educational program or activity sponsored by the District.

Student/Patron Complaints and Concerns
Any Omaha School District student/patron who desires to express a complaint/concern relative to any school-related matter must use the following procedure:

1. If an Omaha staff member is involved, the student/patron must first confer with that respective individual in an effort to resolve the complaint/concern. Except for emergencies, classroom or office visits should be arranged by appointment in advance.

2. A staff member is not obligated to talk to more than one individual at a time if two or more have the same complaints/concern. The staff member may also elect to refer the individual(s) having the complaint(s)/concern(s) directly to the staff member’s immediate supervisor.

3. Problems associated with the bus transportation program will be directed, initially, to the bus supervisor.

4. If the complaint/concern is not resolved to the satisfaction of the student/patron at the aforementioned
levels, he/she should complete a copy of the STUDENT/PATRON COMPLAINT AND CONCERN FORM and forward it to the principal. If the complaint/concern relates to the athletic department, the form will be submitted by the student/patron to the athletic director.

5. If the complaint/concern is not resolved to the satisfaction of the student/patron at the principal/athletic director level, he/she may appeal in writing to the superintendent. The original complaint/concern form will be reviewed by the superintendent during this appeal process.

6. If the complaint/concern is not resolved to the satisfaction of the student/patron at the above level, he/she may appeal to the Board of Education at the next regularly scheduled Board meeting by requesting such an appeal, in writing, to the superintendent or president of the school board. The written appeal must be made at least one week before the board meeting, unless extenuating circumstances exist, for it to be placed on the agenda for that meeting. The decision of the Board of Education is final.

**Equity Statement**

It is the policy of the Omaha School District to provide equal opportunities without regard to race, color, national origin, sex, age, qualified handicap, sexual orientation, or veteran in its educational programs and activities. This includes, but is not limited to, admissions, educational services, financial aid, and employment. Inquiries concerning application of this policy may be referred to:

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**Equity Coordinator:** Amanda Green  
**Address:** 522 W. College Road  
**Phone Number:** (870) 426-3366

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No student in the Omaha School District shall, on the grounds of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, or disability be excluded from participation in, or denied the benefits of, or subjected to discrimination under any educational program or activity sponsored by the District. The District has a limited open forum granting equal access to the Boy Scouts of America and other youth groups.

Inquiries on non-discrimination may be directed to:

Amanda Green  
522 West College Road  
Omaha, AR 72662  
(870) 426-3372.

For further information on notice of non-discrimination or to file a complaint, visit http://wdcrobcolp01.ed.gov/CFAPPS/OCR/contactus.cfm; for the address and phone number of the office that serves your area, or call 1-800-421-3481.

**Inclement Weather/Outside Recess (Grades K-4)**

The playground will be closed to all students during inclement weather. Duty teachers will find an appropriate indoor location in which to locate the students during recess.

**Legal Guardianship**

In cases of divorce and/or separation, the school may not deny access to a student by the non-custodial parent unless a copy of LEGAL DOCUMENTATION SUCH AS A COURT ORDER is presented to the appropriate school office. The legal parent/guardian must have a court order stating that they have legal custody of the student and who can or cannot visit the student.

**Changes of Address, Telephone, or Employment**

It is VERY IMPORTANT that parents notify the school office of change of local address, telephone, or place of employment. Be sure the school authorities can contact you or someone responsible for your child at all times. A person to contact if you cannot be reached must be listed with current phone numbers.

**Telephone and Students Going Home with Other Students**

Students will be allowed to use the phone in the office for emergencies only. Messages may be delivered to your child
when necessary; however, please keep phone calls to a minimum. Students should know their travel arrangements, etc., prior to coming to school. **All travel arrangements should be finalized at 2:30 p.m.**

Students **will not** be allowed to use the school phone to gain permission from parents to go home with a friend or take a friend home with them. Such visiting plans must be arranged with parents before children arrive at school, and then **the school must have a signed note of approval from the parent/guardian of each child**. Please make your plans with your child before he/she comes to school.

**School Supplies**
The school will provide your child with textbooks, workbooks, and most art materials. Each student will need certain personal school supplies as defined by the classroom teacher. Please check regularly to make sure your child has paper, pencil, and other needed materials for school. If you need assistance, please contact the school.

**Special Services**
The district shall provide a free appropriate public education and necessary related services to all children with Disabilities residing within the district, required under the Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA), Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans With Disabilities Act, and Arkansas Statutes. It is the intent of the district to ensure that students who are disabled within the definition of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 are identified, evaluated and provided with appropriate educational services. Students may be disabled within the meaning of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act even though they do not require services pursuant to the IDEA.

For students eligible for services under IDEA, the District shall follow procedures for identification, evaluation, placement, and delivery of services to children with disabilities provided in state and federal statutes which govern special education. Implementation of an Individualized Education Program (IEP) in accordance with the IDEA satisfies the district’s obligation to provide a free and appropriate education under Section 504.

The Board directs the superintendent to ensure procedures are in place for the implementation of special education services and that programs are developed to conform to the requirements of state and federal legislation. The superintendent is responsible for appointing a district coordinator for overseeing district fulfillment of its responsibilities regarding handicapped students. Among the coordinator’s responsibilities shall be ensuring district enforcement of the due process rights of handicapped students and their parents.

**Cafeteria/Breakfast and Lunch**
The cafeteria offers both breakfast and a hot lunch, including milk. The menu is printed in the bulletin published by the office each morning and in the Harrison Daily Times on a weekly basis. It is also available online at www.omahaschool.weebly.com. Extra milk may be purchased. **PAYMENTS FOR MEALS AT SCHOOL MUST BE PAID AT THE TIME OF SERVICE OR IN ADVANCE.** Milk may also be purchased by children who bring their lunch from home.

Applications for Free or Reduced Meals are available online, from the cafeteria, or office.

**Field Trip Guidelines**
A field trip is an educational experience that is an extension of the regular classroom environment. The following guidelines will apply to field trips:

- Written parental permission must be given before a student participates in a field trip.
- Only students from the classroom are allowed to attend field trips. Siblings and pre-school children are not allowed on field trips.
- As a part of the field trip experience, all students are expected to ride the school bus. The Omaha School District accepts no liability involving privately transported students on school field trips. No other student can ride with another parent even if there is written permission.
- All school discipline procedures and consequences apply on field trips.
- Principals may exclude students from field trips who would constitute a health, safety, and/or conduct risk as evidenced by their current discipline record.
- Parents can check out a student during a field trip if the student is signed out through school officials, as documented on a sign out sheet.
• At least one (1) chaperone per every ten (10) students is required. The principal and teacher(s) will make judgment as to the appropriate number of chaperones needed on a field trip. Chaperones may ride the bus. Parents are to provide their own transportation.

Emergency Drills
All schools in the District shall conduct fire drills at least monthly. Tornado drills shall also be conducted not fewer than four (4) times per year with at least one each in the months of September, October, January, and February. Students, who ride school buses, shall also participate in emergency evacuation drills at least twice each school year. Evacuation procedures will be practiced and posted in accordance with the District Crisis Plan.

Other types of emergency drills may also be conducted. These may include, but are not limited to:
1. Earthquake;
2. Act of terrorism;
3. Chemical spill;
4. Airplane crash.
5. School Lockdown
6. Active Shooter Drill

Video Surveillance
The board authorizes the use of video/audio surveillance cameras. The placement of video/audio surveillance cameras shall be based on the presumption and belief that students, staff and visitors have no reasonable expectation of privacy anywhere on or near school property, facilities, vehicles, or equipment, with the exception of places such as rest rooms or dressing areas where an expectation of privacy is reasonable and customary. Signs shall be posted on campus buildings and in district vehicles to notify students, staff, and visitors that video cameras may be in use. Parents and students shall also be notified through the student handbook that cameras may be in use in school buildings, on school grounds and in school vehicles. Students will be held responsible for any violations of school discipline rules caught by the cameras.

The district shall retain copies of video recordings until they are erased which may be accomplished by either deletion or copying over with a new recording.

Videos containing evidence of a violation of student conduct rules and/or state or federal law shall be retained until the issue of the misconduct is no longer subject to review or appeal as determined by board policy or student handbook; any release or viewing of such records shall be in accordance with current law.

Students who vandalize, damage, disable, or render inoperable (temporarily or permanently) surveillance cameras and equipment shall be subject to appropriate disciplinary action and referral to appropriate law enforcement authorities.

Parental Liability
Act 36 of 1987 indicates that the State of Arkansas or any county, city, town or school district, or any person, corporation or organization shall be entitled to recover damages in an amount not in excess of five thousand dollars ($5,000.00) in a court of competent jurisdiction from the parents of any minor under the age of eighteen (18) years, living with the parents, who shall maliciously or willfully destroy property, real, personal or mixed, belonging to the state or any such county, city, town or school district, or any person, corporation or organization.

Privacy of Students’ Records
Except when a court order regarding a student has been presented to the district to the contrary, all students’ educational records are available for inspection by the parent or his/her student who is under the age of 18. At the age 18, the right to inspect and copy a student’s records transfers to the student. A student’s parent of the student, if over the age of 18, requesting review of the educational records of that student will be allowed to do so in accordance with Board Policy and within forty-five (45) days of the request. The District forwards education records, including disciplinary records, to schools that have requested them and in which the student seeks or intends to enroll.

The District shall receive written permission before releasing education records to any agency or individual not authorized by law to receive and/or view the education records without prior parental permission. The District shall maintain a record of requests by such agencies or individuals for access to, and each disclosure of, personally identifiable information from
the educational records of each student. Disclosure of education records is authorized by law to school officials with legitimate educational interests. A personal record kept by a school staff member is not considered an educational record if it meets the following tests:

- It is in the sole possession of the individual who made it;
- It is used only as a personal memory aide; and
- Information contained in it has never been revealed or made available to any other person, except the maker’s temporary substitute.

For the purposes of this policy, a school official is a person employed by the school as an administrator, supervisor, instructor, or support staff member (including health or medical staff and law enforcement unit personnel); a person serving on the school board; a person or company with whom the school has contracted to perform a special task (such as an attorney, auditor, medical consultant, or therapist); or a parent or student serving on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee, or assisting another school official in performing his or her tasks.

For the purposes of this policy, a school official has a legitimate and educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibility, contracted duty, or duty of elected office.

The District discloses personally identifiable information from an educational record to appropriate parties, including parents, in connection with an emergency if knowledge of the information is necessary to protect the health or safety of the students or other individuals. The superintendent or designee shall determine who will have access to and the responsibility for disclosing information in emergency situations. The District will take in account the totality of the situation and make determinations of the threat of health or safety of a student or other individuals.

The Omaha School District does not distinguish between a custodial and noncustodial parent or non-parent such as a person acting in loco parentis or a foster parent with respect to access to student records. Unless a court order restricts such access has been presented to the district to the contrary, the fact of a person’s status as apparent or guardian, alone, enables to the parent or guardian to review and copy his child’s records.

If there exists a court order which directs that parent not to have access to a student or his records, the parent, guardian, person acting in loco parentis, or agent of DHS must present a file-marked copy of such order to the building principal and the superintendent. The school will make good-faith efforts to act in accordance with the court order. Failure to do so does not impose legal liability upon the school. The actual responsibility for enforcement of such court orders rests with parents or guardians, their attorneys, and the court which issued the order.

A parent or guardian does not have the right to remove any material from a student’s records but such parent or guardian may challenge the accuracy of a record. This right does not include the right to dispute a grade, which must be done through the appropriate teacher and/or administrator, the decision of whom is final. A challenge to the accuracy of materials must be initiated with the building principal, with an appeal to the superintendent or his designee. If the school determines not to the amend the record as requested, the school will notify the requesting parent/student of the decision and inform them of their right to a hearing.

Unless the parent or guardian of a student (or student, if above the age of eighteen [18]), objects, directory information about a student may be made available to the public, military recruiters, post secondary educational institutions, prospective employers of those students, as well as school publications such as annual yearbooks and graduation announcements. Directory information includes, but is not limited to: student name, address, phone number, e-mail address, photograph, date, place of birth, dates of attendance (meaning the time the student was enrolled in the school), his/her placement on the honor roll, receipt of other honors, and participation in clubs or extracurricular activities. The publication of such information will be beyond the control of the District. A student’s name and photograph will only be displayed on the District or School web site/pages after receiving the written permission from the student’s parent or student if over the age of 18.

The form for objecting to making directory information available must be completed and signed by the parent or age-eligible student and filed with the building principal’s office no later than ten (10) school days after the beginning of the each school year or the date the student is enrolled for school. Failure to file an objection by that time is considered a specific grant of permission. The district is required to honor any signed opt-out form for any student no longer in attendance at Omaha School District.

Parental Involvement
Omaha School District seeks and encourages positive parental involvement in educating our students. To this end each school, Elementary (K-6) and High School (7-12) offers the following to parents:

1. A parent coordinator for each school. (contact the individual school).
   - K-6 - (870) 426-3372
   - 7-12 - (870) 426-3367

2. A parent center for each school. (contact the individual school as above)

**School Pictures**
Individual school pictures will be taken each year. Parents/Guardians will be informed of the exact date so that they may get their students ready for their pictures. There is no obligation to purchase these pictures.

**Classroom Parties (Grades K-6)**
Halloween, Christmas, and Valentines parties are the only scheduled parties in the classrooms. They will be scheduled the same day and occur during a time that allows minimal disruption to the instructional day. Due to nutritional guidelines outside food cannot be accepted except on party days. Due to academic issues, birthday parties will not be allowed at school.

Omaha Elementary is allergy aware, therefore, peanut products are not allowed in the building. There are designated zones in the cafeteria for students who bring their lunches containing peanut products. Please contact your students teacher regarding storage of lunches that contain peanut products.

**Board of Education Meetings**
Regular meetings of the Board of Education are held the second Thursday or 3rd Monday of each month at 6:00 p.m. Changes in the place and time of the meetings are announced as far in advance as possible. Special meetings may be called when necessary by the President of the Board, by three members of the Board, and by request of the Superintendent or patron petition.

All Board meetings are open to the public and may be attended freely by both students and adults.

**Student Conduct**

**Conduct Behavior Code for All Students**
Every teacher shall seek to exercise wholesome discipline in her or his school and endeavor by precept and otherwise to instill and cultivate in the pupils good morals and gentle manners. Classified school employees and volunteers shall have as a minimum the responsibility to appropriately assist and support teachers in this effort. All students are expected to conduct themselves at all times in a manner that will contribute to the best interest of the school system and not infringe on the rights of others. School staffs have the authority and the responsibility to take customary and reasonable measures to maintain proper control and discipline among students placed under their care and supervision. The following infractions are considered improper conduct and will subject the student to disciplinary action including a minimum of verbal warning to a maximum of expulsion from school. An expelled student may not enroll back in school until the time of the person’s expulsion has expired. A violation of the rule will occur whether the conduct takes place on the school grounds at any time, off the school grounds at a school activity, function, event or enroute to and from school.

All principals of the Omaha District shall report incidents that may constitute felonies to local law enforcement agencies for investigation and to this Board for adjudication. A principal shall make such a report when he/she has direct knowledge or has received information leading to a reasonable belief that a student has committed a felony on school property, a felony while under school supervision or a violent criminal act against a teacher, principal, employee or student.

The discipline policies contained in this chapter have been written and approved in accordance with the provisions of Act 104 of 1983.

Provision has been made for the documentation of the receipt of these policies by parents and students. Ongoing in-service programs for teachers and administrators relative to classroom management activities and other skills relevant to student discipline are planned at appropriate times throughout the school year.
Disciplinary infractions will be recorded and bundled. Disciplinary infractions in each level will become progressively more severe if the student chooses to continue to commit rule violations. It is reasonable to assume that the administration cannot foresee all conduct problems and will need to take action in areas as the need arises.

LEVEL ONE INFRACTION:

Consequences for LEVEL ONE violations:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Kindergarten – 6th Grade</th>
<th>7th Grade – 12th Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st Offense....Detention (1-2 days)</td>
<td>1st Offense.... Detention (1-3 Days)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd Offense....Detention (2-3 days)</td>
<td>2nd Offense....In-School Suspension (1-2 days)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd Offense....In School Suspension</td>
<td>3rd Offense....In-School Suspension (2-4 days)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4th Offense....In School Suspension (2-4 days)</td>
<td>4th Offense....In-School Suspension (4-6 days)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5th Offense....Out of School Suspension</td>
<td>5th Offense....Out of School Suspension</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

a. Disrespect for school employees and failing to comply with their reasonable directions or otherwise demonstrating insubordination;

b. Disruptive behavior that interferes with orderly school operations;

c. Selling or trading personal items on campus;

d. Use of any electronic device outside of designated times as directed by the administration.

e. Gambling;

f. Inappropriate public displays of affection;

g. Forgery or falsification of information;

h. Loitering on an unassigned campus or “off-limits” or undesignated area.

i. Gangs or gang-related activities, including belonging to secret societies of any kind, are forbidden on school property. Gang insignias, clothing, “throwing signs” or other gestures associated with gangs are prohibited.

j. Inappropriate or unauthorized use of computers.

k. Failure to dress out for classes when required, unless teacher authorizes not dressing out for justified reasons provided appropriate documentation.

l. Failure to complete homework/class work on time.

m. Other behavior not addressed.

May be elevated to a LEVEL 2 depending upon the severity.
LEVEL TWO INFRACTIONS:

Consequences for LEVEL TWO violations:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Kindergarten – 6th Grade</th>
<th>7th Grade – 12th Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>1st</strong> Offense….Detention (2-3 days)</td>
<td><strong>1st</strong> Offense.... Detention (4-5 Days)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2nd</strong> Offense....In School Suspension</td>
<td><strong>2nd</strong> Offense....In-School Suspension</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>3rd</strong> Offense....In School Suspension (2-3 days)</td>
<td><strong>3rd</strong> Offense....In-School Suspension (2-3 Days)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>4th</strong> Offense....In School Suspension (4-6 days)</td>
<td><strong>4th</strong> Offense....In-School Suspension (4-6 Days)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>5th</strong> Offense....Out of School Suspension</td>
<td><strong>5th</strong> Offense....Out of School Suspension</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

a. Truancy- skipping school, skipping class, or leaving classroom or designated area without permission;

b. Possession or use of tobacco in any form on any property owned or leased by any public school;

c. Bullying;

d. Sexual harassment ;

e. Use of vulgar, profane, or obscene language or gestures;

f. Willfully or intentionally damaging, destroying, or stealing school property;

g. Engaging in behavior designed to taunt, degrade, or ridicule another person on the basis of race, ethnicity, national origin, sex, or disability;

h. Hazing, or aiding in the hazing or another student;

i. Possess, view, distribute or electronically transmit sexually explicit or vulgar images or representations, whether electronically, on a data storage device, or in hard copy form;

j. Refusal of punishment; and

k. Other behavior not addressed.

May be elevated to a LEVEL 3 depending upon the severity.

LEVEL THREE INFRACTIONS:

Consequences for LEVEL THREE violations:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Kindergarten – 6th Grade</th>
<th>7th Grade – 12th Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Minimum....Out of School Suspension</td>
<td>Minimum....Out of School Suspension</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maximum....Expulsion</td>
<td>Maximum....Expulsion</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

a. Willfully or intentionally damaging, destroying, or stealing school property;

b. Possession of any weapon that can be reasonably be considered capable of causing bodily harm to another individual;

c. Possession, selling, distributing, or being under the influence of an alcoholic beverage, any illegal drug, unauthorized inhalants, or the inappropriate use or sharing of prescription or over the counter drugs, or other intoxicants, or anything represented to be a drug;

d. Sharing, diverting, transferring, applying to others (such as needles or lancets), or in any way misusing medication or medical supplies in their possession.

e. False emergency alarm, tampering with safety devices, or tampering with devices that would cause a danger to the student or others;

f. Willfully and intentionally assaulting or threatening assault or physically abusing any student or school employee;

g. Indecent exposure;

h. Theft/Extortion/bribery;

i. Other behavior not addressed;

Multiple offenses could result in an elevation of level based on administrative discretion.
Laser Pointers

Students are not allowed to possess laser pointers at school. Students shall not possess any hand held laser pointer while in school; on or about school property, before or after school; in attendance at school or any school-sponsored activity; en route to or from school or any school-sponsored activity; off the school grounds at any school bus stop or at any school-sponsored activity or event. School personnel shall seize any laser pointer from the student possessing it and the student may reclaim it at the close of the school year, or when the student is no longer enrolled in the District.

1. Corporal Punishment
The Omaha School Board authorizes the use of corporal punishment to be administered in accordance with this policy by the Superintendent or his/her designated staff members who are required to have a state-issued certificate as a condition of their employment.

Prior to the administration of corporal punishment, the student receiving the corporal punishment shall be given an explanation of the reasons for the punishment and be given an opportunity to refute the charges. The parent/guardian will also be contacted prior to the administration of corporal punishment.

All corporal punishment shall be administered privately, i.e. out of the sight and hearing of other students, shall not be excessive, or administered with malice, and shall be administered in the presence of another licensed staff member employed by the District. Refusal to take corporal punishment by a student will result in out-of-school suspension. All parents/guardians shall sign a provided form detailing their consent/lack of consent for their child to receive corporal punishment, if the need should arise. Corporal punishment will not be administered without documentation on file.

2. In-School Suspension
Based on either serious or frequent violations of school rules, the administration may choose to use in-school suspension. Generally, this punishment is for cases that would otherwise be inappropriate for out-of-school suspension. This option allows students to be present at school and keep up with school work. Students in ISS will not be permitted to participate in any extracurricular activities on the day they serve ISS.

3. Out-of-School Suspension
The principal or designee of any school is authorized to suspend students from school for disciplinary reasons up to ten school days, including the day upon which the suspension was initially imposed. When a student has been notified that he/she is suspended from school, he/she shall remain away from the school premises until the principal or designee reinstates him/her, except that a suspended student may return to the school premises when accompanied by his/her parent/guardian for a student/parent/principal conference. Student’s assigned out-of-school suspension will be allowed to make up work during the 1st suspension only. All class work/homework assigned during the suspension period must be turned in by the start of each class the day the student returns from the suspension. Any tests must be made up the day of the students’ return. For the second and for any subsequent OSS the student is not allowed to make-up any work or missed tests.

4. Expulsion
The Board of Education may expel a student for a period longer than ten (10) school days for violation of the District’s written discipline policies. The Superintendent may make a recommendation of expulsion to the Board of Education for student conduct deemed to be of such gravity that suspension would be inappropriate, or where the student’s continued attendance at school would disrupt the orderly learning environment or would pose an unreasonable danger to the welfare of other students or staff.

The Superintendent or his/her designee shall give written notice to the parents or legal guardians (mailed to the address reflected on the District’s records) that he/she will recommend to the Board of Education that the student be expelled for the specified length of time and state the reasons for the recommendation to expel. The notice shall give the date, hour, and place where the Board of Education will consider and dispose of the recommendation.

The hearing shall be conducted not later than ten (10) school days following the date of the notice, except that representatives of the Board and student may agree in writing to a date not conforming to this limitation.
The President of the Board, Board attorney, or other designated Board member shall preside at the hearing. The student may choose to be represented by legal counsel. Both the district administration and School Board also may be represented by legal counsel. The hearing shall be conducted in open session of the Board unless the parent, or student if age 18 or older, requests that the hearing be conducted in executive session. Any action taken by the Board shall be in open session.

During the hearing, the Superintendent, or designee, or representative will present evidence, including the calling of witnesses that gave rise to the recommendation of expulsion. The student, or his/her representative, may then present evidence including statements from persons with personal knowledge of the events or circumstances relevant to the charges against the student. Formal cross-examination will not be permitted. However, any member of the Board, the Superintendent, or designee, the student, or his/her representative may question anyone making a statement and/or the student. The presiding officer shall decide questions concerning the appropriateness or relevance of any questions asked during the hearing.

Except as permitted by policy, the Superintendent shall recommend the expulsion of any student for a period of not less than one (1) year for possession of any firearm prohibited on school campus by law. The Superintendent shall, however, have the discretion to modify the expulsion recommendation for a student on a case-by-case basis. Parents or legal guardians of a student enrolling from another school after the expiration of an expulsion period for a weapons policy violation shall be given a copy of the current laws regarding the possibility of parental responsibility for allowing a child to possess a weapon on school property. The parents or legal guardians shall sign a statement acknowledging that they have read and understand said laws prior to the student being enrolled in school.

The Superintendent and the Board of Education shall complete the expulsion process of any student that was initiated because the student possessed a firearm or other prohibited weapon on school property regardless of the enrollment status of the student.

**Detention Rules (Grades K-6)**
1. Student must arrive on time or receive additional time to serve.
2. No communication with other students.
3. Must do work as assigned by teachers.
4. Breaking of detention rules may result in the student being sent directly to the principal.

**Detention Rules (Grades 7-12)**
1. Students must arrive to the designated classroom with their AR book, or appropriate school work by 7:25 am. Being late will result in the student being assigned one additional detention.
2. Students must sit quietly and read their book or work on school work. Students are not to look around the classroom, they are to be engaged.
3. Students are not to communicate, verbally or non-verbally, with any other students.
4. Breaking any of the above rules will result in an additional 3 detentions or ISS.

**In-School Suspension Rules (Grades K-6)**
1. The student is to report to the principal’s office and wait to be escorted to ISS.
2. The student will be given assignments in each class to be completed in a satisfactory manner. Each teacher will evaluate their respective assignments. Unsatisfactory work will be made up.
3. Students in ISS will be taken to the detention table in the cafeteria for lunch.
4. Students will be given Bathroom breaks as needed.
5. Any student who refuses to do their work or follow the directions of the ISS monitor may be assigned additional ISS days or OSS.

**In-School Suspension Rules (Grades 7-12)**
1. The student is to report to the ISS room after the bell rings with all textbooks, papers, and writing utensil.
2. The student will be given assignments in each class to be completed in a satisfactory manner. Each teacher will evaluate their respective assignments. Unsatisfactory work will be made up.
3. Students in ISS will be taken to the detention table in the cafeteria for lunch.
4. Students will be given a morning and afternoon restroom break.
5. Any student who refuses to do their work or follow the directions of the ISS monitor may be assigned additional ISS days or OSS.

**Cafeteria/Lunchtime Rules**

1. (Grades 7-12) Students must arrive in the cafeteria within five (5) minutes of the start of lunch.
2. Students that are buying lunch are to get in line, at the end, and are not allowed to “cut-in” the lunch line.
3. Students are not to push, shove, or hit other students, or engage in other “horseplay”.
4. Students are not to yell in the cafeteria.
5. Students are not allowed to throw items in the cafeteria.
6. (Grades 7-12) Students are to take their trays back as soon as they are done eating.
7. (Grades K-6) Students are to take their trays back when told to by the Lunch Monitor.
8. Students are not to leave their trash on the tables.
9. Students are not to leave the cafeteria without the lunch monitors’ permission. The lunch monitor will announce when the students may leave. **Students are to take no food or drinks outside.**
10. When allowed to leave the cafeteria before the bell, students must stay within the vicinity of the lunchroom monitor. The area shall be designated by monitor.
11. (Grades 7-12) Once outside, students are not to go into any building for any reason without checking with the lunch monitor first.

**Playground Rules (Grades K-6)**

1. Be in control of yourself at all times (no pushing, kicking, throwing objects intending to harm someone, no playing games that results in pushing someone down or bullies them.)
2. Stay inside the fenced area unless you have permission to go outside the fenced area from a teacher or staff member.
3. All students should obey any rule made by any teacher or staff member.
4. No jumping out of swings or off equipment.
5. No running up or down the slides, slide normally.
6. Any item that has potential for injury to a student will not be allowed at school. (Examples -no pets, hard balls, bats, guns, knives, skateboards, sharp objects, etc.)
7. Any item brought from home must have teacher approval.

**A note is required each time a child must remain inside for health reasons.**

**K-3 Classroom Consequence**

1st Offense – Warning: Student-Teacher conference including plan for correcting behavior.
2nd Offense – Up to ½ of recess detention.
3rd Offense – Up to ¾ of recess detention, and notification of parent/guardian of problem and consequences by written disciplinary referral or parent/teacher conference.
4th Offense – Principal Referral

Severe Clause – Offense committed by students at school, while students are under school jurisdiction and considered to be anti-social; a persistent disregard for school rules, disruptive or of gross misconduct in nature shall be grounds for immediate principal referral and/or parent notification with possible suspension without going through each step.

**4-6 Classroom Consequence**

1st Offense – Warning: Student-Teacher conference including plan for correcting behavior.
2nd Offense – 1 detention. Consequences as determined by teacher
3rd Offense – 1 detention and parent contact. Consequences as determined by teacher and parent contact
4th Offense – Principal Referral and parent contact

Severe Clause – Offense committed by students at school, while students are under school jurisdiction and considered to be anti-social; a persistent disregard for school rules, disruptive or of gross misconduct in nature shall be grounds for
Dress/Appearance
The Omaha Board of Education recognizes that dress can be a matter of personal taste and preference. At the same time, the District has a responsibility to promote an environment conducive to student learning. This requires limitations to student dress and grooming that could be disruptive to the educational process because they are immodest, disruptive, unsanitary, and unsafe, could cause property damage, or are offensive to common standards of decency. The following guidelines are to be observed while on school grounds and at any school sponsored event:

1. Student dress, grooming, and appearance should be the responsibility of the individual and his/her parents/guardians.
2. Dress and grooming should be clean and in keeping with health and sanitary practices.
3. Dress and grooming should not disrupt the educational process.
4. All students are expected to wear clothing that is socially acceptable.
   A. No clothing that is too tight, too small, see-through, low cut, or exposes under garments may be worn.
   B. Shorts, skirts, and dresses; must be a dollar bills length (6 inches) from the middle of the knee when standing all the way around the knee.
   C. Shirts and dresses that show bare back, shoulders, midriff, or sides when standing or sitting may not be worn.
   D. No clothing with holes that require underclothing or spandex to be appropriate.
   E. Jeans/shorts that are excessively baggy are not to be worn. Sagging/bagging is not acceptable.
   F. Skin tight clothing such as leggings, jeggings, yoga pants and spandex or spandex-like materials shall not be worn as pants or shorts; with appropriate levels of layering covering those types of clothes, such as leggings, may be worn; the covering must meet all other dress codes and remain intact throughout the school day for the skin-tight clothing to be allowable.
   G. Holes in clothing must not be in inappropriate areas and must adhere to the shorts rule above.
   H. The wearing of muscle shirts, netted shirts, tube tops, halter tops, cut-off tee shirts, and spaghetti-strapped shirts are prohibited. Straps that cross the shoulders should be the width of a dollar bill (2.5 inches). Clothing with long arm holes in which underwear is visible is prohibited.
   I. Students are prohibited from wearing, while on the school grounds during the school day and at school-sponsored events, clothing that exposes undergarments, buttocks, or the breast/cleavage of a female or the chest of a male.
   J. All other shirts, dresses or tops shall not be low-cut showing the breasts/cleavage of a female or the chest of a male.
   K. Waist bands of pants, shorts, or jeans must be above hip bones. Saggy or baggy pants are not permitted. No chains on clothing.
   L. Wearing undergarments as outer garments, pajamas, and/or house shoes is not permitted.
   M. A student shall not wear or use emblems, insignias, badges, or other symbols with reference to alcohol, tobacco, drugs, sexual innuendoes, inappropriate language, or gang related clothing.
   N. A student shall not wear clothing or hair styles that can be hazardous to them in their educational activities such as lab work, physical education, art, or on the job training.
   O. Caps, hats or hair coverings are not to be worn inside the buildings.
   P. Sunglasses may not be worn in the building except for medical reasons— with furnished medical documentation.
   Q. Shoes are to be worn at all times. Shoes with wheels or “Heelys” are not allowed on school grounds at any time. Flip-flops are allowed but it is strongly suggested that more durable footwear be worn to school.

Students found in violation of the dress code will be instructed to change into appropriate clothing. If appropriate clothing is not available a parent will be notified and the student will be sent home to get appropriate clothing. An absence due to a violation of the dress code will be considered an unexcused absence for the classes that are missed.

Personal Relations
Personal relations will be clean and healthy at all times in order that a proper school atmosphere may be maintained. It is not the school’s intended purpose to discourage social development on the part of any student; however, it is felt that such associations should be on a wholesome basis. To this end, bodily contact other than single hand holding will not be
permitted on campus or at any school activity for students 7th – 12th Grade. For Kindergarten – 6th Grade student there will be no bodily contact with other students.

**INTERNET SAFETY and POSSESSION AND USE OF CELL PHONES AND OTHER ELECTRONIC DEVICE USE POLICY**

**Definition**
For the purposes of this policy, “electronic device” means anything that can be used to transmit or capture images, sound, or data.

The District makes electronic device(s) and/or electronic device Internet access available to students, to permit students to perform research and to allow students to learn how to use electronic device technology. Use of district electronic devices is for educational and/or instructional purposes only. Student use of electronic device(s) shall only be as directed or assigned by staff or teachers; students are advised that they enjoy no expectation of privacy in any aspect of their electronic device use, including email, and that monitoring of student electronic device use is continuous.

Students are responsible for conducting themselves in a manner that respects the rights of others. Possession and use of any electronic device, whether district or student owned, that interferes with a positive, orderly classroom environment does not respect the rights of others and is expressly forbidden.

To protect the security of state originated tests that are administered as part of the Arkansas Comprehensive, Testing, Assessment and Accountability Program (ACTAAP), no electronics, device as defined in this policy shall be accessible by a student at any time during test administration unless specifically permitted by a student’s IEP or individual health plan. This means that when a student is taking an ACTAAP assessment, the student shall not have his/her electronic device in his/her possession. Any student violating this provision shall be subject to this policy’s disciplinary provisions.

As used in this policy, “electronic device” means anything that can be used to transmit or capture images, sound, or data.

Misuse of electronic devices includes, but is not limited to:
1. Using electronic devices during class time in any manner other than specifically permitted by the classroom instructor;
2. Permitting any audible sound to come from the device when not being used for reason #1 above;
3. Engaging in academic dishonesty, including cheating, intentionally plagiarizing, wrongfully giving or receiving help during an academic examination, or wrongfully obtaining test copies or scores;
4. Using the device to take photographs in locker rooms or bathrooms;
5. Creating, sending, sharing, viewing, receiving, or possessing an indecent visual depiction of oneself or another person.

Use of an electronic device is permitted to the extent it is approved in a student’s individualized education program (IEP) or it is needed in an emergency that threatens the safety of students, staff, or other individuals.

Students in grades 7-12 are permitted to have electronic devices on campus before and after normal school hours and during lunch. During the lunch period, use of electronic devices shall be subject to the same discipline policies for misuse of electronic devices as outlined in the misuse of electronic devices policy 4.47.

Students in grades K-6 are permitted to have electronic devices on campus before and after school. Student owned electronic devices must be stored in the student’s locker or backpack at any other time.

The use of such devices at school sponsored functions outside the regular school day is permitted to the extent and within the limitations allowed by the event or activity the student is attending.

The student and/or the student’s parents or guardians expressly assume any risk associated with students owning or possessing electronic devices. Students misusing electronic devices shall have them confiscated.

Confiscated devices may be picked up at the school’s administration office by the student’s parents or guardians. Students have no right of privacy as to the content contained on any electronic devices that have been confiscated.
research of a confiscated device shall meet the reasonable individualized suspicion requirements of Policy 4.32—SEARCH, SEIZURE, AND INTERROGATIONS.

Students who use school issued cell phones and/or computers for non-school purposes, except as permitted by the district’s internet/computer use policy, shall be subject to discipline, up to and including suspension or expulsion. Students are forbidden from using school issued cell phones while driving any vehicle at any time.

Violation may result in disciplinary action up to and including expulsion.

No student shall use any wireless communication device for the purposes of browsing the internet; composing or reading emails and text messages; or making or answering calls while driving a motor vehicle which is in motion and on school property. Violation may result in disciplinary action up to and including suspension.

No student will be granted Internet access until and unless an Internet and electronic device use agreement, signed by both the student and the parent or legal guardian (if the student is under the age of eighteen [18]) is on file. The current version of the Internet and electronic device use agreement is incorporated by reference into board policy and is considered part of the student handbook.

**Technology Protection Measures**
The District is dedicated to protecting students from materials on the Internet or world-wide web that are inappropriate, obscene, or otherwise harmful to minors; therefore, it is the policy of the District to protect each electronic device with Internet filtering software that is designed to prevent students from accessing such materials. For purposes of this policy, “harmful to minors” means any picture, image, graphic image file, or other visual depiction that:

(A) taken as a whole and with respect to minors, appeals to a prurient interest in nudity, sex, or excretion;
(B) depicts, describes, or represents, in a patently offensive way with respect to what is suitable for minors, an actual or simulated sexual act or sexual contact, actual or simulated normal or perverted sexual acts, or a lewd exhibition of the genitals; and
(C) taken as a whole, lacks serious literary, artistic, political, or scientific value as to minors.

**Internet Use and Safety**
The District is dedicated to ensuring that students are capable of using the Internet in a safe and responsible manner. The District uses technology protection measures to aid in student safety and shall also educate students on appropriate online behavior and Internet use including, but not limited to:

- interacting with other individuals on social networking websites and in chat rooms;
- Cyber-bullying awareness; and
- Cyber-bullying response.

**Misuse of Internet**
The opportunity to use the District’s technology to access the Internet is a privilege and not a right. Students who misuse electronic devices or Internet access in any way will face disciplinary action, as specified in the student handbook and/or Internet safety and electronic device use agreement. Misuse of the Internet includes:

- The disabling or bypassing of security procedures, compromising, attempting to compromise, or defeating the district’s technology network security or Internet filtering software.
- The altering of data without authorization.
- Disclosing, using, or disseminating passwords, whether the passwords are the student’s own or those of another student/faculty/community member, to other students.
- Divulging personally identifying information about himself/herself or anyone else either on the Internet or in an email unless it is a necessary and integral part of the student’s academic endeavor. Personally identifying information includes full names, addresses, and phone numbers.
- Using electronic devices for any illegal activity, including electronic device hacking and copyright or intellectual property law violations.
- Using electronic devices to access or create sexually explicit or pornographic text or graphics.
- Using electronic devices to violate any other policy or is contrary to the Internet safety and electronic device use agreement.

**Search, Seizure, and Interrogations**
The District respects the rights of its students against arbitrary intrusion of their person and property. At the same time, it is the responsibility of school officials to protect the health, safety, and welfare of all students enrolled in the District in order to promote an environment conducive to student learning. The Superintendent, principals, and their designees have the right to inspect and search school property and equipment. They may also search students and their personal property in which the student has a reasonable expectation of privacy, when there is reasonable suspicion to believe such student or property contains illegal items or other items in violation of Board policy or dangerous to the school community. School authorities may seize evidence found in the search and disciplinary action may be taken. Evidence found which appears to be in violation of the law shall be reported to the appropriate authority.

School property shall include, but not be limited to, lockers, desks, and parking lots, as well as personal effects left there by students. When possible, prior notice will be given and the student will be allowed to be present along with an adult witness, however, searches may be done at any time with or without notice or the student’s consent. A personal search must not be excessively intrusive in light of the age and sex of the student and the nature of the infraction.

The Superintendent, principals, and their designees may request the assistance of law enforcement officials to help conduct searches. Such searches may include the use of specially trained dogs.

A school official of the same sex shall conduct personal searches with an adult witness of the same sex present. State Law requires that Department of Human Services employees, local law enforcement, or agents of the Crimes Against Children Division of the Department of Arkansas State Police, may interview students without a court order for the purpose of investigating suspected child abuse. In instances where the interviewers deem it necessary, they may exercise a —72-hour hold without first obtaining a court order. Other questioning of students by non-school personnel shall be granted only with a court order directing such questioning, with permission of the parents of a student (or the student if above eighteen [18] years of age), or in response to a subpoena or arrest warrant.

If the District makes a report to any law enforcement agency concerning student misconduct or if access to a student is granted to a law enforcement agency due to a court order, the principal or the principal’s designee shall make a good faith effort to contact the student’s parent, legal guardian, or other person having lawful control by court order, or person acting in loco parentis on student enrollment forms. The District shall not attempt to make such contact if presented documentation by the investigator that notification is prohibited because a parent, guardian, custodian, or person standing in loco parentis is named as an alleged offender of the suspected child maltreatment. This exception applies only to interview requests made by law enforcement officers, investigators of the Crimes Against Children Division of the Department of Arkansas State Police, or an investigator or employee of the Department of Human Services.

In instances other than those related to cases of suspected child abuse, principals must release a student to either a police officer who presents a subpoena for the student, or a warrant for arrest, or to an agent of state social services or an agent of a court with jurisdiction over a child with a court order signed by a judge. Upon release of the student, the principal or designee shall give the student’s parent, legal guardian, or other person having lawful control by court order, or person acting in loco parentis notice that the student has been taken into custody by law enforcement personnel or a state’s social services agency. If the principal or designee is unable to reach the parent, he or she shall make a reasonable, good faith effort to get a message to the parent to call the principal or designee, and leave both a day and an afterhours telephone number.

**Contact by Law Enforcement, Social Services, or by Court Order**

State Law requires that Department of Human Services employees, local law enforcement, or agents of the Crimes Against Children Division of the Department of Arkansas State Police, may interview students without a court order for the purpose of investigating suspected child abuse. In instances where the interviewers deem it necessary, they may exercise a —72-hour hold without first obtaining a court order. Other questioning of students by non-school personnel shall be granted only with a court order directing such questioning, with permission of the parents of a student (or the student if above eighteen [18] years of age), or in response to a subpoena or arrest warrant.
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### Student Drivers (9-12 Only)

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<tr>
<th>Consequences for Violation of Student Vehicle Policy</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt; Offense: 2 week suspension of driving privileges</td>
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<tr>
<td>2&lt;sup&gt;nd&lt;/sup&gt; Offense: Driving privileges suspended for the remainder of the semester.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3&lt;sup&gt;rd&lt;/sup&gt; Offense: Driving privileges suspended for the remainder of the school year.</td>
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Only students enrolled at Omaha High School will be allowed to drive to and park at Omaha High School provided they are legally licensed to operate a motor vehicle, have documentation of insurance, have acquired a parking permit from Omaha Public Schools and are not in violation of parking/driving regulations.

Students may be denied driving/parking privileges if proper procedures are not followed regarding vehicle operation, parking, and registration with the school or if students use the vehicle to leave school improperly.

Students are not to be in or near vehicles during the school day unless arriving or leaving the school campus at the proper time.

Any car without a parking permit parked on the Omaha Public School campus **MAY BE TOWED AT THE OWNER’S EXPENSE.**

It is understood that there is no expectation of privacy in vehicles in parking areas. Drivers of vehicles parked on a school campus will be held accountable for illegal substances or any other item prohibited by District policy found in their vehicle. The act of a student parking a vehicle on campus is a grant of permission for school or law enforcement to search that vehicle.

### Juvenile or Criminal Court Convictions of Students and Clubs

Any Omaha student who holds a leadership position in a class, club or other school group and who is convicted of an offense in juvenile or criminal court may not continue in that leadership position for the remainder of the school year effective on the date of the conviction. It will be the responsibility of the student to notify the principal if such conviction takes place. Failure on the part of the student to do so will result in the student not being permitted to hold a leadership position while a student in the Omaha School District.

### Reporting of Felonies by Principal

All principals of the Omaha District shall report incidents that may constitute felonies to local law enforcement agencies for investigation and to this Board for adjudication. A principal shall make such a report when he/she has direct
knowledge or has received information leading to a reasonable belief that a student has committed a felony on school property, a felony while under school supervision or a violent criminal act against a teacher, principal, employee, or student. The principal, or in the principal’s absence, the principal’s designee shall make a reasonable, good faith effort to notify the student’s parent or legal guardian of any of these events.

Anti-Bullying Policy

Respect for the dignity of others is a cornerstone of civil society. Bullying creates an atmosphere of fear and intimidation, robs a person of his/her dignity, detracts from the safe environment necessary to promote student learning, and will not be tolerated by the Board of Directors. Students who bully another person shall be held accountable for their actions whether they occur on school equipment or property; off school property at a school-sponsored or approved function, activity, or event; going to or from school or school activity in a school vehicle or school bus; or at designated school bus stops.

A school principal or his/her designee who receives a credible report or complaint of bullying shall promptly investigate the complaint or report and make a record of the investigation and any action taken as a result of the investigation.

Definitions:

Attribute means an actual or personal characteristic including without limitation race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, socioeconomic status, academic status, disability, gender, gender identity, physical appearance, health conditions, or sexual orientation;

Bullying means the intentional harassment, intimidation, humiliation, ridicule, defamation, or threat or incitement of violence by a student against another student or public school employee by a written, verbal, electronic, or physical act that may address an attribute of the other student, public school employee, or person with whom the other student or public school employee is associated and that causes or creates actual or reasonably foreseeable:

- Physical harm to a public school employee or student or damage to the public school employee’s or student’s property;
- Substantial interference with a student’s education or with a public school employee’s role in education;
- A hostile educational environment for one (1) or more students or public school employees due to the severity, persistence, or pervasiveness of the act; or
- Substantial disruption of the orderly operation of the school or educational environment;

Electronic act means without limitation a communication or image transmitted by means of electronic device, including without limitation a telephone, wireless phone, or other wireless communication device, computer, or pager that results in the substantial disruption of the orderly operation of the school or educational environment.

Electronic acts of bullying are prohibited whether or not the electronic act originated on school property or with school equipment, if the electronic act is directed specifically at students or school personnel and maliciously intended for the purpose of disrupting school, and has a high likelihood of succeeding in that purpose;

Harassment means a pattern of unwelcome verbal or physical conduct relating to another person’s constitutionally or statutorily protected status that causes, or reasonably should be expected to cause, substantial interference with the other’s performance in the school environment; and substantial disruption means without limitation that any one or more of the following occur as a result of the bullying:

- Necessary cessation of instruction or educational activities;
- Inability of students or educational staff to focus on learning or function as an educational unit because of a hostile environment;
- Severe or repetitive disciplinary measures are needed in the classroom or during educational activities; or
- Exhibition of other behaviors by students or educational staff that substantially interfere with the learning environment.

Students are encouraged to report behavior that they consider to be bullying; including a single action which if allowed to continue would constitute bullying, to their teacher or building principal. The report may be anonymously. Teachers and other school employees who have witnessed, or are reliably informed that a student has been a victim of behavior they consider bullying, including a single action which if allowed to continue would constitute bullying, shall report the incident(s) to the principal. Parents or legal guardians may submit written reports of incidents they feel constitute bullying, or if allowed to continue would constitute bullying, to the principal. The principal shall be responsible for investigating the incident(s) to determine if disciplinary action is warranted.
The person or persons reporting behavior they consider to be bullying shall not be subject to retaliation or reprisal in any form. Students found in violation of this policy shall be subject to disciplinary action up to and including expulsion. In determining the appropriate disciplinary action, consideration may be given to other violations of the student handbook which may have simultaneously occurred.

Notice of what constitutes bullying, the District’s prohibition against bullying, and the consequences for students who bully shall be conspicuously posted in every classroom, cafeteria, restroom, gymnasium, auditorium, and school bus. Parents, students, school volunteers, and employees shall be given copies of the notice.

Respect for the dignity of others is a cornerstone of civil society. Bullying creates an atmosphere of fear and intimidation, robs a person of his/her dignity, detracts from the safe environment necessary to promote student learning, and will not be tolerated by the Board of Directors.

Students who bully another person shall be held accountable for their actions whether they occur on school equipment or property; off school property at a school sponsored or approved function, activity, or event; going to or from school or a school activity in a school vehicle or school bus; or at designated school bus stops.

A school principal or his or her designee who receives a credible report or complaint of bullying shall promptly investigate the complaint or report and make a record of the investigation and any action taken as a result of the investigation.

Definitions:
Attribute means an actual or perceived personal characteristic including without limitation race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, socioeconomic status, academic status, disability, gender, gender identity, physical appearance, health condition, or sexual orientation.

Bullying means the intentional harassment, intimidation, humiliation, ridicule, defamation, or threat or incitement of violence by a student against another student or public school employee by a written, verbal, electronic, or physical act that may address an attribute of the other student, public school employee, or person with whom the other student or public school employee is associated and that causes or creates actual or reasonably foreseeable:

- Physical harm to a public school employee or student or damage to the public school employee’s or
- Substantial interference with a student’s education or with a public school employee’s role in education;
- A hostile educational environment for one (1) or more students or public school employees due to the substantial disruption of the orderly operation of the school or educational environment;

Electronic act means without limitation a communication or image transmitted by means of an electronic device, including without limitation a telephone, wireless phone or other wireless communications device, computer, or pager that results in the substantial disruption of the orderly operation of the school or educational environment.

Electronic acts of bullying are prohibited whether or not the electronic act originated on school property or with school equipment, if the electronic act is directed specifically at students or school personnel and maliciously intended for the purpose of disrupting school, and has a high likelihood of succeeding in that purpose;

Harassment means a pattern of unwelcome verbal or physical conduct relating to another person’s constitutionally or statutorily protected status that causes, or reasonably should be expected to cause, substantial interference with the other’s performance in the school environment; and

Substantial disruption means without limitation that any one or more of the following occur as a result of the bullying:

- Necessary cessation of instruction or educational activities;
- Inability of students or educational staff to focus on learning or function as an educational unit because
- Severe or repetitive disciplinary measures are needed in the classroom or during educational activities;
- Exhibition of other behaviors by students or educational staff that substantially interfere with the learning environment.

Cyberbullying of School Employees is expressly prohibited and includes, but is not limited to:

- Building a fake profile or website of the employee;
• Posting or encouraging others to post on the Internet private, personal, or sexual information pertaining to a school employee;
• Posting an original or edited image of the school employee on the Internet;
• Accessing, altering, or erasing any computer network, computer data program, or computer software, including breaking into a password-protected account or stealing or otherwise accessing passwords of a school employee; making repeated, continuing, or sustained electronic communications, including electronic mail or transmission, to a school employee;
• Making, or causing to be made, and disseminating an unauthorized copy of data pertaining to a school employee in any form, including without limitation the printed or electronic form of computer data, computer programs, or computer software residing in, communicated by, or produced by a computer or computer network;
• Signing up a school employee for a pornographic Internet site; or
• Without authorization of the school employee, signing up a school employee for electronic mailing lists or to receive junk electronic messages and instant messages.

Examples of “Bullying” may include but are not limited to a pattern of behavior involving one or more of the following:
• Sarcastic comments “compliments” about another student’s personal appearance or actual or perceived attributes,
• Pointed questions intended to embarrass or humiliate,
• Mocking, taunting or belittling,
• Non-verbal threats and/or intimidation such as “fronting” or “chesting” a person,
• Demeaning humor relating to a student’s race, gender, ethnicity or actual or perceived attributes,
• Blackmail, extortion, demands for protection money or other involuntary donations or loans,
• Blocking access to school property or facilities,
• Deliberate physical contact or injury to person or property,
• Stealing or hiding books or belongings, and/or
• Threats of harm to student(s), possessions, or others,
• Sexual harassment, as governed by policy 4.27, is also a form of bullying,
• Teasing or name-calling based on the belief or perception that an individual is not conforming to expected gender roles (Example: “Slut”) or conduct or is homosexual, regardless of whether the student self-identifies as homosexual (Examples: “You are so gay”, “Fag”, “Queer”).

Students are encouraged to report behavior they consider to be bullying, including a single action which if allowed to continue would constitute bullying, to their teacher or the building principal.

The report may be made anonymously. Teachers and other school employees who have witnessed, or are reliably informed that, a student has been a victim of behavior they consider to be bullying, including a single action which if allowed to continue would constitute bullying, shall report the incident(s) to the principal. Parents or legal guardians may submit written reports of incidents they feel constitute bullying, or if allowed to continue would constitute bullying, to the principal. The principal shall be responsible for investigating the incident(s) to determine if disciplinary action is warranted.

The person or persons reporting behavior they consider to be bullying shall not be subject to retaliation or reprisal in any form.

Students found to be in violation of this policy shall be subject to disciplinary action up to and including expulsion. In determining the appropriate disciplinary action, consideration may be given to other violations of the student handbook which may have simultaneously occurred.

Notice of what constitutes bullying, the District’s prohibition against bullying, and the consequences for students who bully shall be conspicuously posted in every classroom, cafeteria, restroom, gymnasium, auditorium, and school bus. Parents, students, school volunteers, and employees shall be given copies of the notice.

**Gun Free School Policy**

In compliance with the Gun Free School Act of 1994, possession of a weapon at Omaha Schools, or any school function will
be punishable by expulsion for one (1) year from the date of the offense. In addition to expulsion, any student found in possession of a weapon under the Act will be immediately referred to the area Criminal Justice or Juvenile Delinquency system and the Arkansas Department of Education. The department shall establish and maintain a registry of students who are expelled for possessing a firearm or other prohibited weapon on school property or committing other acts of violence.

As part of this policy, the Superintendent of Schools retains authority to modify or adjust the expulsion requirement on a case-by-case basis.

**Anti-Gang/Secret Societies Policy**

The Board is committed to ensuring a safe school environment conducive to promoting a learning environment where students and staff can excel. An orderly environment cannot exist where unlawful acts occur causing fear, intimidation, or physical harm to students or school staff. Gangs and their activities create such an atmosphere and shall not be allowed on school grounds or at school functions.

The following actions are prohibited by students on school property or at school functions:

1. Wearing or possessing any clothing, bandanas, jewelry, symbol, or other sign associated with membership in, or representative of, any gang;
2. Engaging in any verbal or nonverbal act such as throwing signs, gestures, or handshakes representative of membership in any gang;
3. Recruiting, soliciting, or encouraging any person through duress or intimidation to become or remain a member of any gang; and/or
4. Extorting payment from any individual in return for protection from harm from any gang.
5. Students found to be in violation of this policy shall be subject to disciplinary action up to and including expulsion.

Students arrested for gang related activities occurring off school grounds shall be subject to the same disciplinary actions as if they had occurred on school grounds.

**Assault and Abuse of Students and Staff Members**

Act 706 of 1997 deals with assault, threatened assault and abuse.

Definitions:

“Assault” is the willful attempt or threat to inflict injury upon the person of another, coupled with the apparent present ability to do so. Any display of force that would give the victim reason to fear bodily harm is assault, even if touching or striking does not occur.

“Battery” is similar to assault, but requires unexcused physical touching or injury.

“Abuse” means to wrong in speech, reproach coarsely, disparage, revile, or malign. Use of profanity or vulgar expressions directed at another person is considered abuse.

Statement of Policy:

Students are to keep their hands to themselves, and treat teachers and fellow students with respect and courtesy. Horseplay and physical teasing, as well as shoving, striking, fighting, or threatening others with physical injury, etc., constitute battery and/or assault, and are strictly forbidden. Profanity and rude and abusive language directed at others is considered abuse, and this is also strictly forbidden.

**Drug Policy**

An orderly and safe school environment that is conducive to promoting student achievement requires a student population free from the deleterious effects of alcohol and drugs. Their use is illegal, disruptive to the educational environment, and diminishes the capacity of students to learn and function properly in our schools. Therefore, no student in the Omaha School District shall possess, attempt to possess, consume, use, distribute, sell, buy, attempt to sell, attempt to buy, give to any person, or be under the influence of any substance as defined in this policy, or what the student represents or believes to be any substance as defined in this policy. This policy applies to any student who; is on or about school property; is in attendance at school or any school sponsored activity; has left the school campus for any reason and returns to the campus; is en route to or from school or any school sponsored activity.
Prohibited substances shall include, but are not limited to, alcohol, or any alcoholic beverage, inhalants or any ingestible matter that alter a student’s ability to act, think, or respond, LSD, or any other hallucinogen, marijuana, cocaine, heroin, or any other narcotic drug, PCP, amphetamines, steroids, —designer drugs, look-alike drugs, or any controlled substance.

Selling, distributing, or attempting to sell or distribute, or using over-the-counter or prescription drugs not in accordance with the recommended dosage is prohibited.

**Omaha School Bus Rules of Conduct, Disciplinary Action, and Snow Routes**

Students are subject to the same rules of conduct while traveling to and from school as they are while on school grounds. Appropriate disciplinary actions may be taken against commuting students who violate student code of conduct rules. Students shall be instructed in safe riding practices. The driver of a school bus shall not operate the school bus until every passenger is seated. Disciplinary measures for problems related to bus behavior shall include suspension or expulsion from school, or suspending or terminating the student’s bus transportation privileges. Transporting students to and from school who have lost their bus transportation privileges shall become the responsibility of the student’s parent or legal guardian. There is no requirement that the district provide bus transportation for any of its students, riding the school bus is a privilege not a right. Every student is eligible to ride the bus.

1. Be at the bus stop at the scheduled time.
2. While loading or unloading, enter or leave the bus orderly and quickly.
3. Follow the directions of the driver at all times.
4. Students are expected to conduct themselves in a manner such that they will not distract the attention of the driver or disturb others riding the bus.
5. No yelling or loud talking on the bus. (If the driver can hear you, you are too loud!)
6. No swearing, cruel teasing, or rude gestures.
7. No bullying—ZERO TOLERANCE
8. No food or drink allowed on the bus.
9. No item(s) may be thrown out the bus window for any reason at any time, i.e., trash, pencils, etc...
10. Students must remain in their seat while the bus is in motion. Do not put arms, hands, head, other body parts, or personal belongings out of the windows.
11. Students will be liable for any damage they cause to the bus.
12. Students must ride their assigned bus. Those needing to ride another bus or get off the bus at points other than normal stops, must bring notes and/or have a parent/guardian contact the school before 2:00 p.m. These students will be issued a Transportation Slip by the office.
13. Omaha Public School will not be responsible for any items lost, stolen, broken, or damaged on the bus.
14. If a student misses his/her bus in the afternoon, he/she is to report to the principal’s office immediately. The student’s parent/guardian will be responsible for getting the child home safely.
15. If school is released early due to inclement weather or any other unexpected circumstance, we will alert local radio and television stations as to the anticipated time of dismissal. It is the responsibility of the parent/guardian to make arrangements for the student after they are dropped off at their residence or designated stop. If the bus usually meets the parent/guardian at a pre-designated stop (other than the residence of the student), it is the parent/guardian’s responsibility to make arrangements to be there on time to pick up their child after they are dropped off from the bus.

Bus infractions and disciplinary actions will follow the state disciplinary guidelines Bus suspensions may and will be used as an additional option for disciplinary action.

Kevin Pearson, Transportation Director, and our drivers have developed snow routes and a time schedule for pick-up and delivery during times of inclement weather. These routes only cover major highways; therefore, you will have to meet the bus at a designated area and time. Having established these routes, we anticipate missing fewer school days. As always, the safety of our children is the school district’s utmost concern.

**ROUTES AND SCHEDULE:**
Bus #30
Journagan’s Rock Quarry & Hwy. 65
Old Hwy. 65 & New Hwy. 65 Intersection across from Tower Road
Cranesnest Lane

Pick Up | Drop Off
--- | ---
7:10 a.m. | 3:40 p.m.
7:15 a.m. | 3:35 p.m.
7:20 a.m. | 3:30 p.m.

Bus #32
Hwy. 397 & Hwy. 65
Burlington Church
Liberty Church on Center Loop

Pick Up | Drop Off
--- | ---
7:05 a.m. | 3:30 p.m.
7:10 a.m. | 3:35 p.m.
7:20 a.m. | 3:45 p.m.

Bus #3
New Hope Church

Pick Up | Drop Off
--- | ---
7:20 a.m. | 3:40 p.m.

Bus #64
Big Piney Road
Rainbow Ridge Road
Charcoal Plant Road
Huffman Lane
Old Cricket Road

No Side Roads

Pick Up | Drop Off
--- | ---
7:15 a.m. | 3:40 p.m.
7:20 a.m. | 3:35 p.m.
7:25 a.m. | 3:30 p.m.
7:27 a.m. | 3:27 a.m.
7:30 a.m. | 3:25 p.m.

Bus #67
Tharp Lane
Stonegate & Hwy 14 West
Old Fire Station

Pick Up | Drop Off
--- | ---
7:10 a.m. | 3:40 p.m.
7:20 a.m. | 3:30 p.m.
7:25 a.m. | 3:25 p.m.

Bus #36
Old Lowery & Hwy. 14 East
Stonington Road & Hwy. 14 East

Pick Up | Drop Off
--- | ---
7:15 a.m. | 3:35 p.m.
7:20 a.m. | 3:30 p.m.

Bus #9
Boat Dock Road & Branch Road
Pine Crest Road & New Hwy. 65
State Line RV Park & Hwy. 14 West

Pick Up | Drop Off
--- | ---
7:10 a.m. | 3:50 p.m.
7:25 a.m. | 3:35 p.m.
7:30 a.m. | 3:30 p.m.

**Weather Emergencies**
School will not be open when it is considered too dangerous for buses to travel. Announcements will be made through the courtesy of Harrison, Branson, and Springfield radio and television stations if school will be closed. No announcements will be made if school is to be in session. In cases of inclement weather during the school day, please keep tuned in to the local radio station for sudden announcements. PLEASE DO NOT TIE UP THE SCHOOL PHONE LINES. As soon as a decision is made, it will be announced.

Automatic notifications are sent based on the phone numbers provided. Text messaging is available (all applicable carrier fees apply). If you are not receiving notifications from the automated service, please contact the school to have your information added.

**Health Services**

**First Aid/Health Office**
The school attempts to provide an environment in which the student will be safe from accidents. If a minor accident occurs, first aid will be administered. Parents will be notified of more serious accidents. An emergency health form, with the name of the family doctor, someone to contact if parents are not available, your child’s allergies, and any other important health information, must be kept on file and signed by the parent. If a parent so desires, the name, telephone number, and place of employment of anyone whom they designate to give permission for a student to leave
If a student becomes too ill to remain in class and/or could be contagious to other students, the principal or designee will attempt to notify the student’s parent or legal guardian. The student will remain in the school’s health room or a place where he/she can be supervised until the end of the school day or until the parent/legal guardian can check the student out of school.

If a student becomes seriously ill or is injured while at school and the parent/legal guardian cannot be contacted, the failure to make such contact shall not unreasonably delay the school’s expeditious transport of the student to an appropriate medical care facility. The school assumes no responsibility for treatment of the student. When available, current, and applicable, the student’s emergency contact numbers and medical information will be utilized. Parents are strongly encouraged to keep this information up to date.

The district conducts routine health screenings such as hearing, vision, BMI, and scoliosis due to the importance these health factors play in the ability of a student to succeed in school. The intent of the exams or screenings is to detect defects in hearing, vision, or other elements of health that would adversely affect the student’s ability to achieve to his/her full potential. Parents who do not wish their child to have a scoliosis or BMI check should do so in writing to the school nurse and principal.

The rights provided to parents under this policy transfer to the student when he/she turns 18 years old. Except in instances where a student is suspected of having a contagious or infectious disease, parents shall have the right to opt their student out of the exams or screenings by using form 4.39F or by providing certification from a physician that he/she has recently examined the student.

**Medication**

Prior to the administration of any medication to any student under the age of eighteen (18), written parental consent is required. The consent form shall include authorization to administer the medication and relieve the Board and its employees of civil liability for damages or injuries resulting from the administration of medication to students in accordance with this policy.

Unless authorized to self-administer, students are not allowed to carry any medications, including over-the-counter medications or any perceived health remedy not regulated by the US Food and Drug Administration, while at school. The parent or legal guardian shall bring the student’s medication to the nurse, or in the absence of the nurse, to the principal’s office. The student may bring the medication if accompanied by a written authorization from the parent or legal guardian. When medications are brought to the school nurse, the nurse shall document, in the presence of the parent, the quantity and type of medication(s). If the medications are brought by a student, the school nurse shall ask another school employee to verify in the presence of the student, the quantity of the medication(s). Each person should sign a form verifying the quantity and type of medication. Medications, including those for self-medication, must be in the original container and be properly labeled with the student’s name, the ordering health care provider’s name, the name of the medication, the dosage, frequency, and instructions for the administration of the medication (including times). Additional information accompanying the medication shall state the purpose for the medication, its possible side effects, and any other pertinent instructions (such as special storage requirements) or warnings.

Students who have written permission from their parent or guardian and a licensed health care provider to self-administer either an asthma inhaler or auto-injectable epinephrine, or both and who have a current consent form on file shall be allowed to carry and self-administer such medication while in school, at an on-site school sponsored activity, while traveling to or from school, or at an off-site school sponsored activity. Students are prohibited from sharing, transferring, or in any way diverting his/her medications to any other person. The fact that a student with a completed consent form on file is allowed to carry an asthma inhaler or auto-injectable epinephrine, or both does not require him/her to have such on his/her person. The parent or guardian of a student who chooses to not carry an asthma inhaler or auto-injectable epinephrine, or both on his/her person shall provide the school with the appropriate medication which shall be immediately available to the student in an emergency.

The school shall not keep outdated medications or any medications past the end of the school year. Parents shall be notified that ten (10) days after the last day of school, all medications will be disposed of that are left at the school. Medications not picked up by the parents or legal guardians within the ten (10) day period shall be disposed of by the
It is the policy of the Omaha School Board that no drug or medicinal preparation, except for medicines or medications approved for first aid by the Arkansas School First Aid Guidelines, will be administered to a student unless the student requires the medications to attend school and unless a current valid doctor’s prescription and instructions, as well as a written request from the child’s parent, are received by the school. Prescription medications will be kept in the health office. They will be dispensed only under the following guidelines:

a. All medications should be in the original container with the child’s name on the label and the dosage amount. (Pharmacists should provide a second container to be sent to school upon request.) Drugs should not be mixed in a container. A medicine authorization form, which can be obtained from the nurse, must be filled out as to times, dosage, etc.

b. It is recommended that only enough medication for one week or less be brought to school.

c. IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE STUDENT TO ASK FOR HIS/HER MEDICATION.

d. Parents/Guardians are not to send medication with their student on the bus. They will be expected to bring the medication to school and to also retrieve excess or unused medication.

e. Physicians or pharmacists should provide written orders and/or labels on prescription bottles stating the name of the drug, the dosage and time to be given, and the recommended interval between doses.

f. Prescriptions for long-term health problems should be updated at the beginning of each semester. The nurse should communicate with the doctor regularly regarding students on long-term medications that would have an effect on the student’s educational progress such (excluding the licensed nurse) are not trained to determine when medications are needed and this is a form of prescribing.

g. Medication requests should be housed in the school’s health office.

h. No non-prescription drugs will be given at school without parent consent. School personnel (excluding the licensed nurse) are not trained to determine when medications are needed and this is a form of prescribing.

THE SCHOOL DISTRICT RETAINS THE DISCRETION TO REJECT REQUESTS FOR ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICINE.

Communicable Diseases and Parasites (to include head lice):

Students with communicable diseases or with human host parasites that are transmittable in a school environment shall demonstrate respect for other students by not attending school while they are capable of transmitting their conditions to others. Students whom the school nurse determines are unwell for school attendance or who are believed to have a communicable diseases or condition will be required to be picked up by their parent or guardian as soon as possible. Specific examples include, but are not limited to: chicken pox, measles, scabies, conjunctivitis (pink eye), impetigo/MRSA Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus), streptococcal and staphylococcal infections, ringworm, mononucleosis, Hepatitis B or C, mumps, vomiting, diarrhea, and fever (100.4 when taken orally). A student who has been sent home by the school nurse will need to be readmitted at the discretion of the school nurse, when the student is no longer a transmission risk. In some instances, a letter from a health care provider may be required prior to the student being readmitted to the school.

The parents or legal guardians of students found to have human host parasites that are transmittable in a school (including lice or nits) will be asked to pick up their child as soon as possible. The parents or legal guardians will be given information concerning the eradication and control of human host parasites (including lice or nits). A student may be readmitted after the school nurse or designee has determined that the student no longer has live human host parasites (including lice or nits) that are transmittable in a school environment.

Screenings may be conducted for human host parasites (including lice and nits) as needed. The screenings shall be conducted in a manner that respects the privacy and confidentiality of each student.

Students with communicable diseases or with human host parasites that are transmittable in a school environment shall demonstrate respect for other students by not attending school while they are capable of transmitting their condition to others. Students whom the school nurse determines are unwell for school attendance or who are believed to have a communicable disease or condition will be required to be picked up as soon as possible by their parent or guardian.
Specific examples include, but are not limited to: Varicella (chicken pox), measles, scabies, conjunctivitis (Pink Eye), impetigo/MRSA (Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus), streptococcal and staphylococcal infections, ringworm, mononucleosis, Hepatitis A, B or C, mumps, vomiting, diarrhea, and fever (100.4 F when taken orally).

A student who has been sent home by the school nurse will be subsequently readmitted, at the discretion of the school nurse, or designee, when the student is no longer a transmission risk. In some instances, a letter from a health care provider may be required prior to the student being readmitted to the school.

To help control the possible spread of communicable diseases, school personnel shall follow the District’s exposure control plan when dealing with any blood-borne, food-borne, and airborne pathogens exposures.

Standard precautions shall be followed relating to the handling, disposal, and cleanup of blood and other potentially infectious materials such as all body fluids, secretions and excretions (except sweat).

In accordance with 4.57—IMMUNIZATIONS, the District shall maintain a copy of each student’s immunization record and a list of individuals with exemptions from immunization which shall be education records as defined in policy 4.13.

That policy provides that an education record may be disclosed to appropriate parties in connection with an emergency if knowledge of the information is necessary to protect the health or safety of the student or other individuals.

The parents or legal guardians of students found to have live human host parasites, including lice or nits, that are transmittable in a school environment will be asked to pick their child up as soon as possible. The parents or legal guardians will be given information concerning the eradication and control of human host parasites, including lice or nits.

Until the student is readmitted to school by the nurse or designee, the parent must accompany the student to school for purposes of determination that the student no longer has live human host parasites, including lice or nits, which are transmittable in a school environment, to include public school transportation.

Each school may conduct screenings of students for human host parasites, including lice or nits, that are transmittable in a school environment as needed. The screenings shall be conducted in a manner that respects the privacy and confidentiality of each student.

**Extra-Curricular Activity Policies**

**Extra-Curricular Volunteers**

Volunteers for extra-curricular activities must meet the following qualifications:

1. Volunteers must meet all AAA guidelines.
2. Volunteers must be 22 years of age.
3. Volunteers cannot be the spouse or relative of a school board member.
4. Volunteers cannot be paid.
5. Volunteers may act as the head coach in any sport except: football, basketball, and track.
Extra-Curricular Activity
Extra-curricular activities are considered an integral part of a student’s overall education. However, academic instruction will have precedence over extra-curricular activities.

Non-curriculum-related secondary school student organizations wishing to conduct meetings on school premises during non-instructional time shall not be denied equal access on the basis of the religious, political, philosophical, or other content of the speech at such meetings. Such meetings must meet the following criteria.
1. The meeting is to be voluntary and student initiated;
2. There is no sponsorship of the meeting by the school, the government, or its agents or employees;
3. The meeting must occur during non-instructional time;
4. Employees or agents of the school are present at religious meetings only in a non-participatory capacity;
5. The meeting does not materially and substantially interfere with the orderly conduct of educational activities within the school; and
6. Nonschool persons may not direct, conduct, control, or regularly attend activities of student groups.

All meetings held on school premises must be scheduled and approved by the principal. The school, its agents, and employees retain the authority to maintain order and discipline, to protect the well being of students and faculty, and to assure that attendance of students at meetings is voluntary.
Fraternities, sororities, and secret societies are forbidden in the District’s schools. Membership to student organizations shall not be by a vote of the organization’s members, nor be restricted by the student’s race, religion, sex, national origin, or other arbitrary criteria. Hazing, as defined by law, is forbidden in connection with initiation into, or affiliation with, any student organization, extracurricular activity, or sport program.

School Organizations
Students have the right to join existing clubs and organizations and will not be restricted for membership on the basis of race, gender, national origin, or other arbitrary criteria. However, grade point, class level, and gender may be used to restrict membership in school-sponsored organizations requiring a select membership. Gender will only be used as a restriction if the organization is entitled to Title IX exemption under the Bayh Amendment. School fraternities and secret societies are banned in Arkansas public schools. (See Chapter 29 of The School Laws of Arkansas, Act 171 of 1929.)

School Dance Guidelines
1. Each dance must be totally self-supporting.
2. Dances must be approved two weeks in advance by the administration.
3. At least two staff members—with a minimum of one female and one male—must agree to supervise each dance. One of these individuals must further agree to serve as head supervisor. At least one must be a certified staff member.
4. Chaperones will be assigned specific duties for each event by the head supervisor. The chaperones will be thoroughly familiarized with their duties before the dance by the head supervisor.
5. The admission for each dance will be established by the sponsoring group.
6. Approval will not be granted for dances on the campus which are requested by non-school groups.
7. Omaha students may bring as “dates” individuals who are not students of the Omaha School District with the following provisions:
   a. Students may sign up guest or dates with approval of the administration.
   b. Each outside guest must be registered by the Omaha student in the office, before the period of ticket sales ends, by the student who is assuming responsibility for the guest. The student will be required to sign a statement indicating that he/she will assume full responsibility for the conduct of his/her outside guest.
   c. Outside guests will be subject to all rules and regulations of the Omaha School District as would be any Omaha student. Attendance at the dance by the outside guest will serve to indicate to the Omaha staff the guest’s intention to adhere to the Omaha rules and regulations as applicable.
   d. Outside guests will immediately be introduced to each staff supervisor upon arrival at the dance. It will be the responsibility of the Omaha student responsible for the guest to make these introductions.
e. If the outside guest is under 18 years of age, he/she must be meeting attendance requirements in a certified public or private school.

8. A sign-in and sign-out roster will be kept at the “gate” by those sponsors and chaperones assigned to it. Students will sign the roster as they arrive at the dance and will sign out as they leave.

9. One staff member will be assigned duty at the entrance to the dance at all times.

10. Students may not leave the dance after they arrive except to immediately leave the premises. Students cannot return after they leave the premises.

11. Students not purchasing admission to the dance are not to be on the premises during the hours of the dance.

12. Dances may be permitted off campus with prior approval of the administration.

13. The prom must end by 12:00 midnight. All general dances must end by 11:00 p.m. Starting times for all dances will be approved by the administration.

14. The lighting in the dance and concession areas shall be sufficient to allow faculty supervisors to properly supervise all aspects of the dance.

15. The school policy forbidding students to do nothing more than single hand holding will, by necessity, be somewhat relaxed for those participating in a school dance. Kissing and/or inappropriate contact will not be allowed.

16. Faculty supervisors shall arrive at the dance site at least 30 minutes prior to the start of the dance.

17. Calendar dates for all proposed school dances must first be approved by the principal.

18. Students and their guests must be dressed in accordance with school dress code.

19. The refreshment area must always be supervised by at least one adult supervisor.

20. Any Omaha staff member may attend any dance with his/her spouse/guest with no admission charged. The same privilege will be extended to any Omaha Board of Education member and his/her spouse/guest. Refreshments will be at their usual cost.

21. The local law enforcement department will be notified by the head supervisor of each dance date and time. Such notification should be at least one day in advance.

22. Only Omaha juniors and seniors may purchase admission to the Junior-Senior Prom.

23. Dress will be semi-formal for the Junior-Senior Prom.

Senior Day

1. The Omaha Board of Education will allow a one (1) day Senior Day trip for seniors before their last day in May.

2. The senior day trip will be considered as a regular school activity with all school rules, regulations and policies being applicable as needed.

3. Funding for the senior day trip will be borne by the senior class and each of its class members.

4. At least two individuals will supervise each senior trip—one of these being a certified staff member.

5. Expenditures for supervisors, chaperones and bus driver will be paid by the senior class.

6. One certified staff member will be designated as the head supervisor. Certified staff members—under the direction of the head supervisor—will have complete authority over the trip participants from the time they leave the Omaha campus until they return.

7. A violation of school and/or civil rules and regulations during the school year by a student may result in his/her being excluded from the senior day trip.

8. Students and both parents/guardians will be required to sign a copy of the Senior Day Trip Parent/Guardian Permission Form, before a student is approved to participate in an Omaha Senior Class Day trip. The form will be considered a part of these policies.

9. Students will be transported to and from their destination by school activity bus.

10. Any student who has not previously been enrolled as a senior of Omaha School will have the option of going on the senior class trip provided he/she “buys” into the class fund-raising program. To buy in, a student would be required to donate to the class, an amount determined by dividing the total funds raised, at the time he/she started working, by the number of seniors who raised the funds. All fund-raising through school must be done off campus.

11. Any senior who does not complete the requirements for graduation will not be allowed to go on the senior class trip with his/her class, but will be allowed to go with the next senior class if graduation requirements are met. If the student completes his/her credits the next year before the completion of the school year, that student must pay the class an amount determined by dividing the total funds raised, after the completion of his/her course work, by the number of seniors who raised the funds. Seniors who are absent more than ten (10) days the second semester will not be allowed to go on the senior trip.
Fundraising
Classes, clubs and organizations may have pre-approved fundraisers at school for the purpose of raising money for scholarships, or if the activity is an integral part of the curriculum of a particular class. All fundraisers must be preapproved with the advisors and administration.

Format of Homecoming and selection of Homecoming Queen
1. The format for Homecoming shall be determined by a committee of teachers/students.
2. The format for selection of Homecoming Queen each year will be determined by a committee of teachers/students. Names selected as candidates each year will appear on an official ballot.
3. One copy of the ballot will be distributed to each student in grades 10, 11, and 12 at least one week before Homecoming. Students will vote at that time.
4. Instructions on the official ballot will ask each voter to vote for a Queen. The candidate receiving the highest total votes will be the Queen; the candidate receiving the second highest total votes will be the first runner-up; and the candidate receiving the third highest total votes will be the second runner-up.
5. A student may not be elected Queen for two successive years.
6. The reigning Queen will march with the Queen candidates and will crown the new Queen.

Interruption of Instructional Day
There will be no significant loss of instructional time due to student participation in activities, except those that are an extension of the classroom activities such as FBLA, FCCLA, etc. If it is necessary for students to leave early for a game, match, or competition, students must get assignments for that day prior to leaving and submit them the following day.

Grade Requirements
Omaha Schools follows Arkansas Activity Association and State Department of Education regulations governing participation in extra-curricular activities. Students must meet these rules and regulations in order to participate in competitive extra-curricular activities. These will apply to all teams, clubs, or organizations involving competition for awards, ratings, recognition, or qualification for additional competition (Ark. Code Annotated 6-11-105 and 6-15-202).

4th-8th - Students who fail a grade are ineligible the next school year.

4th-9th Grade - Automatically eligible both semesters if the student passes four (4) academic courses the previous semester; three (3) of which are in the core areas of math, science, social studies, and English and has a minimum of 2.0 GPA.

10-11-12 Grades - Automatically eligible if the student passes four academic courses the previous semester and has a minimum of a 2.0 GPA.

Special Education students are included in this policy unless specifically exempted by their I.E.P.’s.

Activity Participation Guidelines
To assist the Omaha staff and administration in their enforcement of this policy, the following guidelines will apply:

a. Extra-Curricular Attendance Policy - Students in violation of attendance policy in a given semester will not be permitted to participate in activities especially any that involves missing class but will be allowed to remain a part of the team, club, or organization.
b. Students must attend all classes in order to participate in any extra-curricular activity held on that respective calendar day unless extenuating circumstances as determined by the principal and the student’s sponsor/coach-exist.
c. An athlete not meeting the academic requirements of this policy will continue to be a member of the respective athletic team and will participate in all practice sessions unless excused by his/her coach, and will not travel with the team. However, they can sit on the end of the bench or behind the team during home games, only.
d. A student holding a membership in an authorized school club, group and/or organization, including membership in a specific grade/class and who does not meet the academic requirements of this policy will continue to be a member of the respective club, group and/or organization, but will not be permitted to:
   (1) continue as an officer; (2) participate in field/class trips; or (3) participate in competitive type activities. Essentially, the student may retain membership in the club, group and/or organization, but may participate no further until academic requirements are met. Students elected to a State or National office may petition the Omaha Board of Education for permission to perform the duties of the respective office.

e. A coach/sponsor may exclude a student who has received discipline referrals from attending an activity/competition.

Conflicts of School-Sponsored Activities

If any conflict occurs between more than one school sponsored activity, then the student has the choice of which activity to participate in without penalty.

Extra-Curricular Transportation Policy

Students who ride school approved transportation to an activity will return on the same unless:

1. Their parent/guardian is at the game (activity) and signs a statement assuming responsibility for their son’s/daughter’s transportation away from the activity. Parents may sign a statement by doing so in the presence of the bus driver, coach, or any certified staff member (sponsor).

2. Their parent/guardian completes an Extenuating Travel form and gives the form to the sponsor (coach) prior to the activity or game. Extenuating Travel forms may be obtained in the school office. This form is for special occasion circumstances where parents/guardians know in advance that regular transportation procedures will not be followed.

3. In the judgment of the sponsor (coach) an immediate unforeseen extenuating circumstance exists. In this situation, the sponsor may grant permission for a student to ride home or to another destination with another individual even though the parents/guardians have not signed proper forms.
Withdrawing From Extra-Curricular Activities

1. Student Initiated
   Any student who voluntarily and on his/her own withdraws from an activity of the Omaha School District and who does so without permission of the respective coach or sponsor, and whose withdrawal results in the full or partial curtailment of an event or influences the event in a negative manner, may be disciplined by the coach, sponsor or school administration as the situation may dictate. Such discipline may include suspension or expulsion, but unless the principal determines that extenuating circumstances existed which may have affected the student’s decision will in each instance, result in the student’s not being allowed to participate in the activity for the remainder of the school year.

2. Parent/Guardian Initiated
   Any student who is withdrawn by his/her parents/guardians from an activity of the Omaha School District, and whose withdrawal results in the full or partial curtailment of an event or influences the event in a negative manner, will not be allowed to participate in the activity for the remainder of the year unless the principal determines that extenuating circumstances existed which may have affected the parents'/guardians’ decision. The Omaha Board of Education seeks to discourage the withdrawal, by parent/guardian of students who participate in school activities as a form of “home” discipline.

Students Arriving Back On Campus After A School Activity (4-12)

1. Realizing the benefits that students receive from participation in extra-curricular and curricular-related activities, the Omaha School District encourages parent support and cooperation in providing the best opportunities for its students.

2. Students transported back to school by approved carrier will accept the responsibility of having parent approved transportation at the school within 15 minutes of stated arrival time.

3. Students will be warned and parents notified in writing, that the next time parent approved transportation is not at the school within stated arrival time, the student will be dropped from further participation in all extra-curricular and curricular-related activities.

4. At least one sponsor-for any Omaha School District activity—must ride the carrier to and from all activities and remain on campus until all students have exited the campus by parent approved transportation.

Selection of Boys’/Girls’ State Candidates (11th Grade)

1. The principal will establish a Boys’/Girls’ State Selection Committee.

2. The Selection Committee will be composed of the principal and teachers.

3. The Selection Committee will familiarize itself with the official Boys’ State/Girls’ State literature relative to student qualifications for selection.

4. The selection process will be identical for both Boys’ State and Girls’ State candidates.

5. The Selection Committee will review the qualifications of boys and girls in the junior class and will make the appropriate number of selections.

6. Lists, in rank order, of qualified students—one for boys and one for girls, equal to three times the number of positions allotted to Omaha High School Boys’/Girls’ State officials—will be submitted by the Omaha High School Boys’/Girls’ State Selection Committee to the proper Boys’ State/Girls’ State officials.

7. Names cannot be taken away or added to the lists unless done so by the Selection Committee itself.

8. Students will be chosen from the lists, in rank order, as Boys’/Girls’ State candidates, to fill the allotted quotas.

9. If a student cannot attend Boys’/Girls’ State for any reason, a student in descending rank order on the list, will be selected.

10. This procedure will be followed until the Omaha High School quota is reached and as long as qualified students are available in the opinion of the Selection Committee.

Philosophy and Objectives of the Athletic Department

The philosophy of athletics at Omaha School maintains that athletics is an integral part of the school’s program of education. Through athletics, experiences are provided which help students physically, mentally, and emotionally. The
element of competition and winning, though it exists, is controlled to the point that it does not determine the nature of the program. However, some emphasis on competition and winning is necessary because of the training it offers to 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 strengthen the educational values of contests.

Participation in athletics, as both a player and as a student spectator, is an important part of the student’s educational experience. Such participation is a privilege that carries with it responsibilities to the school, to the team, to the student body, to the community, and to the student themselves. In their conduct both on and off the playing surface, they represent all of these groups. These experiences contribute to the knowledge, skill, self-discipline, and emotional patterns of each participant. This, in turn, makes the student a better individual and citizen of the community.

Objectives:
1. Keep participation as high as possible and in accordance with field and court availability.
2. Develop athletes to be the best competitors on the field and ladies and gentlemen off the field.
3. Instill good habits, sound morals, and a high standard of sportsmanship in the athletes by encouraging, supporting, disciplining, and by setting good examples for students by “practicing what we preach”.
4. To help pupils understand and appreciate the need for optimum health and physical fitness, the importance of proper rest, good eating habits, and cleanliness should be stressed whenever possible.
5. Emphasize to all athletes, at all levels of participation, that athletic competition is a privilege and carries certain responsibilities with it.
6. Develop all programs in such a manner that yields results of unity, harmony, and success. This includes the unity of the athletic staff.
7. Instill the courage to face reality and to meet all problems with patience, independence, and self-reliance.
8. Create in athletes a desire to learn on the playing field and especially in the classroom by challenging them to be their best in all aspects of life.
9. Maintain and conduct the best athletic program possible.

Pee Wee Basketball/Cheerleading - Grades 4-6
The purpose of the “Pee Wee” Basketball/Cheerleading program is to teach the basic fundamentals of Basketball/Cheerleading, stress teamwork and to encourage each student to improve his/her ability as an athlete. The program will also focus upon the development of individual fitness and participants skills as well as the development of physical coordination. The program will stress sportsmanship and the development of positive attitudes. Pee Wee Basketball is a competitive sport.

Boys and girls in grades 4, 5, and 6 will be eligible to participate. The number of participants available will determine actual fielding of teams. Under extenuating circumstances, coaches and administrators may adjust these guidelines.

The following teams are authorized:
1. Girls, grades 4 & 5 combined
2. Girls, grade 6
3. Boys, grades 4 & 5 combined
4. Boys, grade 6

Non-Certified volunteers will be recruited when needed to coach the respective “pee wee” teams. They are subject to Administrative approval, and a criminal background check. Volunteer coaches must submit rosters, practice schedules, and game schedules to the Elementary Principal or designee.

In addition to practice sessions during the school day, after-school practices may be scheduled by team coaches after consultation with district coaches, including the cheerleading coach, concerning the use of the gymnasium.

The actual scheduling of the games will be done by the Athletic Director with assistance from the volunteer coaches. No games will be scheduled which conflict with high school basketball games. Game schedule will be approved in advance by Elementary Principal or designee.

Games will be scheduled with “pee wee” teams in other school districts as such districts make their teams available for competition.
The District’s athletic bus will be used as the means of transportation for all pee wee teams. Any bus driver must meet State and District licensing and health guidelines. Cost of bus operation will be paid for from District funds.

Players will obey regular guidelines concerning the riding of the athletic bus. All players will ride the bus to all away games, unless prior permission has been given by the building principal or Pee Wee Coordinator. All players will ride the bus to all away games, unless prior parental arrangements have been made with the respective coach. Parents desiring that their student not ride home on the bus must follow district policy concerning alternative transportation. Request forms may be obtained from the regular or volunteer coaches.

All funds from home games will go to the athletic department. Rights to the gymnasium concession stand will be awarded to the Omaha Eagles Booster Club.

Parent permission forms provided by the school will be signed by parents/guardians before a student will be allowed to practice.

All participants of the pee wee program must meet the eligibility requirements as stated in the:

**Extra-Curricular Activity Policies.**

**Definitions**

“Extracurricular Activities” are defined as any school sponsored program where students from one or more schools meet, work, perform, practice under supervision outside of regular class time, or are competing for the purpose of receiving an award, rating, recognition, or criticism, or qualification for additional competition.

Examples include, but are not limited to, inter/intra-scholastic athletics, cheerleading, band, choral, math, or science competitions, field trips, and club activities.

“Field Trips” are when individual students or groups of students are invited to programs or events when there is no competition and the students are not interacting with each other for the purpose of planning, qualifying, or arranging for future programs or for the purpose of receiving recognition.

“Inter-Scholastic Activities” means athletic or non-athletic/academic activities where students compete on a school vs. school basis.

“Intra-Scholastic Activities” means athletic or non-athletic/academic activities where students compete with students from within the same school.

**Extracurricular Eligibility**

The Board believes in providing opportunities for student to participate in extracurricular activities that can help enrich the student’s educational experience. At the same time, the Board believes that a student’s participation in extracurricular activities cannot come at the expense of his/her classroom academic achievement.

Interruptions of instructional time in the classroom are to be minimal and absences from class to participate in extracurricular activities shall not exceed one per week per extracurricular activity (tournaments or other similar events excepted with approval of the principal. All students are eligible for extracurricular activities unless specifically denied eligibility on the basis of criteria outlined in this policy.

A student may lose his/her eligibility to participate in extracurricular activities when, in the opinion of the school’s administration, the student’s participation in such an activity may adversely jeopardize his/her academic achievement. Students may also be denied permission to participate in extracurricular activities as a consequence of disciplinary action taken by the administration for inappropriate behavior.
Any student who refuses to sit for a State assessment or attempts to boycott a State assessment by failing to put forth good faith effort on the assessment as determined by the assessment administrator/proctor, or whose parents do not send their student to school on the dates the assessments are administered or scheduled as make-up days shall not be permitted to participate until the student takes the same or a following State mandated assessment, as applicable, or completes the required remediation for the assessment the student failed to put forth a good faith effort on. The superintendent or designee may waive this paragraph’s provisions when the student’s failure was due to exceptional or extraordinary circumstances. Students falling under the provisions of this paragraph shall be permitted to attend curriculum related field trips occurring during the school day.

A student who enrolls in the district and meets the definition of “eligible child” in Policy 4.2—ENROLLMENT shall be eligible to try-out for an extracurricular activity regardless of the date the student enrolls in the District so long as the student meets all other eligibility requirements and the extracurricular activity is still ongoing.

Students who are serving ISS are not eligible to play on the day they attend ISS.

Students who are serving OSS are ineligible to play during the suspension time frame.

At least one certified staff member will be present at all home games.

Players on ball trips, or at after-school practices, are subject to all rules and regulations of Omaha School, plus any rules established by the coach and non-certified volunteers

**Omaha Pee-Wee Intramural Basketball - Grades 4-6**

1. The season will start in September. A committee of coaches and administrators will divide the players equally into teams.
2. The season will consist of one to two games per week. Some games will be scheduled on Friday nights or Saturdays to avoid conflicts with school.
3. Teams will consist of 4th, 5th, and 6th grade boys and girls.
4. **Eligibility** - All students shall meet the requirements set forth by the Arkansas Activities Association and the Omaha Public School policies.
5. A committee of coaches and administrators may decide any specific item not covered in these guidelines.

**Grades 4-6 Basketball League Rules**

All National Federation rules for high school basketball will be followed with the following additions:

- Games will begin at 5:30 p.m. unless the host school chooses differently.
- The gate admission fee for all games will be $3 for adults and $2 for students. Only AAA passes will be accepted.
- Student eligibility (attendance, grades, behavior) is to be determined by each schools activity policies.
  - A student is not eligible for fifth grade pee wee competition if the students 12th birthday is on or before September 1st.
  - A student is not eligible for sixth grade pee wee competition if the students 13th birthday is on or before September 1st.
- The length of the games are as follows: 4/5 grades will play 10 minute halves using a running clock except for the final 2 minutes of each half, and 6th grade will play 12 minute halves using a running clock except for the final 2 minutes of each half.
- Any team with a 15 point lead cannot full-court press the opposing team and must have their defense behind the boundary of the 3-point line.
- The officials must be adults (no high school students). The officials do not have to be licensed except for the conference tournaments. All officials must wear a black and white referee shirt.
- There must be an administrator or designee on supervision at the home games.
- The tournament brackets will be based on conference records.

**Student Drug Testing Policy (Grades 7-12)**

I. **Mission Statement**
The Omaha Public School District Recognizes that drug abuse is a significant health problem for students, detrimentally affecting overall health, behavior, learning ability, reflexes, and the total development of each individual. The Omaha Board of Education is determined to help students by providing another option for them to say “NO.” Drug abuse includes but is not limited to, the use of illegal drugs, alcohol, and the misuse of legal drugs and medications.

II. Definitions:
Drugs: Any substance considered illegal by Arkansas Statutes or which is controlled by the Food & Drug Administration unless prescribed by a licensed medical practitioner.

Activity Program: Any extracurricular activity sponsored by Omaha Public Schools. These activities are listed below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Basketball</th>
<th>Baseball</th>
<th>Track</th>
<th>Softball</th>
<th>Cheerleading</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Band</td>
<td>Journalism</td>
<td>Mu Alpha Theta</td>
<td>OTAD</td>
<td>Student Dances</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Council</td>
<td>Science Club</td>
<td>F.B.L.A.</td>
<td>Choir</td>
<td>EAST Club</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BETA Club</td>
<td>F.C.C.L.A.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Other clubs or activities that may be formed</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

School Year: From the first day of classes in the fall, unless the activity begins prior to the first day of classes, in which event from the first day of practice through the last day of classes in the spring.

 Adopted: October 29, 2004

III. Policy Statement

Omaha Public School District (“the district”) is conducting a mandatory drug testing program for students. Its purpose is threefold: (1) to provide for the health and safety of students in all Activity Programs grades 7-12; (2) to undermine the effects of peer pressure by providing a legitimate reason for students to refuse to use illegal drugs; and (3) to encourage students who use drugs to participate in drug treatment programs.

IV. Procedures for Students

Consent: Each student wishing to participate in any activity program and the student’s custodial parent or guardian shall consent in writing to drug testing pursuant to the district’s drug testing program. Written consent shall be in the form attached to the student handbook as GENERAL AUTHORIZATION FORM. No student shall be allowed to participate in any activity program absent such consent.

Student Selection: Randomly selected students in activity programs, or those who have been approved by parents, can be drug tested at the beginning of the school year. In addition, random testing will be by lottery drawing from a “pool” of all students participating in activity programs in the district at the time of the drawing, and those with parent permission. A single test from a student can be required by a principal for reasonable suspicion. Any parent may request his/her child’s placement in the lottery regardless of extracurricular participation. The superintendent shall take all reasonable steps to assure the integrity, confidentiality, and random nature of the selection process including, assuring that the names of all participating students are in the pool, assuring that the person drawing names has no way of knowingly choosing or failing to choose particular students for the testing, assuring that the identity of student drawn for testing is now known to those involved in the selection process and assuring direct observation of the process by the least intrusive means possible while assuring brevity and privacy.

V. Sample Collection

Samples will be collected at a mutually convenient time on the same day the student is selected for testing or if the student is absent on that day, on the day of the student’s return to school. If a student is unable to produce a sample at any particular time, the student will remain with testing personnel until sample is collected. All students providing samples will be given the option of doing so alone in an individual stall with the door closed. Refusal by the student to comply with request for sample will be deemed as non-compliant and therefore student will not be allowed to continue to participate in his/her activity. At that point, parent contact will be made to notify them of the student’s non-compliance.
VI. Testing Agency

The district will choose a qualified agency for the purpose of processing sample results and maintaining privacy with respect to test results and related matters.

VII. Prescription Medication

If the test results are deemed positive, the parents may provide a copy of the prescription or a doctor’s verification, which will be considered in determining whether a “positive” test has been satisfactorily explained. That documentation will be forwarded to the testing lab with instructions for the lab to consider the student’s use of such medication to assure the accuracy of the result. Students who refuse to provide verification and test positive will be subject to the actions specified below for “positive tests”.

VIII. Scope of Tests

The test will screen for five drugs, which are THC, Amphetamines, Methamphetamines, Cocaine, and Opiates. Student samples will not be screened for the presence of any substances other than an illegal drug or for the existence of any physical condition other than drug intoxication. As a quality control measure, the school reserves the right to send any urine sample that appears unusual in color and/or consistency to a laboratory for testing and confirmation or non-confirmation.

IX. Limited Access to Results

Only the Superintendent or his designee will be notified when double confirmation of a positive test is received.

X. Procedures in the Event of a Positive Result

Whenever a student’s test result indicates the presence of illegal drugs, “positive test”, the following will occur: The custodial parent or legal guardian will be notified and a meeting will be scheduled with the Superintendent or his designee, the student, the custodial parent or legal guardian, and the student’s principal. If the parent/guardian would like to appeal the results of the test, the student’s split specimen sample will be tested. The new sample will be tested at the expense of Omaha Public Schools. If the results of the second test are negative or clear, no further action will be necessary. If the second sample is also found to be positive, then the student will be subject to the procedures and actions as stated in this policy. If the appeal option is utilized, the student will remain under suspension until a negative test is ascertained from Omaha Public Schools testing agency. There will be double confirmation before student(s) and parent(s) are informed of a positive.

XI. First Positive Result

For a positive result, the student will be placed on probation and not be allowed to participate in competitions, presentations, and activities of Omaha Public Schools for a period of twenty calendar days. The student will be required to attend drug/alcohol counseling and if any charge is incurred, it will be the responsibility of the parents or guardians.

On day twenty-one, in order to regain eligibility, the student will be required to be retested (at the expense of Omaha Public Schools), and show proof of counseling attendance. If the test results are found to be negative, the student will again become eligible for competitions, presentations, and activities relating to Omaha Public Schools. However, the student must submit to a mandatory drug screen or lab test on a monthly basis at the expense of the parent/guardian. The screening must be conducted by a reputable agency or facility capable of screening for the same substances being screened by the district. The duration of the screening should be determined by the intervention program. (A maximum of six months).

The student will be required to attend the class/practice but will not be allowed to participate. He/She cannot compete or dress out for any competition.
XII. Second Positive Result

For the second positive result in the same year, the student will be suspended from competitions, presentations, and activities relating to Omaha Public Schools for the remainder of that semester plus the following semester. If this positive test is in the spring semester, the student will not be able to participate during the following fall semester until he/she passes a clear test.

XIII. Third Positive Result

For the third positive result, in two consecutive calendar years, the student will be suspended for participating in activities for the remainder of his/her enrollment in the district. (May be appealed to the board)

XIV. Non-Punitive Nature of Policy

No student shall be penalized academically for testing positive for illegal drugs. The results of drug tests pursuant to this policy will not be documented in any student’s academic records. Information regarding the results of drug tests will not be disclosed to criminal or juvenile authorities absent legal compulsion by valid and binding subpoena or other legal process, the student and the student’s custodial parent or legal guardian will be notified as soon as possible by the district.

XV. Other Disciplinary Measures

The District by accepting this policy is not precluded from utilizing other disciplinary measures set forth in the Student Discipline Policy and this policy does not preclude the District from taking disciplinary procedure and resulting action when founded upon reasonable belief and suspicion that a student has participated in drug related activities.