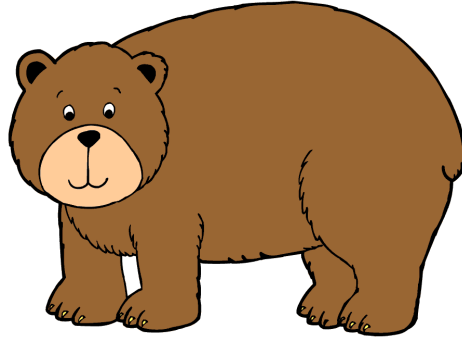


Bartlett Elementary



Parent/Student Handbook

Please keep this booklet for future reference while your
child is at Bartlett Elementary School

At Bartlett School, students, staff, parents and community work together in a supportive environment to help all learners acquire knowledge, integrity, problem-solving strategies, and communication skills.

Emily Testani, Principal

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

Bartlett Elementary Office.....	248-573-8300
Emily Testani, Principal.....	248-573-8300
Bartlett Attendance Line.....	248-573-8280
Fax.....	248-486-4090
Transportation.....	248-573-8900
Transportation Hotline.....	248-573-8251
Bartlett Kids Club.....	248-573-8315
District Web Site.....	www.slcs.us

Bartlett Elementary Mission Statement

The Bartlett Community is dedicated to creating an environment which challenges individuals to master basic skills and to attain their highest academic levels using lifelong learning strategies. All students will develop their self-esteem through social and academic success.

INTRODUCTION

Welcome to Bartlett Elementary School. All of the staff members have one goal. We want to provide the best education possible for your child. We want to form a close partnership with parents and involve them in all aspects of education at Bartlett. We want to build on the strengths of each child and help each child as a unique individual.

Bartlett and all South Lyon students follow a curriculum based on the Michigan State Standards. Bartlett students have the opportunity to engage in powerful learning experiences and assessments, which are based on research and best practices. We are constantly working to grow and improve as educators and professionals to provide the best education for your child.

Bartlett Elementary is accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. We comply with all State of Michigan mandates for school improvement.

Our school benefits from a Board of Education mandated Shared Involvement Process (SIP). The SIP is composed of the principal, parents, teachers and support staff, who meet once every month to collaborate around school improvement and make collective decisions regarding policies and school budget.

We look forward to seeing you at Bartlett and having you take part in your child's education. Please involve yourself with our CHEERS volunteer program and our Parent/Teacher Organization (PTO). Parental involvement is key for student success.

We look forward to working with you! Please do not hesitate to let us know if you have any questions. By working together, we will be a powerful force in providing a great education for your child.

NEW ENROLLMENT INFORMATION

New students to the South Lyon Community Schools should contact the Transportation Department to see which school they will attend. New registrations, for Bartlett, that occur during the school year will take place in the school office. During the summer, new registration will take place at the Griswold Operations Center.

All new students need to have:

- Two proofs of residency
- Immunization Record
- Birth Certificate
- Vision screening (Kindergarten only)

ELEMENTARY INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAM

KINDERGARTEN

In the late winter/spring of each school year, kindergarten registration is conducted. Parents are given an orientation to the school and school policies. Kindergarten registration is an opportunity to meet the principal, kindergarten teachers, secretaries, and other staff members.

Parents can register their children and visit the kindergarten classrooms. Birth certificates, immunization records, a current vision screening, and two proofs of residency are necessary for registration.

CURRICULUM

A curriculum based on the Michigan State Standards is in place to guide student learning in all areas in which instruction takes place. Parents can review these curriculum documents in the principal's office or in the curriculum department in the Administration Building on 345 South Warren, in South Lyon. Parents can access South Lyon curriculum materials at South Lyon Community Schools' website at www.slcs.us.

We expect students to be responsible for the care and handling of books and materials as well as other school equipment and supplies. A charge may be assessed if any library, classroom, or planning books are lost or damaged beyond the usual wear and tear.

Students are instructed in the following academic areas:

- Language Arts (Reading, Writing, Listening, Speaking, Word Work)
- Mathematics
- Science
- Social Studies
- Physical Education
- Music
- Art
- Technology
- Habits of Mind

Michigan Student Test of Educational Progress (M-STEP)

This summative assessment is designed to 1) focus on student achievement, 2) align with the Michigan State Standards, and 3) provide data to guide instruction. This assessment will assess student understanding and knowledge based on the Michigan State Standards in an online testing format. The M-STEP is scheduled for spring (Testing windows will be between

April and June) of 2017 in the following grades:
English Language Arts—Grades 3, 4, and 5
Mathematics—Grades 3, 4, and 5
Science—Grade 4
Social Studies—Grade 5

Information regarding specific testing dates and times will be shared as the year progresses.

Cognitive Abilities Test

Students in grade two are given standardized cognitive ability tests that evaluate verbal, quantitative, and non-verbal (spatial reasoning) skills.

District Assessments

Students are given district-developed assessments in math, reading, writing, science and social studies to help teachers modify instruction to best meet student needs. Some of these assessments include: South Lyon Math Assessment (SLMA), Diagnostic Reading Assessment (DRA), and South Lyon Reading Assessment (SLRA).

HOME SCHOOL COMMUNICATIONS

Communications

Bartlett Elementary communicates with families and the community members via the following: email notifications, mass mailings or targeted mailings as appropriate, weekly/monthly updates, (electronic and/or hard copy), information posted on our websites, letters/handouts sent home with students, Twitter, Facebook, daily student announcements, and informational flyers available in our office. We encourage parents to choose electronic means of communication when possible, however are happy to provide a paper copy if needed.

Enrollment/Emergency Cards

Pre-printed cards are sent home the first day of school. Please check for accuracy, complete the emergency contact section, sign the card, and return them the next day. Your child's safety depends on providing us with at least two emergency numbers. Please notify the school office should any information on your emergency card change during the course of the school year (i.e. phone numbers or emergency contacts).

Please remember to update your emergency card phone contacts periodically. It is imperative that we have someone available to pick up your child in an emergency.

Curriculum Night

In the fall, Curriculum Night is held. Teachers will be present to review grade level curriculum. Curriculum materials will be available for viewing. School-aged students will be entertained while parents are attending the curriculum presentations. This evening is a time to get acquainted with teachers, school policies, educational programs, and the school rather than a time to talk with the teacher about individual student progress. Parent-teacher conference schedules will be available to sign-up for a conference time in November.

Parent-Teacher Conferences

Parent-teacher conferences are conducted in November. Students are released early (11:09

possible. There is no passing or doubling up in the drop off loop.

Staff members are in front of the building until the bell rings. Therefore, it is not necessary for you to wait in your car to see the children enter the school. By following this procedure, traffic will flow smoothly, alleviating a long wait and potentially dangerous situations. Of course, parents are always welcome to park in the front lot and **walk students through the main door.**

Students must be signed in by a parent/guardian in the office if they arrive after the bell at 8:15.

Students Leaving While School is in Session

When it becomes necessary for a student to go home due to illness or prearranged appointment, a parent or other responsible person designated by the parent must pick up the child in the office.

We will not release any student to leave the school grounds (other than at dismissal times for walkers and bus riders) unless he/she is picked up from the office by:

1. A parent, guardian, or emergency contact designated on the emergency card
2. An individual designated in writing and signed by the parent or guardian
3. A day care center designated in writing and signed by the parent or guardian

The parent, guardian or designated person in (1) and (2) above must provide picture identification such as a driver's license.

Safety is a deep concern to all of us. We are enlisting your help in following these guidelines to ensure a high level of security for your children.

Reporting Absences

To guarantee that all students have been accounted for and have arrived safely at the school, parents are asked to call in to report the absence of their child each morning before 9:30. The school will call to check on any unconfirmed absences.

ABSENCE LINE 248-573-8280

Attendance Policy

Regular attendance is necessary for school success. It is important that your child be at school and on time as many days as possible. Regular attendance is imperative for school success. Although the teachers attempt to provide assignments and materials for students to make up work when they are absent, completing an assignment at home does not compare with being present in the classroom. An absent student misses the teacher's instruction and class discussion.

The following are the attendance guidelines:

Step 1: When a student is absent 10 days or has 15 days of combined absences or tardies, a letter is sent home to parents.

Step 2: When a student has accrued 15 days of absences or 20 days of combined absences and tardies before March, the building administrator is notified. A letter is sent home and a meeting is scheduled with the principal.

Step 3: When a student is absent 20 days or 25 days combined absences and tardies a letter will be sent home and referral (i.e. Youth Assistance or Oakland County Truancy) may be made.

A child is considered tardy if they arrive at school after 8:15. A child will be considered absent for the a.m. if he/she arrives after 10:00. A child is considered absent for the p.m. if he/she leaves school before 1:30.

Parents play an important role in ensuring that their child maintains a good record for punctuality and attendance.

Dismissal Procedures

Parents picking up their children must park their cars in the parking lot and may come in and wait by the gymnasium. Parents must also sign their child out in the gym. This allows for a safe and organized dismissal for all our students. For obvious safety reasons, students are not allowed to walk across the parking lot without an adult. Parents are not to park in the loop at dismissal time.

Please help us make this procedure run smoothly and safely by abiding by the following procedures.

- Doors by the gym will be unlocked at 3:10 and sign out will begin at 3:18 in the gym.
- Please have your ID readily available when approaching the table to sign out your student.
- Please know that we ask for and appreciate your patience. Our primary goal is to provide the safest procedure for each student and family.

As always, it is very important that your child know how he/she is supposed to get home each day. Any day that there is a change in the usual plans, **you must send a note**. If we do not have a note, we will follow the usual system, even if the child tells us differently.

Arrival and dismissal times are the busiest times of day for our secretarial staff. If you change your child's dismissal plans, it is much better for you to send a note to the teacher, rather than call the main office. Anytime we call into the classroom to share a change in a student's dismissal plan, we are interrupting classroom instruction and student concentration. Please do not email a teacher a change in dismissal plans at any time. We are concerned about the safety of all of our students and do appreciate your assistance with these procedures. Thank you for following our arrival and dismissal procedures!

SCHOOL HEALTH

Accidents or Illness at School

Only minimal first aid can be given by school personnel. Parents/Guardians will be called when a student appears ill enough to go home or any injury involving the head takes place. If a parent/guardian cannot be reached, the designated emergency contact(s) will be contacted. If a student has any health problem, or is taking medication, it is mandatory that school personnel are made aware of the health issue.

Students are encouraged to go outside each day. If there is a medical reason that a child must stay inside, we need a note from a physician.

Immunizations

Michigan law requires that every student enrolled in a Michigan school be properly immunized or have a signed waiver on file at the school. If not, the student, in accordance with the law, shall not be permitted to attend school.

Medication at School

School district policy prohibits school personnel from administering any medication (including, for example, cough drops, aspirin, and over-the-counter medications) to students without the following:

- A South Lyon Medication Form obtained from the office. This form must be signed by the parent/guardian with the signed physician's order indicating drug name, dose, time, and method of administration, and the duration of treatment must be provided to the school. It is also recommended that possible side effects of a medication be indicated on the form.
- No over-the-counter drugs will be dispensed without the written order of a physician. This includes cough drops. Please obtain a South Lyon Medication Form for over-the-counter drugs.
- Medication must remain in the school office for the duration it is used.
- Medication should be dropped off and picked up by the parents and not transferred by the student. Medication will be disposed of at the end of the year if it has not been picked up by a parent.

Hearing and Vision Screening

Oakland County Health Department provides hearing and vision screening at specified grade levels. If a hearing or vision problem is detected, the parent will be notified. Parents have the right to refuse these screenings.

Head Lice

Because of the close proximity of children in school we occasionally have students with head lice. It is the district practice that a child with head lice must be excluded from school until one treatment at home has occurred. A student may come back to school provided the parent/guardian documents the treatment and upon examination by the school's designee that any remaining nits are farther away than ¼" from the scalp. It is recommended that all nits be removed. There is information in the office on procedures for ridding a child of lice. The Michigan Department of Education, Michigan Department of Health, Oakland County Health Division, and the American Academy of Pediatrics support these practices.

Communicable Diseases

Children catch a variety of illnesses and it is important to know when and when not to keep your child out of school. **A child who is ill should be fever and vomit free for 24 hours before returning to school.** A child who just has cold symptoms is welcome at school but please note the medication policy, which does not allow over-the-counter medication to be used by students at any point during the day. If your child vomits during the school day, a parent/guardian will be required to pick up the child.

SCHOOL EMERGENCY INFORMATION

Emergency and Disaster Procedures

In the event of an emergency during the school day, plans will be put into operation. Emergency plans meeting district and national standards have been adopted to cover all foreseeable emergencies. Tornado, fire and lock down emergency procedures are rehearsed throughout the year.

Fire and tornado procedures are posted in each classroom.

Severe Weather and School Closings

When the district deems necessary, school will be closed. Information will be communicated to major TV and radio stations. You may also check www.slcs.us or www.cancellations.com.

Parents MUST have emergency plans in the event that school must be closed and students are sent home during the school day.

STUDENT PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

A variety of services are available to support students with special needs.

Support Services

Students are serviced by means of direct instruction and support through a variety of district programs. Additional support services are available and include:

- School Psychologist
- Speech Pathologist
- Resource Room Teachers
- Reading Recovery Teacher
- Social Worker
- Vision and hearing tests

Media Center

Students may come to the Media Center any time during the week with the permission of their classroom teacher. The Media Center is filled with books, magazines, and a reference section for students and staff. A Media Clerk meets once a week with all classes to teach the students about the media center and allow student to check out books. Materials are loaned for one week and are renewable. Overdue fines are not charged for late materials. If materials are lost or damaged, students may be asked to pay replacement costs.

STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Field Trips

Any student going on a field trip must have a signed parent authorization. If a teacher does not have such authorization by the day of the trip, the student will not be permitted to go.

Student Pictures

Student pictures are generally taken in October. Yearbooks can be purchased with your child's picture package and will be delivered at the end of the year.

Camp

Fifth grade students have the opportunity to attend an outdoor camp. Children are exposed to a powerful outdoor curriculum selected by the Bartlett teachers and taught by the professional staff of The YMCA Storer Outdoor Education Camp. It is expected that all fifth graders will attend. Fifth grade parents raise all funds for camp and all fifth grade parents are expected to raise funds and/or contribute to the raising of funds for this exciting outdoor experience.

Assemblies/Gatherings

Assemblies are funded and planned in collaboration with the PTO. Students also attend other all school gatherings planned by the Bartlett staff.

Other Programs and Events offered to our Students:

- Music Concerts
- 5th grade track meet
- PTO sponsored Family Fun Nights
- Bartlett sponsored reading, writing, or math nights
- Adopt-a-Reader
- Additional Assemblies
- Safety Patrol
- Student Council
- Field Day
- Bartlett Buddies Care Club
- Girls on the Run

STUDENT BEHAVIORAL EXPECTATIONS

THROUGHOUT THE SCHOOL

We ask that all students “[Be a Bartlett B.E.A.R](#)” and work toward developing various Habits of Mind.

This means that throughout the school, students will;

Be your best

Manage Impulsivity	Apply Past Knowledge
Think about their thinking	Strive for Accuracy
Be Persistent	Question and Pose Problems

Everyone be kind

Listen with Empathy
Manage Impulsivity
Think Interpedently

Always be safe

Manage Impulsivity
Apply Past Knowledge

Responsible

Think about their thinking
Take responsible risks
Strive for Accuracy

OTHER

1. Students should leave little objects and all toys at home. These can be easily misplaced or distract students from the purpose of learning.
2. Pets also need to stay home because of student allergies and comfort levels.

SAFETY PROCEDURES AND REGULATIONS

Lunch Times

During inclement weather students will remain inside the building during recess and the lunch times. Lunch Supervisors will be on duty during the lunch period. Students should adhere to cafeteria and classroom expectations.

Lunch Times for the year are as follows:

Fifth Grade:	11:05 Recess	11:30 Eat
Fourth Grade:	11:15 Recess	11:40 Eat
Third Grade:	11:30 Recess	11:55 Eat
Second Grade:	11:40 Recess	12:05 Eat
First Grade:	11:55 Recess	12:20 Eat
Kindergarten:	12:10 Recess	12:35 Eat

Accident Insurance

The South Lyon Community School District will have student accident insurance applications available in the office.

Anti-Harassment

It is the policy of the South Lyon Community Schools to provide an environment free from sex-based harassment for all students, employees, volunteers, and contractors. Consistent with Policy 3363/5518, the District will investigate all allegations of harassment, including sex-based harassment, and discipline or take other appropriate action against any individual who engages in sex-based harassment or discrimination.

Students should report any incidents of sex-based harassment or discrimination to:

Maureen Altermatt, Assistant Superintendent for Administrative Services
South Lyon Community Schools
345 South Warren
South Lyon, MI 48178
248-573-8130
altermattm@slcs.us

Students may also report incidents of harassment, including sex-based harassment, to any teacher or administrator. Reports made to any teacher or administrator will be reported to the Assistant Superintendent.

All other complaints of harassment should be reported to the appropriate building administrator.

Sex-based harassment includes any of the following conduct:

Verbal: unwelcome comments, including the use of derogatory, sexually suggestive, or vulgar language; the use of sexual innuendos; unwelcome advances or repeated requests for dates or sexual favors; threats based on or motivated by a person's sex; demanding or pressuring another individual to submit to sexual requests or advances in order to attain academic or professional achievements or advances; threatening another individual's academic or professional accomplishments or reputation if that individual does not submit to sexual requests or advances; or any other similar behavior.

Visual: subjecting another individual to sexually suggestive, pornographic, or obscene images, text, or cartoons, including by electronic mail, text message, letter, or any other medium; the use of obscene gestures toward or around another individual; leering at another individual; or any other similar behavior.

Physical: unwanted kissing, touching, patting, hugging, pinching, or any other unwanted physical contact; impeding another individual's normal movements; stalking, assault, or battery based on the victim's sex; any other physical interference with another person based on that person's sex; or any other similar behavior.

Harassment, including sex-based harassment, does not need to include intent to harm an individual, be directed at a specific target, or involve repeated incidents. The District will investigate all reports of harassment, including allegations of harassment involving an alleged harasser and victim who are members of the same protected class.

Board Policy 3363/5518 applies to all conduct occurring on District property, at any District-sponsored event, on any District-owned vehicle, or at any event or activity in which students or employees of the District are attending or participating in by virtue of their relationship with the District.

All students are bound by and expected to understand Board Policy 3363/5518, which further addresses harassment, including sex-based harassment. The failure of any student to abide by the requirements of Board Policy 3363/5518 will result in discipline, up to and including permanent expulsion.

TRANSPORTATION CODE OF CONDUCT

Bus Rules must be followed for safety of students.

In order to guarantee all children riding the bus the safe transportation they deserve, certain rules have to be followed. Parental support is essential to a safe transportation program. The prime responsibility for the application of these rules is with the parent. The schools will assist parents in any way possible. We are publishing the rules so that the district's expectations are clear.

Responsibilities of Students

1. Students must be on time as designated bus stops. Buses cannot wait, so students should leave home in time to arrive at the bus stop about 5 minutes before the bus is due. Unless there are unusual weather conditions or the bus has an emergency situation, the established schedule should be accurate.
2. Students must stay off the roadway at all times while waiting for the bus, and conduct themselves with courtesy and consideration for others. The safety and conduct of the students at a bus stop is the responsibility of the parents.
3. Students are required to cross in front of the bus when crossing a roadway, NOT in back of the bus.
4. Students must wait until the bus has come to a stop before attempting to enter or leave the bus.
5. Students should be seated immediately upon entering the bus. Students may be expected to sit three (3) in a seat. Personal belongings are to be held on the rider's lap. Only items fitting on students' laps will be accepted on the bus. The aisle must be kept clear.
6. No pets or other animals may be transported on the bus.
7. Students are expected to conform promptly with directions of the bus driver.
8. Students must inform the driver when absence from school is expected.
9. Students must help keep the bus clean and orderly at all times.
10. Students must report to the driver at once any damage to the bus. Any student disfiguring or mutilating a bus will be suspended from riding until a satisfactory adjustment is made.
11. Loud, boisterous, or profane languages, indecent conduct, scuffling, or throwing of object will not be tolerated. Student causing trouble after they have been warned will lose their privilege of riding the bus.
12. No windows or doors are to be opened except by permission of the driver. Students are required to enter and leave by the front door ONLY, except in case of an emergency and then the back emergency door may be used.
13. Students must keep hands and head inside the bus at all times.
14. Smoking, eating, or drinking will not be permitted on the bus.
15. Only students registered to ride the bus are permitted to ride. We do not carry a commercial license. This prohibits us from carrying students not listed on the original registration sheet. Students may not ride any other bus to homes of friends or places of employment.
16. Students must not leave the bus without the driver's consent, except at home or at the school.
17. Students are expected to be picked up and dropped off at one (same) bus stop only.
18. Students may be assigned a seat by the bus driver.
19. Complete silence at railroad crossings is required.
20. No use of cell phones on the bus.

Failure to observe bus rules may result in the issuance of a bus conduct report.

Students are reminded that bus riding is a privilege. They are expected to observe bus safety rules and failure to do so may result in the bus driver issuing a bus conduct report, which will be reviewed by a school administrator. The administrator reviewing the report has the right and responsibility to reprimand according to the student's disciplinary history. In instances of severe bus misconduct, administrators may invoke any or all of the corrective measures listed for each offense. If bus misconduct results in a suspension from school, the student's suspension from the bus is effective upon return to school. The following is the district procedure with regard to bus conduct reports:

- 1. Warning Notice:** At the bus driver's discretion, and based upon the severity of the offense, issues may be addressed through verbal warnings. In these cases, a copy of the Transportation Code of Conduct may be provided to the student as a reminder of the transportation expectations.
- 2. 1st Conduct Report:** The student receives a warning that further conduct reports could result in suspension of bus riding privileges; however, a student may be removed for 1st conduct report in case of serious offences, such as fighting.
- 3. 2nd Conduct Report:** The student is suspended from riding the bus for five (5) school days.
- 4. 3rd Conduct Report:** The student will be suspended from riding the bus for up to thirty (30) school days.
- 5. 4th Conduct Report:** The student will be suspended from riding the bus for the remainder of the school year.

Note: If a student's misbehavior is serious, the bus may return to the school so that the student can be removed. If this happens, he/she will be removed from the bus a minimum of five (5) days.

Bus Suspension Appeal Process- Elementary:

1. Parent/Guardian may appeal bus suspensions of less than ten (10) days to the principal.
2. Bus suspensions of ten (10) or more days shall follow the appeal process outlined below:
 - a. If a parent/guardian disagrees with a suspension, an immediate appeal must be made to the building principal. Immediate is defined as by the end of the next school day. If the principal is not in the district, the parent will be directed to the assistant superintendent of CITA who will be the first and final administrator in the appeal process.

 - b. If a parent/guardian disagrees with the principal's decision, an appeal must be made to the assistant superintendent of CITA within twenty-four (24) hours of the principal's decision. Within twenty-four (24) hours is defined as the next school day. The decision made by the assistant superintendent of CITA is final. If the assistant superintendent of CITA is not in the District, the Superintendent or his/her designee will handle the appeal.

 - c. Depending on the circumstances, as determined by the building administrator, the student will be suspended during the appeal process.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Dress Code

No hats or other head coverings may be worn in the school. Inappropriate slogans or pictures are not to be worn to school on clothing. Please make sure your child is dressed for the ever-changing Michigan weather. Make sure they have a hat, boots, mittens and snow pants during the winter months. Boots are required during inclement weather or the student may be confined to the blacktop area of the playground during outdoor recess. In the warmer months students are not permitted to wear spaghetti straps and should have short/skirts that are at least as long as their fingertips when hands are by their sides. It is recommended that student

do not wear flip flops or open back shoes, especially on the playground.

**PLEASE LABEL EVERY PIECE OF YOUR
CHILD'S CLOTHING. LABEL COATS, HATS,
GLOVES, MITTENS, BOOTS, ETC.**

When the temperature is 0 degrees Fahrenheit or above (with the wind chill), students will have outdoor recess.

Homework Expectations

Homework may occur at any grade level. When homework is assigned, it must be meaningful and reviewed or evaluated by the teacher. Written homework must be returned to the student in a timely manner so that each student may benefit from the homework assignment.

When a teacher considers individual ability among pupils, assignments may differ.

Students in the upper grades have assignment books that come home daily. This is an easy way to monitor student work.

Homework may be requested for students out for a lengthy period due to illness or vacation. Please submit your request at least 24 hours before planning to pick it up. You may pick the homework up in the office. When absences occur due to vacation, work should be requested one week before leaving to give the teacher time to gather the necessary materials. Due to teacher preparation, assignments may be given to the student in the last day of attendance before leaving. Alternative assignments may be given at the discretion of the child's teacher. In some instances, missed assignments may not be able to be completed, such as, video clips, hands-on group activities, simulations, class discussions, and science experiments, which are part of science kits.

Breakfast and Lunch Programs

Breakfast and lunch are available as an important addition to our students' school day. Milk can be purchased by those bringing their own lunch. **Applications for free and reduced lunch are available through the office.** Lunch menus are sent home at the beginning of every semester. Lunch is \$2.90, breakfast is \$1.35 and milk is \$0.50. A cheese sandwich will be available for students without lunch money.

Moving

Those students who withdraw from school should use the following procedure:

1. NOTIFY THE SCHOOL OFFICE PRIOR TO MOVING-We will need the following information:

- (a) The date of the move
- (b) The name of the new school, if possible.

2. EACH WITHDRAWING STUDENT IS REQUIRED TO:

- (a) Return all books (library & texts) and magazines
- (b) Collect all personal items

3. RECORDS ARE FORWARDED UPON RECEIPT OF A REQUEST FROM THE NEW SCHOOL.

Student Supplies

The school will have needed school supplies available for all children. At different times during the school year, your child's teachers may ask for donations for the classroom. Class wish lists are posted on classroom websites and Bartlett's website, which can be accessed through www.slcs.us. Any donations are greatly appreciated!

Sibling Policy

To ensure a quality learning environment, no siblings are allowed in the classrooms during the instructional day, or with parents who volunteer throughout the school day.

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT

The Governor of Michigan signed into law The School Quality Bill, Public Act 25 of 1990 which is an amendment to the state school code. The Act will have a significant impact on all school districts in the state. The bill contains several requirements which include an annual education report, school improvement plans, core curriculum, and accreditation for all schools in a district.

The annual report must include district and building level data which includes accreditation status, school improvement plans, core curriculum, aggregate student achievement, retention reports, participation data from parent-teacher conferences and a comparison of present year's report and data to preceding years' report. This report is shared annually and is available on the school website.

School improvement plans will be required from each individual school. The plans are to include a mission statement, goals based on outcomes for all students, curriculum alignment corresponding to these goals, evaluation processes, parent and community involvement, staff development activities, and building level decision making with respect to the organization.

Accreditation means meeting or exceeding standards established for five areas of school operation: purpose and direction, governance and leadership, teaching and assessing for learning, resources and support systems, and using results for continuous improvement.

Bartlett Elementary participates in the accreditation process through the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools.

FAMILY EDUCATIONAL RIGHTS AND PRIVACY ACT

In accordance with the Family Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA USC 1232 (g)), the Board of Education of the South Lyon Community Schools has designed the following information as directory information:

- * The student's name
- * The names of the student's parents
- * The student's address
- * The student's date of birth
- * The student's class designation
- * The student's extracurricular participation

- * The student's achievement awards or honors, not scholastic grades
- * The student's height and weight-if a member of an athletic team
- * The student's photograph
- * The name of the school or school district the student attended before he or she enrolled in the South Lyon School District

While all other information concerning students of the school district remains confidential, and will be released only in accordance with the school district's Student Record Policy, the above directory information will be released to a requesting party, unless a parent or an eligible student has advised the school district with respect to that particular student.

A parent or eligible student desiring that the above directory information or any part thereof concerning a particular student not be released should contact the student's building principal.

Parents who believe their rights have been violated during the school year may file a complaint with:

Family Policy Compliance Office
U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue, SW

C.H.E.E.R.S

C.H.E.E.R.S. (Citizens Helping Educators Encourage Responsible Students) is the name of the district volunteer program for South Lyon Community Schools. This program was developed in 1987, and has been in effect since that time. The program is directed by a district volunteer coordinator and building coordinators. An excess of 500 volunteers log thousands of hours of volunteer service to the school district. We believe that the success of the program can be attributed to a dedicated team of coordinators, as well as a total commitment from the Board of Education and the school district staff.

Bartlett Elementary has a CHEERS coordinator who is dedicated to helping parents get involved in the school setting.

Parent/Teacher Organization (PTO)

Purpose:

1. Promote an atmosphere in which children can grow as individuals, each aware of his/her own worth and value in society.
2. Foster awareness among parents of the need for their participation in the total education of their children.
3. To develop between educators and the general public such united efforts as this will secure for every child the highest advantages in physical, mental and social education.

Achievement:

1. Provide a forum for constructive communication between parents, teachers and administration for cooperative resolution of school problems.
2. Sponsor fund-raising activities to promote the general welfare of the school child.

Membership:

All parents (guardians and custodians) of students enrolled at Bartlett Elementary School may participate and are members of the PTO. Teachers and administration are also part of the organization.

Non-Discrimination Statement

The Board does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, disability, age, height, weight, marital status, genetic information, or any other legally protected characteristic, in its programs and activities, including employment opportunities. (*Board Policy 3122* revised July 19, 2010).

The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the nondiscrimination policies:

Maureen Altermatt
Assistant Superintendent for Administrative Services
South Lyon Community Schools
345 South Warren
South Lyon, Michigan 48178
(248) 573-8130

Board of Education Policies

DISTRICT MISSION STATEMENT

In support of our community, the mission of South Lyon Community Schools is to provide the highest quality educational process, so that all students can excel as individuals, and become productive and contributing members of society.

South Lyon Community Schools
Board of Education Policies and Procedures

The Board of Education sets policies which are carried out by administration. The following policies may be of particular interest to parents and students. These and all Board Policies are available through the district website at www.slcs.us.

Board of Education Policies included:

Code of Student Conduct

Extracurricular and Co-curricular Programs

Substance Abuse

Acceptable Use Technology

Administration of Medication

Athletic Program Expansion

Attendance

Bullying and Other Aggressive Behavior toward Students

Care of District Property

Concussion and Athletics Activities

Corporal Punishment versus Appropriate Use of Reasonable Physical Force

Curriculum Involvement Rights of Parents and Legal Guardians

Disclosure of Student Information and Privacy

Display and Publication of Student Work

District Volunteers

Dress and Grooming

Emergency Closings

Emergency Information

Epinephrine Auto-Injectors

Field Trips, Excursions and Other District Sponsored Trips

Grade Appeal

Grading System

Graduation Requirements

Harassment of Students

Hazing

Health Services

Homebound Instruction Program

Homework

Interrogation of Students by Outside Agencies

Late Arrival and Early Dismissal

Non-discrimination and Access to Equal Educational Opportunity

Parent Involvement in the School Program

Physical Assault or Threat

Public Attendance at School Events

Sex-Based Harassment

School Safety Reporting

School Sponsored Events

School Visitors

Searches

Student Assessment

Student Distribution of Outside Material

Student Hazing

Student Publications and Productions

Student Records

Student Seclusion and Restraint

Student Use of Learning Materials

Teacher Suspension Rights

Transportation

Use of Electronic Communication Devices

Use of Tobacco on School Premises

Weapons

CODE OF STUDENT CONDUCT

South Lyon Community Schools operate on a system of rights and responsibilities. It is the responsibility of the Board and its staff to ensure that no student is arbitrarily denied the opportunity for an education without adherence to procedural due process. It is the responsibility of each student to behave in a manner that does not threaten, interfere with or deprive other students of their right to an education.

The purposes of this conduct code are to provide regulations governing the behavior of students, to prevent actions or activities that interfere with the school program and/or are prohibited by law, and to provide for students' rights and responsibilities. Each staff member employed by the District is required to uphold this code. This code shall be mandatory and enforced uniformly in each South Lyon School. Individual schools may adopt additional regulations governing actions not covered by the code, but such additional regulations may neither substitute for nor negate any of these provisions.

It is the responsibility of all students and their parents/guardians to become familiar with the Code of Student Conduct. Students must recognize that when they engage in unacceptable conduct they will be subject to disciplinary action.

Student Rights

Students in the South Lyon Community Schools have the following rights:

- A. Respect
Students have the right to be treated with respect.
- B. Fair Treatment
Students have the right to expect fair, reasonable, and consistent treatment.
- C. Dignity
Students have the right to expect that their dignity as individuals will be respected.
- D. Citizenship
Students retain their constitutional rights as determined and interpreted by legislation and/or the courts.

Student Responsibilities

Students in the South Lyon Community Schools are expected to fulfill the following responsibilities

- A. Participation
Students have the responsibility of being active participants in their education. Students must report to school and to all scheduled classes regularly and on time, remain in classes until excused, be actively engaged in the learning process, complete assignments to the best of their ability, and request help when it is needed.
- B. Behavior
Students have the responsibility of exhibiting behaviors that support learning while promoting a safe and orderly environment. Students are expected to comply with all Board policies and provisions of their school's student handbook.
- C. Respect
Students must demonstrate respectful behavior to all members of the school community. Students must comply with directives given by adults in positions of authority. Students have the responsibility of respecting the rights and dignity of all individuals. No student's actions will infringe upon the rights of others.

All students are expected to fulfill these responsibilities.

Prohibited Behavior

South Lyon Community Schools' students are prohibited from engaging in behavior that will endanger or threaten to endanger the safety of others, damage property or impede the orderly conduct of the school program. Misbehavior, even of a minor infraction will be addressed appropriately in order to help students avoid establishing a pattern of unacceptable habits and behaviors.

Prohibited behaviors fall into two (2) categories: 1) general prohibited behavior, and 2) illegal behavior. Illegal behavior is defined as any behavior that is prohibited by city/township ordinance or by State/Federal law. Any student charged with illegal behavior on school property or in conjunction with a school activity may be immediately removed from school pending a hearing, which must take place according to procedures provided in this policy.

When any school employee observes a student engaging in behavior that violates the provisions of this code, the employee shall intervene by requesting that the student cease such behavior. If the employee is unable to secure the student's cooperation, or if the behavior is of such seriousness that the intervention of other staff is necessary, a timely report must be made to the building administrator describing the infraction and including all available information relevant to the determination of disciplinary and/or legal action.

Whenever an employee discovers a student engaging in conduct constituting illegal behavior, the employee shall make a prompt report to the building administrator. Whenever the school administrator becomes aware of prohibited behavior, either by observation of such behavior or as a result of a report from another source, the administrator shall take prompt and effective action to investigate and will determine the need for appropriate disciplinary action. However, when conduct constituting illegal behavior is observed by or reported to the administrator, disciplinary proceedings shall be instituted. Disciplinary action shall involve a reasonable and logical relationship between the seriousness of the act and the severity of the discipline, and be in accordance with the Student Handbook Code of Conduct and any legal requirements.

The purpose of disciplinary actions should be to assist the student in modifying or changing inappropriate behavior. When necessary, the assistance of the home, other educational supportive services and/or other professional community agencies may be utilized.

Disciplinary Actions

Violations of the Code of Student Conduct that occur on District property, in a District vehicle, or at a District related activity are subject to many

disciplinary actions of which, these are the most severe:

A. Suspension

- a. Short Term Suspension - Temporary removal from school, class, and/or activity. Short term suspensions may not exceed ten (10) school days.
- b. Long Term Suspension - A suspension in excess of ten (10) school days but not more than thirty (30) school days may be imposed by the building administrator in specific situations, i.e., weapons not meeting the School Code mandatory discipline sanctions, assault, battery, serious fighting, serious or repeated sexual harassment, and/or substance abuse. The school principal, upon consultation with the Superintendent or his/her designee and with notice to the Board, may authorize or order the suspension of the student if the interest of the school is served.

The principal must satisfy the student's due process rights.

A recommendation for a Board disciplinary hearing or long-term suspension shall not be referred to the decision maker for a student with a disability who is eligible for services under IDEIA or Section 504 until the student's Individualized Educational Planning Team (I.E.P. Team) or 504 Team determines whether the student's alleged misconduct was a manifestation of the student's disability as provided under Federal and State law.

At any time and at the principal's discretion, serious violations of the Code of Student Conduct, including those listed above, may be presented to the Superintendent or his/her designee for referral to the Board for the possible imposition of further discipline up to and including expulsion.

Suspension may include the terms of Social Probation. In the case of severe offenses, social probation will be part of the disciplinary action. For substance abuse violations Social Probation is a minimum of ten weeks (see policy 5530 Substance Abuse). Social Probation means the student loses all privileges to attend any and all school activities other than those pertaining to attendance in regularly scheduled classes. Examples of privilege loss include, but are not limited to, attendance or participation in any athletic, co-curricular, or extra-curricular activity. During social probation, students are also not allowed on any school property for any community events (e.g., Panther football). If there are special circumstances regarding community events, requests for written approval may be made to the Superintendent or his/her designee. Social probation will begin when the student returns from suspension, with the exception of the summer months where social probation will precede the school suspension. Social probation for summer infractions begins August 1. For infractions that occur or investigations that conclude after August 1, social probation begins at that time. If the time period for social probation has not been fulfilled before the student is suspended from school, the duration of the social probation will be carried over when the student returns from the suspension. For social probation that has not been fully served by the last day of the school year, the remaining time will begin August 1. A student whose social probation begins or continues on August 1 is also excluded from all summer activities and may not be on school property. It is the student's responsibility to contact the school administration and request a review of their social probation status.

Students who are suspended shall be given the opportunity to make up assignments, within a time frame as outlined in the Student Handbook at the time of the suspension.

B. Expulsion

Expulsion means that the student is permanently excluded from the entire school system by action of the Board.

Summary of Rules for Suspended and Expelled Students:

- a. The student may not be on school property at any time.
- b. The student may not attend any South Lyon Community School event, whether it is held at South Lyon Community Schools or any other venue. This includes athletic events, performances, extracurricular activities and co-curricular activities.
- c. The student may not attend a non-school sponsored event that takes place on school property. The student may attend non-school sponsored events if they are scheduled off school property.
- d. If there are special circumstances, requests for written approval may be made to the Superintendent or his/her designee.

Due Process and Appeal Procedures

To ensure that the student receives fair treatment consistent with the fundamental requirement of due process, disciplinary action shall be in accordance with the following procedures:

A. Due Process

A student who engages in generally prohibited and/or illegal behavior in violation of the Code of Student Conduct, will be given an opportunity for "a due process hearing" before the principal (or designee). Procedural Due Process means the principal (or designee) will inform the student orally or in writing of the charges against him/her, including the basis and evidence for such charges. If the student denies the charges, s/he will be given the opportunity to present his/her version of the events relating to the charge. At the discretion of the administrator, other parties may attend the hearing.

The principal (or designee) hearing the case decides whether the charges against the student have been sustained or cleared, and, if the appropriate disciplinary action will be implemented.

When a student is suspended from school, s/he must be given a written statement indicating the offense and the disciplinary action(s) taken. If the parent/guardian did not attend the hearing, an attempt will be made to notify the parent/guardian by telephone and a copy of the statement shall also be sent to the parent/guardian.

B. Suspension Appeal Process

If the parent/guardian disagrees with a suspension, the administrator who imposed the suspension will notify the parents/guardians of the following appeal process:

- a. Parents/Guardians may appeal suspensions of less than three (3) days to the building administrator.
- b. Suspensions of three (3) or more days shall follow the appeal process outlined below:
 - i. If a parent/guardian disagrees with a suspension, an immediate appeal must be made to the building principal. Immediate is defined as by the end of the next school day. If the principal is not in the District, the parent will be directed to the assistant superintendent of CITA who will be the first and final administrator in the appeal process.
 - ii. If a parent/guardian disagrees with the principal's decision, an appeal must be made to the assistant superintendent of CITA within twenty-four (24) hours of the principal's decision. Within twenty-four (24) hours is defined as the next school day. The entire appeal process for a suspension of three (3) or up to thirty (30) days should take no longer than three (3) days, in most circumstances. The decision made by the assistant superintendent of CITA is final. If the assistant superintendent of CITA is not in the District, the Superintendent or his/her designee will handle the appeal.
 - iii. Depending on the circumstances, as determined by the building administrator, the student will be suspended during the appeal process.

C. Board Disciplinary Hearing

Recommendations for further discipline consideration shall be made by a designee of the Superintendent after review of all pertinent suspension data and other related information. This recommendation will be reviewed by the Superintendent, or his/her designee, who at his/her discretion may make a recommendation for disciplinary consideration to the Board. The Board will hold a hearing, at its earliest convenience, to examine the appropriateness of the recommendation. The student will have the right to have his/her parent/guardian and advisor, who may or may not be an attorney, present at the hearing. The student has the right to an open or closed hearing. The Board will announce its decision within two (2) days of the hearing. The decision of the Board is final.

A recommendation for disciplinary consideration shall not be referred to the Superintendent or his/her designee or the Board for a student with a disability who is eligible for services under IDEIA or Section 504 until the student's Individualized Educational Planning Team (I.E.P. Team) or 504 Team determines whether the student's alleged misconduct was a manifestation of the student's disability as provided under Federal and State law.

The Board may determine that the student can petition for reinstatement to the school system after a period of time and within conditions identified by the Board at the time that the student is expelled. Student petitions for reinstatement shall be directed to the Board which shall convene a due process hearing within ten (10) school days of the student's petition for reinstatement. The student will have the right to have his/her parent/guardian and advisor, who may or may not be an attorney, present at the hearing. The student has the right to an open or closed hearing. Board will make a decision by vote in open session. Reinstatement for all expelled students may only be authorized by the Board.

For the safety of our school community, when the administration is informed by law enforcement of alleged student involvement, beyond the school day, in criminal activity including but not limited to, arson; assault; drug or alcohol possession, distribution or use; or possession or use of weapons, the administration reserves the right to place the student(s) on social probation.

EXTRACURRICULAR AND CO-CURRICULAR PROGRAMS

Extracurricular/Co-curricular Activity Program Participation Extracurricular activity programs are defined as programs beyond the normal school day which are not an integral part of a class for which credit is given. Examples include, but are not limited to, athletic teams, debate, Science Olympiad, various clubs, and competitive marching band.

Co-curricular activity programs are defined as classes that require a student to participate in any capacity in a public performance or to serve as a representative of SLCS as a component of the assessment for the class. Alternate assignments will be given to students who do not meet the eligibility requirements. Leadership, choir and band classes are the co-curricular activities.

Current extracurricular and co-curricular activity programs will be listed in the handbooks annually. The following must be approved by the Board if:

- A. A co-curricular program is added
- B. An extracurricular program is changed to co-curricular
- C. A co-curricular program is changed to extracurricular

Written program expectations and responsibilities will be developed and distributed to the participants by the director of the activity.

The district may establish pay to participate fees for extracurricular activities.

Eligibility Requirements

The activity program is viewed as a supplement to the overall academic program; therefore, the South Lyon Community Schools establishes the following requirements:

- A. Participants in these programs must be fulltime students. The definition of a full-time student is one who is a Full Time Equivalent (FTE) in a South Lyon high school or middle school and who is progressing toward graduation from a South Lyon high school.
- B. Athletes must meet all of the Michigan High School Athletic Association eligibility requirements. Athletes and participants in all extracurricular/co-curricular activity programs must meet the Academic standards adopted by the Board.
- C. Student Conduct considerations for Activity Program Eligibility - Participants in these programs represent South Lyon Community Schools. While at school and in the community, participants in these activity programs must conform to Board Policies and the Parent/Student Handbook. The behavior of students during school days and non-school days and times will be considered when determining eligibility.

When determining eligibility of South Lyon students, including transfer students, the administration will carefully consider the following:

1. Has the student's behavior brought (or will it bring) negative attention to South Lyon Community Schools or its extracurricular/co-curricular activity program?
2. Has the student demonstrated inappropriate behavior, which has brought notoriety to him/herself?
3. Has the student transferred or is the student planning to transfer to South Lyon Community Schools in order to escape the consequences of his/her actions at a previous school?

In the event of a reported incident involving a student that participates in an extra and/or co-curricular activity, an investigation will be conducted by an administrator at the school that the student attends. If the assistant principal conducts the investigation, his/her decision may be appealed to the principal and then to the Assistant Superintendent of CITA. If the principal conducts the investigation, his/her decision may be appealed to the Assistant Superintendent of CITA.

D. Only middle school students may participate in extracurricular and co-curricular activities at the middle school level. In order to participate, the students must meet the following eligibility requirements:

	MIDDLE SCHOOL ELIGIBILITY COMPONENT	RATIONALE
1.	Minimum semester grade point requirement of 5.0 and no more than one end of semester E or I's establishes eligibility for next semester.	SLCS utilizes pluses and minuses for grading; this minimum GPA represents a C-. We believe that this is a reasonable minimum standard for eligibility.
2.	Once eligibility is established students must pass a minimum of four classes during the 1st, 2nd, 4th and 5th marking periods. 3rd and 6th marking period grades are not counted toward eligibility because students receive those grades simultaneously with semester grades.	This allows students to experience difficulty receive a "warning" and have the opportunity to improve their performance prior to being declared ineligible.
3.	Minimum time of ineligibility = marking period as long as student regains eligibility with a 5.0 GPA and no more than one E.	The student should be able to spend a marking period focusing on studies prior to having eligibility restored.
4.	Semester incompletes must be eliminated to restore eligibility with a 5.0 GPA and no more than one E.	We believe that this will minimize incompletes being utilized to circumvent the eligibility requirements.
5.	Co-curricular activities: If a student is ineligible for public performances because s/he is not a fulltime student or due to failure to meet academic or behavioral standards as defined in this policy, alternative assessments shall be provided. This will allow students to attend class, receive a grade and still adhere to the eligibility requirements.	In an effort to support the performing arts and other co-curricular activities, students enrolled in co-curricular activities may participate in performances at the middle school or at other schools within the District during regular school hours.
6.	Special education students will be required to comply with academic and behavioral standards subject to the individual's IEPC as provided in the state and federal laws.	If a special education student is at risk of a failing grade in a class, the IEPC process may be a suitable course of action.
7.	After August 10th of each year, activities that are impacted by eligibility standards are: Tryouts, practices, and games, events and activities that occur before or after regular hours on home course, field, arena, court, pool (etc.) or at away events.	To comply with MHSAA rules.
8.	Activities not impacted by eligibility standards are: Summer camp and activities during regular school hours, as long as the activities are not competitions, games, events, festivals or contests,	Not a compliance issue with MHSAA.

E. Only high school students may participate in extracurricular and co-curricular activities at the high school level. In order to participate, the students must meet the following eligibility requirements:

	HIGH SCHOOL ELIGIBILITY COMPONENT	RATIONALE
1.	Minimum semester grade point requirement of 1.70 and no end of semester Es or I's establishes eligibility for next semester.	SLCS utilizes pluses and minuses for grading; this minimum GPA represents a C-. We believe that this is a reasonable minimum standard for eligibility.
2.	Once eligibility is established students must pass a minimum of four classes during the 1st, 2nd, 4th and 5th marking periods. 3rd and 6th marking period grades are not counted toward eligibility because students receive those grades simultaneously with semester grades.	This allows students to experience difficulty, receive a "warning" and have the opportunity to improve their performance prior to being declared ineligible.
3.	Minimum time of ineligibility = marking period as long as student regains eligibility with a 1.70 GPA and no Es	The student should be able to spend a marking period focusing on studies prior to having eligibility restored.
4.	Semester incompletes must be eliminated to restore eligibility with a 1.70 GPA and no Es.	We believe that this will minimize incompletes being utilized to circumvent the eligibility requirements.
5.	Co-curricular activities: If a student is ineligible for public performances because s/he is not a fulltime student or due to failure to meet academic or behavioral standards as defined in this policy, alternative assessments shall be provided. This will allow students to attend class, receive a grade and still adhere to the eligibility requirements.	In an effort to support the performing arts and other co-curricular activities, students enrolled in co-curricular activities may participate in performances at the high school or at other schools within the

		District during regular school hours, in accordance with rationale #10 below.
6.	Summer school may be considered for eligibility.	Summer school classes are subject to approval of the building principal.
7.	Night school classes will not be considered for eligibility.	Students should not be attending classes both day and night to restore eligibility.
8.	Special education students will be required to comply with academic and behavioral standards subject to the individual's IEP as provided in the state and federal laws.	If a special education student is at risk of a failing grade in a class, the IEP process may be a suitable course of action.
9.	After August 10th of each year, activities that are impacted by eligibility standards are: Tryouts, practices, and games, events and activities that occur before or after regular hours on home course, field, arena, court, pool (etc.) or at away events	To comply with MHSAA rules.
10.	Activities not impacted by eligibility standards are: Summer camp and competitions during regular school hours, as long as the activities are not competitions, games, events, festivals or contests.	Not a compliance issue with MHSAA.

F. Limited exceptions for elementary student participation in high school drama productions will be allowed when casting requirements call for this with regard to age, provided there is parent approval, administration approval, and in accordance with age appropriate time restriction guidelines.

G. Exceptions to this policy for the high school musicals may only be made for the orchestra with administrator's approval and must follow administrative guidelines.

Co-Curricular and Extra-Curricular STANDARDS OF CONDUCT

Representing South Lyon Community Schools beyond the school day is a privilege and not a right. Students currently involved in these co-curricular and extracurricular activities are expected to represent the highest ideals of character by exemplifying good conduct and good citizenship. When the administration learns of an infraction involving a student that occurred during non-school times (such as evening, summer, holiday breaks or weekends) that is a violation of the Student Code of Conduct, Board of Education, and/or the law and based on the severity and/or the possibility of bringing about liability or negative notoriety to the District, an independent school investigation shall occur.

Examples of infractions could include violations of federal, state or local law/ordinance including felony or misdemeanor acts other than minor traffic offenses (Conviction of said offenses is not necessary to establish a violation); cumulative or gross misconduct, including behavior which school officials consider conduct unbecoming a representative of the South Lyon Community Schools; hazing activities of any type; or the use, possession, sale, delivery, distribution or transfer of any prohibited drug, alcohol, tobacco or drug paraphernalia.

A meeting will then take place with the student, parents, and other interested parties that may include a coach, advisor, or staff member, among others. Following this meeting, and after weighing all information, the administrator shall determine appropriate discipline, if any. Depending on the severity of the incident, penalties may include social probation of a minimum of six weeks, restitution, suspension, and/or dismissal from membership in these after-school activities.

Social Probation means the student loses all privileges to attend any and all school activities other than those pertaining to attendance in regularly scheduled classes. Examples of privilege loss include, but are not limited to, attendance or participation in any athletic, co-curricular, or extra-curricular activity. During social probation, students are also not allowed on any school property for any community events (e.g., Panther football). If there are special circumstances regarding community events, requests for written approval may be made to the Superintendent or his/her designee. Social probation will begin when the student returns from suspension, with the exception of the summer months where social probation will precede the school suspension. Social probation for summer infractions begins August 1. For infractions that occur or investigations that conclude after August 1, social probation begins at that time. If the time period for social probation has not been fulfilled before the student is suspended from school, the duration of the social probation will be carried over when the student returns from the suspension. For social probation that has not been fully served by the last day of the school year, the remaining time will begin August 1. A student whose social probation begins or continues on August 1 is also excluded from all summer activities and may not be on school property. The decision of the administrator may be appealed to the Assistant Superintendent of CITA within twenty-four (24) hours of the final decision provided to the parent/guardian in writing, whose decision is final.

SUBSTANCE ABUSE

South Lyon Community Schools recognizes that the misuse and/or abuse of drugs, alcohol and tobacco is a serious problem with legal, physical, and social implications for the entire school community.

In accordance with Federal and State law, the Board hereby establishes a "Drug-Free School Zone" that extends 1000 feet from the boundary of any school property, within the Drug-Free School Zone, or at any District-related event.

Furthermore, the Superintendent or his/her designee shall take the necessary steps to ensure that an individual eighteen (18) years of age or older who knowingly delivers or distributes controlled substances so designated and prohibited by Michigan statute within the Drug-Free School Zone to another person is prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law.

Accordingly, no staff member, volunteer, or contractor shall knowingly sell, market, distribute, or promote the use of a dietary supplement that contains a performance-enhancing compound or a performance-enhancing drug (e.g., anabolic steroids) to a student with whom the staff member, volunteer, or contractor has contact as a part of his/her duties. Furthermore, the staff member, volunteer, or contractor shall not endorse or suggest the ingestion, intranasal application, or inhalation of a dietary supplement that contains a performance-enhancing compound or a performance-enhancing drug by a student with whom s/he has contact as part of his/her duties.

The Board as outlined in this policy prohibits the use, possession, sale, delivery, distribution or transfer of any prohibited drug, alcohol, tobacco or drug paraphernalia at any time on District property or at any District related event.

The District bases its substance abuse policy on the following precepts:

- A. The purpose of the District's substance abuse disciplinary code is to promote the health and safety of all.
- B. The student has the primary responsibility for decisions related to the personal prevention of substance abuse.
- C. The substance abuse prevention program is provided through a sequential K-12 health curriculum that has been approved by the Board.

For the purpose of this policy, "prohibited drugs" shall mean:

- A. all controlled substances as so designated and prohibited by Michigan statute and/or Federal statute;
- B. all chemicals that release toxic vapors and/or may be used as inhalants;
- C. all alcoholic beverages and any other beverages - the purchase of which is prohibited or controlled by law including non-alcoholic malt beverages, "near beer", "brew", "bru" or any other name which is capable of conveying the impression to the purchaser that the beverage has an alcoholic content;
- D. any prescription or non-prescription medication, except those for which permission to use in school has been granted pursuant to Board Policy 5330, Administration of Medications;
- E. counterfeit controlled substances or controlled substance analogues ("look-alike" drugs), including but not limited to, synthetic cannabis, herbal incense, K2, K6, and Spice;
- F. Androgenic anabolic steroids and other performance enhancing drugs as determined annually by the Department of Community Health and use of a performance-enhancing substance regardless of source by a student is a violation that will affect a student's athletic eligibility and extra-curricular participation, as determined by the Board. A list of performance-enhancing substances developed by the State Department of Community Health shall be updated annually and included in AG 2431D. This notice and list shall also be published in the Parent/Student Handbook provided annually.
- G. any other illegal substance so designated and prohibited by law.

"Prohibited drugs" shall not include those prescription or non-prescription drugs, medications, vitamins or similar substances such as pain relievers, analgesics, laxatives or cough medicines so long as such substances are possessed by students for their individual use, and not for any improper purpose and the possession by the student is in accordance with Board Policy 5330, Administration of Medications. However, Board Policy prohibits sharing, distributing and the improper use of prescription or non-prescription drugs. Disciplinary action for these infractions is at the discretion of the building administrator.

For the purpose of this policy "drug paraphernalia" shall mean materials and/or devices intended for or adapted for use with any prohibited drugs, alcohol or tobacco.

For the purpose of this policy, "prohibited drugs" shall mean:

- A. all controlled substances as so designated and prohibited by Michigan statute and/or Federal statute;
- B. all chemicals that release toxic vapors and/or may be used as inhalants;
- C. all alcoholic beverages and any other beverages - the purchase of which is prohibited or controlled by law including non-alcoholic malt beverages, "near beer", "brew", "bru" or any other name which is capable of conveying the impression to the purchaser that the beverage has an alcoholic content;
- D. any prescription or non-prescription medication, except those for which permission to use in school has been granted pursuant to Board Policy 5330, Administration of Medications;
- E. counterfeit controlled substances or controlled substance analogues ("look-alike" drugs), including but not limited to, synthetic cannabis, herbal incense, K2, K6, and Spice;
- F. Androgenic anabolic steroids and other performance enhancing drugs as determined annually by the Department of Community Health and use of a performance-enhancing substance regardless of source by a student is a violation that will affect a student's athletic eligibility and extra-curricular participation, as determined by the Board. A list of performance-enhancing substances developed by the State Department of Community Health shall be updated annually and included in AG 2431D. This notice and list shall also be published in the Parent/Student Handbook provided annually.
- G. any other illegal substance so designated and prohibited by law.

"Prohibited drugs" shall not include those prescription or non-prescription drugs, medications, vitamins or similar substances such as pain relievers, analgesics, laxatives or cough medicines so long as such substances are possessed by students for their individual use, and not for any improper purpose and the possession by the student is in accordance with Board Policy 5330, Administration of Medications. However, Board Policy prohibits sharing, distributing and the improper use of prescription or non-prescription drugs. Disciplinary action for these infractions is at the discretion of the building administrator.

For the purpose of this policy "drug paraphernalia" shall mean materials and/or devices intended for or adapted for use with any prohibited drugs, alcohol or tobacco.

DISCIPLINARY ACTION

When a student is under the influence of, possesses, distributes or initiates any transaction of prohibited drugs, alcohol, tobacco and/or drug paraphernalia on school property and at school-related functions, the response of the South Lyon Community Schools is governed by this policy. Disciplinary action shall be based on the offending student's cumulative record of violations of Policy 5530. Violations from previously attended school districts shall be considered.

Policy 5500, Code of Student Conduct, shall be utilized regarding all procedures under this regulation.

Violations of this policy are separated into the following:

- A. Being Under the Influence - The student consumes, uses, and/or exhibits characteristics attributable to the use of prohibited drugs and/or alcohol.
- B. Possession - The student has prohibited drugs, alcohol, tobacco and/or drug paraphernalia on his/her person, or stored in his/her belongings, which may include a backpack, purse, locker or vehicle.
- C. Distribution - The student sells or distributes, or demonstrates the intent to sell or distribute a prohibited drug, alcohol, tobacco and/or drug paraphernalia to another person, whether or not in exchange for compensation, or has in his/her possession a quantity of drugs in excess of that normally used for personal use. Note: Any individual who brings a prohibited drug and shares it or distributes the prohibited drug in any format shall always be considered a distributor.
- D. Initiation - The student requests another student to bring a prohibited substance onto school property or to a school related event, or initiates the transaction during the school day.

Initiation or Under the Influence and/or Possession of Prohibited Drugs and/or Alcohol

A. *Initiation or Under the Influence and/or Possession - First Offense*

If, based upon reasonable cause, a student is suspected of initiating a transaction or being under the influence or in possession of prohibited drugs and/or alcohol, school administration shall:

1. Investigate the situation by means which may include a breathalyzer administered by law enforcement officials.
2. If it is determined a violation has occurred, school administration shall:
 - a. Contact the parents/guardians of the student.
 - b. Contact the law enforcement.
 - c. Conduct a parent-student conference.
 - d. Impose a thirty (30) day suspension with the option to refer the student for a disciplinary hearing before the Board. The Board shall be notified by the Superintendent of any suspension of more than ten (10) days and up to thirty (30) days.
 - e. The length of the suspension may be reduced to no less than ten (10) days by the completion of an intervention plan mutually agreed upon by the parents and school administrator. The intervention plan may include but is not limited to the following:
 - Professional drug and alcohol assessment by an outside agency.
 - Drug testing a minimum of twice by an outside agency.
 - Out-Patient Treatment.
 - In-Patient Treatment.
 - Outside counseling by a licensed professional.
 - Active participation in AA/NA meetings.

All expenses associated with the above shall be the responsibility of the student/parent.

- f. Impose social probation to be reviewed after ten (10) weeks. Social probation and suspension time shall not run concurrently. The ten (10) weeks will begin when the student returns from suspension, with the exception of the summer months where social probation will precede the school suspension. Social probation for summer infractions begins August 1. For infractions that occur or investigations that conclude after August 1, social probation begins at that time. If the time period for social probation has not been fulfilled before the student is suspended from school, the duration of the social probation will be carried over when the student returns from the suspension. For social probation that has not been fully served by the last day of the school year, the remaining time will begin August 1. A student whose social probation begins or continues on August 1 is also excluded from all summer activities and may not be on school property. During social probation, students are also not allowed on any school property for any community events (e.g., Panther football). If there are special circumstances regarding community events, requests for written approval may be made to the Superintendent or his/her designee. It is the student's responsibility to contact the school administration and request a review of their social probation status.

B. *Initiation or Under the Influence and/or Possession - Second and Subsequent Offenses*

Mandatory disciplinary hearing before the Board, which may result in expulsion.

Possession, Distribution and/or Initiation of Drug Paraphernalia

C. *First Offense*

1. Investigate the situation.
2. If it is determined a violation has occurred, school administration shall:
 - a. Contact the parents/guardians of the student.
 - b. Contact the law enforcement.
 - c. Conduct a parent-student conference.
 - d. Impose up to a thirty (30) day suspension with the option to refer the student for a disciplinary hearing before the Board. The Board shall be notified by the Superintendent of any suspension of more than ten (10) days and up to thirty (30) days.

- e. The length of the suspension may be reduced to no less than ten (10) days by the completion of an intervention plan mutually agreed upon by the parents and school administrator. The intervention plan may include but is not limited to the following:

- Professional drug and alcohol assessment by an outside agency.
- Drug testing a minimum of twice by an outside agency.
- Out-Patient Treatment.
- In-Patient Treatment.
- Outside counseling by a licensed professional.
- Active participation in AA/NA meetings.

All expenses associated with the above shall be the responsibility of the student/parent.

Impose social probation to be reviewed after ten (10) weeks.

- f. Social probation and suspension time shall not run concurrently. The ten (10) weeks will begin when the student returns from suspension, with the exception of the summer months where social probation will precede the school suspension. Social probation for summer infractions begin August 1. For infractions that occur or investigations that conclude after August 1, social probation begins at that time. If the time period for social probation has not been fulfilled before the student is suspended from school, the duration of the social probation will be carried over when the student returns from the suspension. For social probation that has not been fully served by the last day of the school year, the remaining time will begin August 1. A student whose social probation begins or continues on August 1 is also excluded from all summer activities and may not be on school property. During social probation, students are also not allowed on any school property for any community events (e.g., Panther football).). If there are special circumstances regarding community events, requests for written approval may be made to the Superintendent or his/her designee. It is the student's responsibility to contact the school administration and request a review of their social probation status.

B. Second and Subsequent Offenses Regarding Drug Paraphernalia

Mandatory disciplinary hearing before the Board, which may result in expulsion.

Distribution of Prohibited Drugs and/or Alcohol

If a student, based upon reasonable cause, is suspected of distributing or initiating or demonstrating the intent to distribute a prohibited drug including alcohol, school administration shall:

- A. Investigate the situation.
- B. If it is determined a violation has occurred, school administration shall:
 - a. Contact the parents/guardians.
 - b. Contact the law enforcement.
 - c. Conduct a parent-student conference.
 - d. Impose a thirty (30) day suspension with the option to refer the students for a disciplinary hearing before the Board. The Board shall be notified by the Superintendent of these suspensions.
 - e. The length of the suspension may be reduced to 20 days by the completion of an intervention plan mutually agreed upon by the parents and school administrator. The intervention plan may include, but is not limited to the following:
 - i. Professional drug and alcohol assessment by an outside agency.
 - ii. Drug testing a minimum of twice by an outside agency.
 - iii. Out-Patient Treatment.
 - iv. In-Patient Treatment
 - v. Outside counseling by a licensed professional
 - vi. Active participation in AA/NA meetings.

All expenses associated with the above shall be the responsibility of the student/parent.

- f. Impose social probation to be reviewed after ten (10) weeks. Social probation and suspension time shall not run concurrently. The ten (10) weeks will begin when the student returns from suspension, with the exception of the summer months where social probation will precede the school suspension. Social probation for summer infractions begin August 1. If the time period for social probation has not been fulfilled before the student is suspended from school, the duration of the social probation will be carried over when the student returns from the suspension. For infractions that occur or investigations that conclude after August 1, social probation begins at that time. For social probation that has not been fully served by the last day of the school year, the remaining time will begin August 1. A student whose social probation begins or continues on August 1 is also excluded from all summer activities and may not be on school property. During social probation, students are also not allowed on any school property for any community events (e.g., Panther football).). If there are special circumstances regarding community events, requests for written approval may be made to the Superintendent or his/her designee. It is the student's responsibility to contact the school administration and request a review of their social probation status.

C. Second and Subsequent Offenses Regarding Drugs and or alcohol

- 1. Mandatory disciplinary hearing before the Board, which may result in expulsion.

POSSESSION OR USE OF TOBACCO PRODUCTS, VAPOR PRODUCTS, ALTERNATIVE NICOTINE DELIVERY PRODUCTS OR PARAPHERNALIA

Definitions

“Tobacco Product” means a product that contains tobacco and is intended for human consumption including, but not limited to, cigarettes, non-cigarette smoking tobacco, or smokeless tobacco as those terms are defined in Section 2 of the tobacco products tax act, 1993 PA 327, MCL 205.422, and cigars.

“Vapor Product” means a noncombustible product containing nicotine that employs a heating element, power source, electronic circuit, or other electric, chemical or mechanical means, regardless of shape or size that can be used to produce vapor from nicotine or in a solution or other form. Vapor products include an electronic cigarette (E cigarette), electronic cigar, electronic cigarillo, electronic pipe, or similar product or device and a vapor cartridge or other container of nicotine in a solution or other form that is intended to be used with or in an electronic cigarette (E cigarette), electronic cigar, electronic cigarillo, electronic pipe, or similar product or device.

“Alternative Nicotine Delivery Product” means a noncombustible product containing nicotine that is intended for human consumption whether chewed, absorbed, dissolved or ingested by any other means.

Possession or Use of Tobacco Products, Vapor Products, Alternative Nicotine Delivery Products or Paraphernalia

Possession or use will result in the confiscation of tobacco products, vapor products, alternative nicotine products or paraphernalia and parent notification.

- A. *First offense* for use and/or possession will result in confiscation of prohibited materials, parent notification and a three (3) day out-of-school suspension or five (5) hour detention and participation in the school sponsored, after-school Nicotine Awareness program. Failure to complete all sessions will result in the full suspension being imposed.
- B. *Second offense and additional offenses* for use will result in a five (5) day out-of- school suspension.

The use or possession of tobacco products, vapor products, alternative nicotine delivery products or paraphernalia by any persons in violation of this policy will result in disciplinary action including, as appropriate, contacting the law enforcement for violation of any/all of the following; 1) the Tobacco-Free Schools law which is a misdemeanor, punishable by a fine of not more than fifty dollars (\$50.00). 2) Lyon Township Ordinance 2-16 “Amendment to the Tobacco Products Ordinance,” which is a civil infraction which shall be punishable by a fine of not more than \$50.00 for the first violation and a fine of not more than \$100.00 for a second or subsequent violation, or 3) City of South Lyon Ordinances 11-16 and 12-16, which is a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of not more the \$50.00 for each violation.

Please reference Board Policy - Use of Tobacco Products on School Property.

Distribution or Initiation of Tobacco Products, Vapor Products, Alternative Nicotine Delivery Products or Paraphernalia

- A. *First offense* will result in confiscation of prohibited materials, parent notification and a three (3) day out-of-school suspension or five (5) hour detention and participation in the school sponsored, after-school Nicotine Awareness program. Failure to complete all sessions will result in the full suspension being imposed.
- B. *Second offense and additional offenses* will result in confiscation of prohibited materials, parent notification, referral to law enforcement and a five (5) day out- of-school suspension.

ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY FOR TECHNOLOGY

The South Lyon Community School District offers staff and students the opportunity to take advantage of technology in a variety of electronic formats and at the same time realizes adherence to an acceptable use policy is necessary.

South Lyon Community School District

The District manages all information technologies used for educational purposes, and accordingly has the following responsibilities and rights:

Responsibilities

1. Assign network accounts.
2. Maintain and repair electronic information system.
3. Provide training opportunities in the use and application of technology.
4. Provide resources, within the framework of the budget, that support the mission of the school.

Rights

1. Select software, including a filter which limits access to content and materials of legitimate pedagogical concerns only. Despite prudent, reasonable and best efforts, the District is unable to absolutely preclude access to materials deemed inappropriate or otherwise objectionable.
2. Define the privileges and responsibilities of members.
3. Require a signed acceptable use policy contract.
4. Review, retain, edit and/or remove any material from USER ACCOUNT if the superintendent’s designee, at his/her sole discretion, believes it may be unlawful, obscene, indecent, abusive or otherwise objectionable or inappropriate.

The District is not responsible for resources accessed or actions taken by its members that are not consistent with the objectives of the district; nor is the District responsible for the loss of data due to system failure.

The District makes no warranties of any kind, whether express or implied, for the use of its educational technology, including but not limited to the loss of data resulting from delays, non-delivery or any service interruption. Furthermore, the district is not responsible for any damages to a user's hardware or software incurred from downloading a computer virus.

The policies and regulations for technology use in the District are in accordance with State laws including Public Act 212.

Network Members

The following people may be granted accounts, upon agreement to the terms stated in this policy, from the District Network:

1. Students who are currently enrolled in the district,
2. Faculty and Staff who are currently employed by the district,
3. Other requests will be granted on a case-by-case basis, depending on need and resource availability.

Privileges

Members have the privilege to use technology in a manner consistent with the educational objectives of the school district.

A user's privilege to access educational technology resources may be restricted, suspended or revoked for violation of this policy. Access may also be inhibited by certain actions, including but not limited to routine maintenance, device availability, daily schedules, course requirements, safety concerns and assignments or reassignments.

Responsibilities

Members are responsible for:

1. Adhering to the terms stated in this policy.
2. Demonstrating appropriate use and care of educational technology and refraining from using any technology for which they have not received training.
3. Notifying the proper authority promptly after identifying or experiencing a problem. Examples of problems that require notification (List should not be considered exhaustive):
 - a. Damaged equipment
 - b. Equipment that does not work properly
 - c. Software that does not work properly
 - d. Disruption of the network by others
 - e. Disruption of the system's performance
 - f. Degrading, demeaning, obscene, indecent or inappropriate information you discover in the system
 - g. Another user accessing the system through your account and/or password
 - h. Programs that infiltrate a computer or system and harass others or cause damage
4. Observing generally accepted rules of network etiquette. Network etiquette includes but is not limited to the following:
 - a. **Be Polite.** Do not send defamatory, inaccurate, abusive, obscene, indecent, profane, threatening or illegal material.
 - b. **Use Appropriate Language.** Do not swear or use vulgarities or any other inappropriate language.
 - c. **Maintain Privacy.** Do not reveal the home address or phone number of yourself or any other person.
 - d. **Avoid Disrupting the Network.** Do not use the network in such a way that you disrupt the use of the network by others.
5. Maintaining the integrity of the Network system. Users are expected to utilize systems and services to facilitate learning and enhance educational information exchange. The school District's telecommunications network is intended for District business and educational purposes. As a monitored telecommunications network, no stated or implied guarantee is made regarding the privacy of electronic mail (email) folders, files or documents or any other telecommunications transmitted or received over this network.
6. Adhering to appropriate copyright, trademark, trade secrets and licensing agreements.
7. Receiving permission from the proper authority before using a disk, video or other sources that might endanger the integrity of the network.

Prohibited Use

Use of the school district's education technology is intended for legitimate education purposes which support and enhance school curriculum and business and which are consistent with the school district's mission statement. With the universal acceptance of electronic communication, the District recognizes that usage may extend beyond the intended purpose. However, the District expects this use to be responsible and limited in scope. Users are expected to utilize systems and services in such a fashion as to not disrupt or interfere with the user's responsibilities and the business of the District. The following uses are strictly prohibited and may subject the offender to restriction, suspension or termination of educational technology privileges and to appropriate disciplinary sanctions, such conduct to include, but not be limited to:

- A. Using the technology for profit or commercial purposes.
- B. Maliciously using technology to harass, intimidate or discriminate against others.
- C. Deliberately damaging any technology component.
- D. Unauthorized entry into a file, whether to use, read, change or for any other purpose.
- E. Unauthorized transfer, deletion or duplication of a file.
- F. Unauthorized use of another individual's identification or password.
- G. Unauthorized access to telecommunications files or facilities.
- H. Use of computing facilities that interfere with the work of another student, faculty member or school official.
- I. Use of computing facilities to draft, send or receive inappropriate communications including, but not limited to, communications which are indecent, obscene, profane, vulgar, threatening, defamatory or otherwise prohibited by law.
- J. Use of computing facilities, including telecommunication s facilities, to interfere with the operation of the school district's computing system.
- K. Violation of copyright, trademark, trade secrets or licensing agreement.
- L. Use of computing facilities for the purchase, sale and/or advertisement of goods or services.
- M. Use of computing facilities to access chat rooms or student maintained e-mail accounts or any other telecommunications that are of an

- N. Unsupervised nature.
- O. Using technology for political lobbying that does not support the District's mission and does not benefit students and/or the District.
- P. Using technology for individual political campaigning.

Consequences of Prohibited Use

1. Any member who fails to comply with the terms of this agreement will have his/her privilege revoked for a period of time.
2. Repeated or severe infractions of this policy may result in permanent termination of privileges.
3. The superintendent or his/her designee will determine what is acceptable use based upon this policy. His/her decision is final.
4. Members violating the terms of this policy may face additional disciplinary action deemed appropriate in keeping with the disciplinary policies and guidelines of the school. Users will be required to make restitution for any intentional damages to educational technology or unauthorized expenses incurred through the misuse of educational technology.

ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICATION

Parents/guardians, in consultation with the student's physician, are urged to develop a time schedule which allows the student's medication to be taken at home before and after school hours, when possible and appropriate. Because that is not always possible, the Board directs that the Administration will establish administrative guidelines to govern the administration of medication during school hours.

School staff members who are designated by the building administrator to administer medication will receive in-service training on all District policies and procedures related to this responsibility and documentation of individual completion of training will be maintained. Under no circumstances may school staff prescribe medications, either prescription or non-prescription, such as aspirin, cough drops, etc.

ATHLETIC PROGRAM EXPANSION

The Board recognizes the importance of athletics in the total school program. The board has established procedures for adding new sports to the total athletic program. Sports that are not recognized by the Michigan High School Athletic Association (MHSAA) must start at Phase I. All MHSAA recognized sports must begin at Phase II.

PHASE I Non-Michigan High School Athletic Association (MHSAA) Recognized Sports

Non-MHSAA sports are those that are not officially recognized Michigan High School Athletic Association (MHSAA) sports. Students and parents interested in establishing a non-MHSAA sport as part of the athletic program must begin at Phase I.

Phase I sports are not recognized by or affiliated with South Lyon Community Schools or any specific school within the district.

Phase I sports may not use the name of the district, the name of a specific school and/or any district or school logo on uniforms, programs, etc.

The district will not fund Phase I sports, schedule practices, games or other events, provide insurance coverage, purchase awards or transport participants to events.

Participants must provide all funding for Phase I sports.

Phase I sports may use the school district's facilities, when available, and not in conflict with school funded programs, in compliance with Board Policy 9250, Community Use of District Physical Resources.

Moving from Phase I Non-Recognized MHSAA Sport Status to Phase II Self-Funded School District Recognized Sport

Interested students and parents may request movement from Phase I to Phase II (Self-Funded School District Recognized Sport) after existing as a Phase I sport for a minimum of two years and after extensive survey of potential participants. The request shall be directed to the Athletic Director.

Movement to Phase II will be at the discretion of the Athletic Director who will consider criteria including the following: successful operation of the sport, number of participants, funding considerations, etc.

Non-MHSAA sports may not move directly from Phase I to Phase III.

Newly established MHSAA sports that have been a successful Club Sport for two years may apply for Phase III status.

PHASE II Self-Funded School District Recognized Club Sport

The Athletic Director will oversee a Phase II sport and will determine the revenue needed to support it, but all funds necessary to run the program must be provided by the participants and/or by fundraising.

The Athletic Director, or appropriate designee, will be responsible as follows:

Approves coaching staff and determines coaches' salary through Schedule C

Schedules contests, officials and transportation and pays MHSAA tournament entry fees.

Determines academic eligibility and monitors athletes' compliance with the Student and Athletic Code of Conduct.

Maintains records of athletes' physicals and provides information regarding optional insurance coverage for athletes.

Takes ownership of all equipment and uniforms used in the program on behalf of the Athletic Department.

Purchases and presents awards as defined in the Athletic Code.

Allows use of school district facilities (when available) in compliance with Board Policy 9250, Community Use of District Physical Resources.

Provides field, gymnasium and pool maintenance as necessary.

Moving From Phase II Self-Funded School District Recognized Sport to Phase III Officially Recognized School Sport

Interested students and parents may request movement from Phase II to Phase III (Officially Recognized School Sport) after existing as a Phase II sport for a minimum of two years. The request shall be directed to the Athletic Director.

Recommendation to the Board for movement to Phase III will be at the discretion of the Athletic Director who will consider criteria including the following: successful operation of the sport, number of participants, funding considerations, etc.

PHASE III Officially Recognized School Sport

Phase II sports that are subsequently approved by the Board become Officially Recognized School Sports and are funded in accordance with the district's funding of all other sports teams.

ATTENDANCE

Daily attendance shall be maintained for each student in each school. Appropriate age and grade level penalties for not attending school, shall be developed by the Administration.

The attendance policy and administrative guidelines with rules and regulations shall be published and made available annually to all students, parents/guardians, and staff.

A. Excused Absences. Under the school policy, students are expected to attend all classes. The following absences are excused:

1. personal illness of a student or family member.
2. death of a family member or close friend of the family or student.
3. medical or dental care
4. religious observances
5. participation in a legal proceeding
6. suspension days
7. unusual circumstances as approved by building administrator

B. Attendance need not always be within the school facilities, but a student will be considered to be in attendance if present at any place where school is in session by authority of the Board.

C. Unexcused Absences may include but are not limited to the following:

1. truancy
2. oversleeping
3. car problems
4. leaving school without permission
5. signing in late
6. errand running (shopping, driver's license, etc.)
7. pre-planned family activities

D. Exempt Absences (do not count toward absence totals) school sponsored activities such as class field trips.

E. Excused and/or unexcused absences are cumulative for the entire semester.

F. Work may not be made up for unexcused absences, except for pre-planned family activities.

The Administration shall develop administrative guidelines for the attendance of students which:

- A. Ensure a school session which is in conformity with the requirements of the law;
- B. Govern the keeping of attendance records in accordance with the rules of the State Board and the Michigan Department of Education Pupil Accounting Manual, including a written electronic attendance procedure, if applicable;
- C. Identify the habitual truant, investigate the cause(s) of his/her behavior, and consider modification of his/her educational program to meet particular needs and interests;
- D. Ensure that any student who, due to a specifically identifiable physical or mental impairment, exceeds or may exceed the District's limit on excused absence is referred for evaluation for eligibility either under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.
- E. The District will participate in the Oakland County Truancy Program.

ANTI - BULLYING

It is the policy of the District to provide a safe and nurturing educational environment for all of its students.

This policy protects all students from bullying/aggressive behavior regardless of the subject matter or motivation for such impermissible behavior.

Bullying or other aggressive behavior toward a student, whether by other students, staff, or third parties, including Board members, parents, guests, contractors, vendors, and volunteers, is strictly prohibited. This prohibition includes written, physical, verbal, and psychological abuse, including hazing, gestures, comments, threats, or actions to a student, which cause or threaten to cause bodily harm, reasonable fear for personal safety or personal degradation.

Demonstration of appropriate behavior, treating others with civility and respect, and refusing to tolerate harassment or bullying is expected of administrators, faculty, staff, and volunteers to provide positive examples for student behavior.

This policy applies to all "at school" activities in the District, including activities on school property, in a school vehicle, and those occurring off school property, if the student or employee is at any school-sponsored, school-approved or school-related activity or function, such as field trips or athletic events

where students are under the school's control, or where an employee is engaged in school business. Misconduct occurring outside of school may also be disciplined if it interferes with the school environment.

Notification

Notice of this policy will be annually circulated to and posted in conspicuous locations in all school buildings and departments within the District and discussed with students, as well as incorporated into the teacher, student, and parent/guardian handbooks. State and Federal rights posters on discrimination and harassment shall also be posted at each building. All new hires will be required to review and sign off on this policy and the related complaint procedure.

Parents or legal guardians of the alleged victim(s), as well as of the alleged aggressor(s), shall be promptly notified of any complaint or investigation as well as the results of the investigation to the extent consistent with student confidentiality requirements. A record of the time and form of notice or attempts at notice shall be kept in the investigation file.

To the extent appropriate and/or legally permitted, confidentiality will be maintained during the investigation process. However, a proper investigation will, in some circumstances, require the disclosure of names and allegations. Further, the appropriate authorities may be notified, depending on the nature of the complaint and/or the results of the investigation.

Reporting

No later than May 30, 2015, the District shall submit to the Department of Education a copy of this Policy.

The District shall report incidents of bullying to the Department of Education on an annual basis according to the form and procedures established by the Department of Education.

Should this Policy be amended or otherwise modified, the District shall submit a copy of the amended or modified Policy to the Department of Education no later than thirty (30) days after adopting the modification. Implementation The Superintendent is responsible to implement this policy, and may develop further guidelines, not inconsistent with this policy. This policy is not intended to and should not be interpreted to interfere with legitimate free speech rights of any individual. However, the District reserves the right and responsibility to maintain a safe environment for students, conducive to learning and other legitimate objectives of the school program.

Procedure

Any student who believes s/he has been or is the victim of bullying, hazing, or other aggressive behavior should immediately report the situation to the Principal or assistant principal. The student may also report concerns to a teacher or counselor who will be responsible for notifying the appropriate administrator or Board official. Complaints against the building principal should be filed with the Superintendent. Complaints against the Superintendent should be filed with the Board President.

A student may also submit a report or complaint to any of the above designated individuals through email, voicemail, regular mail or by leaving a sealed note addressed to the individual at that person's office or desk. The student may submit a report or complaint anonymously, but this may affect the ability to fully investigate the matter, when the complaining student is not available to provide additional information during the course of the investigation. T

The identity of a student who reports bullying, hazing or aggressive behavior, as well as those students who provide information during an investigation will remain confidential to the extent possible and to the extent allowable by law. Only school personnel directly involved in the investigation of the complaint or responsible for remedying any violations will be provided access to the identity of the complaining student(s) and student witnesses, and then only to the extent necessary to effectively deal with the situation.

The identity of the student who files the report or complaint will not be voluntarily shared with the alleged perpetrator(s) or the witnesses unless the student (and his/her parent/guardian) give written permission to do so. Any investigation report will likewise not be voluntarily produced with the names of the reporting student(s) or witnesses. However, under certain circumstances, the District may be required by law to disclose the report and/or the student(s) names. Also, under certain circumstances, the identity of the reporting student may become obvious even without disclosure by school personnel.

Every student is encouraged, and every staff member is required, to report any situation that they believe to be aggressive behavior directed toward a student. Reports shall be made to those identified above. While reports may be made anonymously, formal disciplinary action may not be taken solely on the basis of an anonymous report without other corroborating evidence.

The Principal (or other designated administrator) shall promptly investigate and document all complaints about bullying, aggressive or other behavior that may violate this policy. The investigation must be completed as promptly as the circumstances permit after a report or complaint is made.

If the investigation finds an instance of bullying or aggressive behavior has occurred, it will result in prompt and appropriate remedial action. This may include up to expulsion for students, up to discharge for employees, exclusion for parents, guests, volunteers and contractors, and removal from any official position and/or a request to resign for Board members. Individuals may also be referred to law enforcement or other appropriate officials.

If, during an investigation of a reported act of harassment, intimidation and/or bullying/cyberbullying, the Principal or appropriate administrator believes that the reported misconduct may have created a hostile learning environment and may have constituted unlawful discriminatory harassment based on a Protected Class, the Principal will report the act of bullying and/or harassment to one of the Anti-Harassment Compliance Officers so that it may be investigated in accordance with the procedures set forth in Policy 5517 – Harassment of Students.

The individual responsible for conducting the investigation shall document all reported incidents and report all verified incidents of bullying, aggressive or other prohibited behavior, as well as any remedial action taken, including disciplinary actions and referrals, to the Superintendent. The Superintendent shall submit a compiled report to the Board on an annual basis.

Non-Retaliation/False Reports

Retaliation or false allegations against any person who reports, is thought to have reported, files a complaint, participates in an investigation or inquiry concerning allegations of bullying or aggressive behavior (as a witness or otherwise), or is the target of the bullying or aggressive behavior being investigated, is prohibited and will not be tolerated. Such retaliation shall be considered a serious violation of Board policy, independent of whether a complaint of bullying is substantiated. Suspected retaliation should be reported in the same manner as bullying/aggressive behavior.

Making intentionally false reports about bullying/aggressive behavior for the purpose of getting someone in trouble is similarly prohibited and will not be tolerated. Retaliation and intentionally false reports may result in disciplinary action as indicated above.

Prevention/Training

The Superintendent, or his/her designee, shall establish a program or other initiatives involving school staff, students, clubs or other student groups, administrators, volunteers, parents, law enforcement, community members, and other stakeholders, aimed at the prevention of bullying or other aggressive behavior.

Definitions

The following definitions are provided for guidance only. If a student or other individual believes there has been bullying, hazing, harassment or other aggressive behavior, regardless of whether it fits a particular definition, s/he should report it immediately and allow the administration to determine the appropriate course of action.

"Aggressive behavior" is defined as inappropriate conduct that is repeated enough, or serious enough, to negatively impact a student's educational, physical, or emotional well-being. Such behavior includes, for example, bullying, hazing, stalking, intimidation, menacing, coercion, name-calling, taunting, making threats, and hitting/pushing/shoving.

"At School" is defined as in a classroom, elsewhere on school premises, on a school bus or other school-related vehicle, or at a school-sponsored activity or event whether or not it is held on school premises. It also includes conduct using a telecommunications access device or telecommunications service provider that occurs off school premises if either owned by or under the control of the District.

"Bullying" is defined as any written, verbal, or physical acts, including cyber bullying (i.e. any electronic communication, including, but not limited to electronically transmitted acts, such as internet, telephone or cell phone, personal digital assistant (PDA), or wireless hand held device) that, without regard to its subject matter or motivating animus, is intended or that a reasonable person would know is likely to harm one (1) or more students either directly or indirectly by doing any of the following:

- A. substantially interfering with educational opportunities, benefits, or programs of one (1) or more students;
- B. adversely affecting the ability of a student to participate in or benefit from the school district's educational programs or activities by placing the student in reasonable fear of physical harm or by causing substantial emotional distress;
- C. having an actual and substantial detrimental effect on a student's physical or mental health; and/or
- D. causing substantial disruption in, or substantial interference with, the orderly operation of the school.

Bullying can be physical, verbal, psychological, or a combination of all three. Some examples of bullying are:

- A. Physical – hitting, kicking, spitting, pushing, pulling; taking and/or damaging personal belongings or extorting money, blocking or impeding student movement, unwelcome physical contact.
- B. Verbal – taunting, malicious teasing, insulting, name calling, making threats.
- C. Psychological – spreading rumors, manipulating social relationships, coercion, or engaging in social exclusion/shunning, extortion, or intimidation. This may occur in a number of different ways, including but not limited to notes, emails, social media postings, and graffiti.

"Harassment" includes, but is not limited to, any act which subjects an individual or group to unwanted, abusive behavior of a nonverbal, verbal, written or physical nature, often on the basis of age, race, religion, color, national origin, marital status or disability, but may also include sexual orientation, physical characteristics (e.g., height, weight, complexion), cultural background, socioeconomic status, or geographic location (e.g., from rival school, different state, rural area, city, etc.).

"Intimidation/Menacing" includes, but is not limited to, any threat or act intended to: place a person in fear of physical injury or offensive physical contact; to substantially damage or interfere with person's property; or to intentionally interfere with or block a person's movement without good reason.

"Staff" includes all school employees and Board members.

"Third parties" include, but are not limited to, coaches, school volunteers, parents, school visitors, service contractors, vendors, or others engaged in District business, and others not directly subject to school control at inter-district or intra-district athletic competitions or other school events.

For further definition and instances that could possibly be construed as: Harassment, see Policy 5517; Hazing, see Policy 5516

CARE OF DISTRICT PROPERTY

Basic to the philosophy of the Board is a respect for the rights of others. Students are urged to exercise this respect in regard to the belongings of others, including District property. Each student should realize that vandalism to District property is costly to repair and is directly related to inappropriate use of school funds.

In accordance with law, students who cause damage to District property shall be subject to disciplinary measures, and their parents shall be financially liable for such damage to the extent of the law, except that students over eighteen (18) years of age shall also be liable for damage they cause.

The Board authorizes the imposition of fines for the loss, damage, or destruction of District equipment, apparatus, musical instruments, library materials, textbooks, and for damage to District buildings.

The Administration may report to the appropriate authorities any student whose damage of District property has been serious or chronic in nature. Parents shall also be notified.

The Assistant Superintendent of Administrative Services shall develop administrative guidelines to implement this policy.

CONCUSSIONS AND ATHLETIC ACTIVITIES

To provide for the safety of student athletes, all athletic programs of the District shall comply either with the concussion protocols of the Michigan High School Athletic Association, or the protocols set forth in AG 5340.01, which shall meet all the requirements of state law and Department of Community Health guidelines regarding concussion awareness training and protection for youth athletes.

CORPORAL PUNISHMENT VERSUS APPROPRIATE USE OF REASONABLE PHYSICAL FORCE

*In accordance with State law, corporal punishment shall not be permitted.

Corporal punishment is the deliberate infliction of physical pain by hitting, paddling, spanking, slapping or any other physical force used as a means of discipline. Corporal punishment does not include physical pain caused by reasonable physical activities associated with athletic training.

A person employed by or engaged as a substitute, volunteer or contractor by the District shall not inflict or cause to be inflicted corporal punishment upon any student, and shall not threaten the use of corporal punishment upon any student, under any circumstances.

A person employed by or engaged as a substitute, volunteer or contractor by the District may use reasonable physical force upon a student as necessary to maintain order and control in a school or school-related setting, for the purpose of providing an environment conducive to safety and learning. In maintaining that order and control, the person may use physical force upon a student as may be necessary:

- A. to restrain or remove a student whose behavior is interfering with the orderly exercise and performance of school district functions within a school or at a school-related activity, if that student has refused to comply with a request to refrain from further disruptive acts;
- B. for self-defense or the defense of another;
- C. to prevent a student from inflicting harm on himself/herself;
- D. to quell a disturbance that threatens physical injury to any person;
- E. to obtain possession of a weapon or other dangerous object upon or within the control of a student;
- F. to protect property.

In the event that a person employed by or engaged as a volunteer or contractor by the District is accused of using or threatening the use of corporal punishment, the building administrator will investigate the allegation. If it is determined that an incident of, or threat of, corporal punishment did occur, the building administrator will make a recommendation of appropriate disciplinary action to the Assistant Superintendent for Administrative Services, including possible criminal assault charges.

CURRICULUM INVOLVEMENT RIGHTS OF PARENTS AND LEGAL GUARDIANS

In recognition of the rights of parents and legal guardians, the Board shall ensure that a parent or legal guardian responsible for the care and custody of a pupil enrolled in South Lyon Community Schools may have the opportunity to:

1. Review the curriculum, textbooks and teaching materials of the school in which the pupil is enrolled at a reasonable time and place and in a reasonable manner.
2. Be present to a reasonable degree and at reasonable times and subject to reasonable restrictions, controls and limits to observe instructional activity (not including testing) in a class or course in which the pupil is enrolled and present.

In recognition of the rights of parents/guardians to be involved in their child's education, and in recognition of the rights of teachers and students to focus on education, the following Board guidelines shall allow parents to exercise the rights listed above, but not create an unreasonable obstacle to teaching or learning or to administering or maintaining proper discipline in the school:

1. Parents may review the district curriculum, textbooks and teaching materials (excluding tests) of the school in which their pupil is enrolled upon advance written notice to the building principal. The review must take place at a reasonable time and place and in a reasonable manner. If, after reviewing curricular materials, the parent/guardian wishes to challenge their use, the "Dealing with Challenged Materials" section of the Learning Materials Selection (2240) shall be followed.
2. Parents may observe a class in which their pupil is enrolled and present on a reasonable basis and in accordance with this Policy. The parent/guardian shall contact the principal and request the observation in writing 48 hours in advance. The principal shall immediately notify the teacher of the request. If testing is scheduled, or some other activity is scheduled on the requested day, and the presence of a parent/guardian in the classroom might cause an unreasonable obstacle to learning and/or teaching on that day, the principal, in consultation with the teacher and the parent, shall schedule the observation on a different mutually agreed upon day.

3. The presence of parents/guardians in the classroom must not create an unreasonable obstacle to teaching or learning or to administering or maintaining proper discipline in the school. To ensure that the teaching/learning environment is maintained, the parent must cooperate in the following ways:

- By sitting in the place designated by the teacher, so that his/her presence is not distracting to the students or the teacher.
- By observing the classroom in a quiet and unobtrusive manner.
- By avoiding interruptions, comments or other behaviors which limit teaching and learning.
- By agreeing that audio and videotaping is prohibited.
- By maintaining the privacy rights of students other than his/her own.

Failure to follow these guidelines will result in the parent/guardian being removed from the classroom and may place limits on his/her right to future observations.

DISCLOSURE OF STUDENT INFORMATION AND PRIVACY

Student Surveys

The Board respects the privacy rights of parents and their children. No student shall be required, as a part of the school program or the District's curriculum, without prior written consent of his/her parent, legal guardian, or the student (if an adult, or an emancipated minor) to submit to, or participate in any survey, analysis, or evaluation that reveals information concerning:

- A. political affiliations or beliefs of the student or his/her parent s;
- B. mental or psychological problems of the student or his/her family;
- C. sex behavior or attitudes;
- D. illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating or demeaning behavior;
- E. critical appraisals of other individuals with whom respondents have close family relationships;
- F. legally recognized privileged and analogous relationships, such as those of lawyers, physicians, and ministers;
- G. religious practices, affiliations, or beliefs of the student or his/her parents; or
- H. income (other than that required by law to determine eligibility for participation in a program or for receiving financial assistance under such a program).

The Administration shall ensure that procedures are established whereby parents may inspect materials used in conjunction with any such survey, analysis, or evaluation.

Further, parents have the right to inspect, upon request, a survey or evaluation created by a third party before the survey/evaluation is administered or distributed by the school to the student. The parent will have access to the survey/evaluation within a reasonable period of time after the request is received by the building principal.

To ensure the rights of parents, the Board directs building and program administrators to:

- A. Notify parents in writing of any survey s, analyses, or evaluations, which may reveal any of the information, as identified in A-H above, in a timely manner, and which allows interested parties to request an opportunity to inspect the survey, analysis, or evaluation; and the administrator to arrange for inspection prior to initiating the activity with students.
- B. Allow the parent the option of excluding their student from the activity.
- C. Report collected data in a summarized fashion which does not permit one to make a connection between the data and individual students or small groups of students.
- D. Treat information as identified in A-H above as any other confidential information in accordance with Policy 8350.

Release of Directory Information

In accordance with FERPA (20USC 1232[g]), the Board has designated the following as "directory information":

- A. The student's name
- B. The names of the student's parents
- C. The student's address
- D. The student's date of birth
- E. The student's class designation
- F. The student's achievement awards or honors (not scholastic grades)
- G. The student's extracurricular participation
- H. The student's weight and height, if a member of an athletic team
- I. The student's photograph
- J. The name of the school district the student attended before enrolling in South Lyon Community Schools.

While all other information concerning students of the District remains confidential and will be released only in accordance with the District's Student Record Policy, "directory information" will be released to a requesting party unless a parent or an eligible student advises the District that such information should not be released regarding that particular student, by contacting the student's building principal.

High school students and their parents/guardians may prevent disclosure of a student's name, address and telephone number to military recruiting representatives (who can only use that data to provide information to students concerning educational and career opportunities available in the U.S. Armed Forces or service academies) by submitting a signed written request to that effect to the school principal.

The Board will not allow the collection, disclosure, or use of personal information collected from students for the purpose of marketing or for selling that information (or otherwise providing that information to others for that purpose). This section does not apply to the collection, disclosure or use of personal information collected from students for the exclusive purpose of developing, evaluating, or providing educational products or services for, or to, student or educational institutions, such as the following: (1) college or other postsecondary education recruitment, or military recruitment; (2) tests and assessments used by elementary schools and secondary schools to provide cognitive, evaluative, diagnostic, clinical, aptitude, or achievement information about students

(or to generate other statistically useful data for the purpose of securing such tests and assessments) and the subsequent analysis and public release of the aggregate data from such tests and assessments; and (3) vendors selected and approved by District administration.

The Board directs the administration to provide notice directly to parents of students enrolled in the District of the substantive content of this policy at least annually at the beginning of the school year.

DISPLAY AND PUBLICATION OF STUDENT WORK

Student work and/or photographs or video images of students are commonly and appropriately displayed in the classroom or other parts of the student's school or the District administration building, or in publications, such as school newsletters. At times, student work and/or photographs or video images of students may be published in other media or locations, including, but not limited to, classroom, school and/or District web pages, the District newsletter and other District publications, local newspapers and displays or publications outside of the District itself.

Student work and/or photographs or video images of students may not be displayed if a non-disclosure form is on file for the current school year.

Student grades shall not be displayed or published. The display will comply with Board Policy regarding displaying directory information as defined by the FERPA.

The teacher is responsible for reviewing the student work and/or photographs or video images of students. S/He will determine whether the submitted work, photographs or video images are appropriate for display and/or publication, taking into account the materials submitted for review, the legitimate pedagogical interests of the School District and the preservation of propriety and discipline associated with the operation of the School District.

The principal and the teacher will consult, regarding whether the submitted materials are appropriate for display and/or publication, when either requests such consultation.

Retaliation against any person who reports, is thought to have reported, files a complaint, or otherwise participates in an investigation or inquiry concerning allegations of bullying behavior is prohibited. Such retaliation shall be considered a serious violation of Board policy and independent of whether a complaint is substantiated. Suspected retaliation should be reported in the same manner as bullying behavior. Making intentionally false reports about bullying behavior for the purpose of getting someone in trouble is similarly prohibited. Retaliation and intentionally false reports may result in disciplinary action as indicated above.

For a definition and instances that could possibly be construed as hazing, see Policy 5516.

This policy is not intended to and should not be interpreted to interfere with legitimate free speech rights of any individual. However, the District reserves the right and responsibility to maintain a safe environment for students, conducive to learning and other legitimate objectives of the school program.

Confidentiality

To the extent appropriate and/or legally permitted, confidentiality will be maintained during the investigation process. However, a proper investigation will, in some circumstances, require the disclosure of names and allegations.

Notification

Notice of this policy will be annually circulated to and posted in conspicuous locations in all school buildings and departments within the District and discussed with students, as well as incorporated into the teacher, student, and parent/guardian handbooks. State and Federal rights posters on discrimination and harassment based upon disability, religion, race, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, height, weight, or generally in violation of any State or Federal law prohibiting discrimination shall also be posted at each building. All new hires will be required to review and sign off on this policy.

DISTRICT VOLUNTEERS

The Board encourages volunteer participation in all areas, programs, and activities of our schools.

Definition

A volunteer is a non-paid person functioning under the sponsorship of the Board and at the direction of the responsible administrator or designee. This definition would include, but not be limited to, the following: Adopt-A-Reader volunteers, Copy Parents, and other CHEERS volunteers who are in the schools on a regular basis. Chaperones on school fieldtrips, excursions, and other district-sponsored trips (see Policy 2340) would be considered volunteers as well. In addition, PTO Officers will also be considered volunteers.

Parents or Guardians who attend class or school events are not considered volunteers, but would be addressed by policies 9150 (Visitors) and 9160 (Public Attendance at School Events.)

The volunteer program shall be known as C.H.E.E.R.S. or Citizens Helping Educators Encourage Responsible Students.

Screening of volunteers

Any person who volunteers to work with the District shall be screened annually through the Internet sites for the Sex Offenders Registry (SOR), the Internet Criminal History Access Tool (ICHAT) criminal history records check and/or the Offender Tracking System (OTIS), prior to being allowed to participate in any activity or program. Screening and approval of volunteers will be conducted by the Assistant Superintendent of Administrative Services or his/her designee. Names of approved volunteers will be maintained in a district database and shared with the district and building CHEERS coordinators as

appropriate.

The Administration shall develop and implement administrative guidelines for the process and timeline for screening of volunteers.

Expectations of volunteers

The Superintendent or his/her designee will inform each volunteer that s/he:

- A. shall agree to abide by all Board policies and District guidelines while on duty as a volunteer.
- B. will be covered under the District's liability policy, but the District cannot provide any type of health insurance to cover illness or accident incurred while serving as a volunteer, nor is the person eligible for worker's compensation.
- C. should be in a location visible to District staff at all times while volunteering with students in the school setting.

Coordination of volunteers

The Board approved district program coordinator shall be responsible for the direction and the operation of the CHEERS program. A building program coordinator shall be appointed to conduct the day-to-day volunteer coordination for each school building in the District. Appropriate coordinators shall be appointed to provide coordination for future programs that should be deemed appropriate for volunteers by the Board

DRESS AND GROOMING

The Board recognizes that each student's mode of dress and grooming is a manifestation of personal style and individual preference. The Board will not interfere with the right of students and their parents to make decisions regarding their appearance, except when their choices interfere with the educational program of the schools.

Accordingly, the Superintendent or his/her designee shall establish such grooming guidelines as are necessary to promote discipline, maintain order, secure the safety of students, and provide an environment conducive to academic purposes. Such guidelines shall prohibit student dress or grooming practices which:

- A. present a hazard to the health or safety of the student himself/herself or to others in the school;
- B. interfere with schoolwork, create disorder, or disrupt the educational program;
- C. cause excessive wear or damage to school property;
- D. prevent the student from achieving his/her own educational objectives because of blocked vision or restricted movement.

Such guidelines shall establish the dress requirements for members of the athletic teams, bands, and other school groups when representing the District at a public event.

The Administration shall develop administrative guidelines to implement this policy which:

- A. designate the principal or his/her designee as the arbiter of student dress and grooming in his/her building;
- B. invite the participation of Shared Involvement Process (SIP) teams in the preparation of a dress code which may specify prescribed dress and grooming practices, but may not amplify the rationale for prohibition established by Board policy;
- C. instruct staff members to demonstrate, by example and precept, personal neatness, cleanliness, propriety, modesty, and good sense in attire and appearance;

Students who violate the foregoing rules will not be admitted to class and may be subject to the Code of Conduct.

EMERGENCY CLOSINGS

The Superintendent, or his/her designee, is authorized to close the schools in case of inclement weather or other emergency, which makes it unsafe for students to attend school. If a school is closed, all daytime or evening school athletic, extracurricular and other events will also be cancelled for students regardless of the event location. All non-school events which are scheduled to take place in that school building will be cancelled. The Board authorizes the Superintendent, or his/her designee, discretionary powers for extenuating circumstances with regard to event scheduling. The Superintendent, or his/her designee, may delay the opening of school(s) in case of fog, ice or other emergency situations until such hour as it is anticipated conditions are safe. The Superintendent, or his/her designee, shall provide appropriate notification. The Superintendent, or his/her designee, will require all building principals to establish and publish emergency procedures. Procedures will be reviewed prior to the opening of school every year. Students will not be dismissed and will be directed to appropriate shelter locations during tornado warnings.

EMERGENCY INFORMATION

The District will distribute annually to parents/guardians of all students the Emergency Information Form. It is the responsibility of the parent/guardian to keep these forms updated and current to assure accuracy. Administration will ensure the information is used for the intended purposes.

If one (1) parent/guardian has been awarded custody of the student by the courts, the parent/guardian of custody shall provide the school with a copy of the custody order and inform the school in writing of any limitations in the rights of the noncustodial parent/guardian. Absent such notice, the school will presume that the student may be released into the care of either parent/guardian.

Any time a student or a group of students is taken out of the building beyond school office hours to participate in a school event, the staff in charge of the event must take copies of the Emergency Information Forms for those students. This includes, and is not limited to, students involved in music trips, athletic trips, field trips, and academic contests. Advisors and/or coaches of all co-curricular and extra-curricular activities must have in their possession at all times a copy of the students' emergency information.

Whenever it is necessary for staff members to use emergency procedures in order to care properly for a student, they are to follow the procedures described

in the District guidelines and are not to abide by any "Do Not Resuscitate" (DNR) agreement that may exist for a student, unless ordered to do so by a court of law.

EPINEPHRINE AUTO-INJECTORS

Students who are prescribed epinephrine to treat anaphylaxis shall be allowed to self-possess and self-administer the medication if they meet the conditions as stated in Policy 5330.

Commencing with the 2014-15 school year, each school in the District shall have at least two (2) epinephrine auto-injectors (Epi-Pens) available at the school site. The Board President or designee shall obtain a prescription in the name of the Board of Education as authorized by law for auto-injectable epinephrine as required to comply with this policy and applicable law.

The Director of Special Education shall, in consultation with a licensed registered professional nurse or other health care provider, determine the appropriate dose(s) of epinephrine auto-injectors (e.g., Junior or Adult) to be maintained at each school based upon the school population. It shall be the responsibility of the Director of Special Education to be sure that the supply of Epi-Pens is maintained at the appropriate level and they have not expired. The Director of Special Education shall also be responsible for coordinating the training of District employees to administer Epi-Pen injections and to maintain the list of employees authorized to administer such injections.

Individuals Qualified to Administer

Only a licensed, registered professional nurse employed or contracted by the District or a school employee who has successfully passed the required training shall be allowed to possess and administer Epi-Pen injections to students. The persons authorized to use the District maintained Epi-Pens will be maintained in each school by the Principal, and shall be available on an electronically accessible site for employees' reference.

Each school shall have at least one person trained in the appropriate use and administration of an Epi-Pen injection. In each school with ten (10) or more combined instructional and administrative staff, at least two (2) employees at that site shall be appropriately trained in the use of an Epi-Pen.

Training of employees on the appropriate use and administration of an Epi-Pen injection shall be done in accordance with any guidelines provided by the Michigan Department of Education, and shall be conducted under the supervision of a licensed registered professional nurse. The training shall include an evaluation by the nurse of the employees' understanding of the protocols for administering an Epi-Pen injection.

Students to Whom Injections May Be Administered

A licensed, registered, professional nurse or trained and authorized employees under this policy may administer Epi-Pen injections to 1) any student who has a prescription on file with the District, in accordance with the directives in such prescription, and 2) any individual on school grounds who is believed to be having an anaphylactic reaction.

Reporting of Injections

Any person who administers an Epi-Pen injection to a student shall promptly notify the building administrator or designee who shall be responsible for promptly notifying the student's parent/guardian that an injection has been administered.

All Epi-Pen injections by District employees to students shall be reported in writing to the Director of Special Education. The report shall include whether the school's or student's Epi-Pen was used, and whether the student was previously known to be subject to severe allergic reaction (anaphylaxis).

The Director of Special Education shall at least annually report to the Department of Education, in the form and manner determined by the Department, information on the number of injections provided to students, the number of injections with District Epi-Pens and the number of incidents where students were not known to be subject to severe allergic reactions.

FIELD TRIPS, EXCURSIONS, AND OTHER DISTRICT-SPONSORED TRIPS

Field Trips

Field trips are designed to stimulate student interest and inquiry and provide opportunities for academic growth and development. To the extent that they supplement the curriculum objectives of the classroom, field trips may be authorized by the building principal.

Excursions

Any trip which involves students being away from home overnight will be classified as an excursion and will require approval, the completion of the Overnight Excursion Forms, and a disclaimer letter when necessary. Non athletic excursions require the approval of the Assistant Superintendent for CITA. Athletic excursions require the approval of the Athletic Director and building principal.

Other District Sponsored Trips

Academic, extra-curricular, and co-curricular trips other than field trips may be authorized by the building principal or Athletic Director as appropriate. All coaches and/or advisors shall be responsible for arranging transportation to events and/or competitions, securing permission of all parents involved if students are transported in private vehicles. Arrangements for transportations for practices outside of the instructional day shall be the responsibility of the parent.

Screening of Chaperones

Chaperones for all Fieldtrips, Excursions, and Other District Sponsored Trips shall be selected from volunteers who have been screened and approved per Policy 9230 (District Volunteers). In addition, for overnight excursions, chaperones must be at least 25 years old and must be drug screened and fingerprinted prior to approval and selection.

Transporting Students

Parents/staff members/students/community members may not transport students in their private vehicles on field trips or excursions, except in emergencies, unless arrangements are made with the Superintendent or his/her designee.

Cancellations of Field Trips and/or Excursions

Educational field trips and/or excursions are a valuable educational tool; however, the safety of students, parents and staff is our highest priority. Therefore, the Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee will have the authority to cancel or modify the field trip or excursion with no liability for reimbursement on behalf of the District when using his/her sole discretion.

- A. The Superintendent determines that conditions exist which compromise the safety of members of the educational community.
- B. When the United States State Department or other national department or agency cautions citizens regarding travel within the United States and/or internationally, the Superintendent or his/her designee may cancel a field trip or excursion.
- C. Field trips will be cancelled when school is closed.
- D. If weather conditions warrant, the Superintendent or his/her designee may cancel a field trip or excursion. The Board directs the administration to develop guidelines for planning and implementing field trips, excursions, and other district sponsored trips.

GRADING APPEAL

The following procedure is to be followed if a student and/or his/her parents request a change in a final semester grade assigned by a teacher: (Card marking grades may not be appealed)

1. The teacher is to be contacted by the student or parent to discuss the reasons the grade should be changed. If the teacher concurs, the grade change is made by the teacher and the data processor is notified.
2. If a teacher does not concur in the grade change, the student or parent may request of the principal (or designee), in writing, and within 30 calendar days after the grade was given, that a review panel be convened.
3. Within 20 calendar days of the principal (or designee) receiving the written request, the review panel must meet. The review panel will consist of three teachers, principal (or designee), and two (2) board members. The principal will share with the student and his/her parents that the meeting is a closed meeting; open only to the panel, student and his/her parents.

The principal (or designee) will chair the meeting and inform participants of the meeting guidelines:

1. The student and/or parent will present reasons for the grade change.
2. The teacher will present reasons for the continuance of the grade.
3. Any participant, may pose questions to either party.
4. Upon completion of the questions, all parties will leave the room except the review panel.
5. The review panel will discuss the issue and decide on whether to uphold or deny the appeal of the parent. The sole criteria to be used in that decision is whether or not there was a rational basis for the teacher to give the grade.
6. The principal will share the decision of the review panel with the parent and/or student, and the teacher. The review panel's decision is final.

GRADING SYSTEM

The Board requires a grading system for use in the elementary and secondary grades that accurately reflects student achievement relative to the district's curriculum.

The Board requires a grading system for use in the elementary and secondary grades that accurately reflects student achievement relative to the district's curriculum. The progress of each pupil shall be measured periodically and reports of such progress shall be communicated to the parents or guardian at regular intervals. The report shall reflect the quality of a pupil's performance, relative to the grade level or course standards. Credits earned and course grade shall be based on the student's demonstration of achievement. Parents will be apprised of the student's progress in the following ways: • At the elementary level, report cards are provided at the end of each nine week marking period but parents will be notified at the mid-marking period when a student is not making progress.

At the secondary level, progress reports are provided every six weeks and report cards at the end of each semester. Additionally, the progress of students at the middle school and high school levels will be communicated through the district's online student progress reporting system and other means as determined by the teacher.

Parents who have concerns about their student's progress are encouraged to contact the teacher directly. Grades at the middle school are calculated using a twelve (12.0) point scale. Grades at the high school are calculated using a four (4.0) point scale. Beginning with the graduating class of 2017, Advanced Placement (AP) and recognized International Baccalaureate (IB) coursework will be weighted in a student's grade point average using a five (5.0) scale. While students may check or critique each other's work, they may not evaluate or grade the work. Only teachers may assign grades, in accordance with the elementary and/or secondary guidelines and policies. All grades shall remain confidential. While teachers are encouraged to display student work, the student's name may be displayed but the formal grade (letter grade, percentages or any other numeric system) may not be visible.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Credits

Twenty-three (23) credits in grades 9-12 are required for graduation. One-half (1/2) credit will be awarded for successful completion of each semester of course work except where otherwise noted. Credits may not serve dual purposes, (i.e., economics may not serve for both an economics and math credit), except for the on-line experience. Middle school courses that address the required MDE High School Merit Curricular requirements, will count toward high school graduation requirements and credits. However, middle school grades will not be included in the high school GPA for any purpose. Under certain circumstances, a grade of "G" may be given for the following reasons:

- Dual Enrollment
- Testing Out
- On Line Classes
- Home Schooled Classes
- Home Based Classes

- Rare and unusual accommodation

All students are expected to receive a grade in their classes that, in keeping with the South Lyon Schools grading policy, will result in a grade point average. The Individualized Education Plan for Special Education Students (IEP) will support required courses as a priority. When a special education student has met the objectives of the class and demonstrated his/her effort to complete all required assignments and still cannot make a passing grade, the teacher may present a request to the Director of Special Education to give the student a grade of G. If the Director of Special Education supports the teacher's request, he/she may recommend to the principal whose approval must be obtained to give the student a grade of G. The grade of G is to be given on rare and unusual circumstances with consideration to the IEPC and the disability, and not to manipulate a grade point average, or to make a student eligible under the extra-curricular eligibility requirements. In order to participate in the graduation ceremony a student must meet all graduation requirements as prescribed by Board Policy.

For students with Individualized Education Plans, the IEP will support required courses as a priority.

District administrative guidelines allow for some flexibility for transfer students. Personal curriculum plans may be developed for transfer students from out of State who have earned 3 years of high school credit.

The district strongly encourages all college bound students to carefully weigh whether adjusting the graduation requirements using either a personal curriculum or permission of the counselor and administrator (as outlined below) would hinder his or her acceptance into the college or university the student wishes to attend. It is recommended that students speak with admissions counselors at their desired schools prior to considering any adjustments in the traditional graduation requirements.

- | | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|
| A. English | <u>4 Credits</u> |
| 1. English 9 | 1 Credit |
| 2. English 10 | 1 Credit |
| 3. 11th Grade (literature course) | 1 Credit |
| 4. 12th Grade (an approved aligned English elective) | 1 Credit |
| 5. A minimum of one (1) English credit must be selected each year. | |

* No modifications allowed for personal curriculum purposes.

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| B. Science | <u>3 Credits</u> |
| 1. Biology | 1 Credit |
| 2. Chemistry or Analytical Chemistry | 1 Credit |
| 3. Geophysical Science or Physics | 1 Credit |

* Students must take Biology and may select 1 or 2 credits from the following options, with counselor and administrator approval: Chemistry or Analytical Chemistry, Geophysical Science or Physics, Anatomy (online for 2015-16 and offered in SLCS beginning in 2016-17), or Agricultural Science (online only). Students must earn at least 3 total credits in science. A third credit could be earned, with counselor and administrator approval, through successful completion of an MDE-approved Computer Science program or curriculum (offered at OTC) or another MDE-approved formal Career Technical Education (CTE) program or curriculum.

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| C. Mathematics | <u>4 Credits</u> |
| 1. Algebra 1 (Grade 7, 8 or 9) | 1 Credit |
| 2. Geometry (Grade 8 or high school) | 1 Credit |
| 3. Algebra 2, or Algebra 2 in the Work Place | 1 Credit |
| 4. All students must earn a mathematics credit during their last year of 1 Credit high school. This must be earned through a Mathematics elective or other approved mathematics related course. | |
| 5. The math credit earned in middle school Algebra I and Geometry may be used to meet high school mathematics requirements, and shall be counted toward the twenty-three (23) credits required for graduation. However, middle school grades will not be included in the high school GPA for any purpose. | |
| 6. Three (3) credits of math must be earned in high school. | |

* With counselor and administrator approval, students may partially or fully fulfill the Algebra II requirement by successfully completing an MDE-approved formal CTE program or curriculum and successfully completing the embedded content which addresses the same benchmarks as Algebra II.

* A personal curriculum can be utilized to adjust the total number of credits needed to 3.5, to allow a student to take his or her final credit in Junior year, and/or to modify the Algebra II requirement. The Algebra II requirement may be modified if a student successfully completes one semester of Algebra II; enrolls in an MDE approved formal CTE program or curriculum and successfully completes the embedded content which addresses the same benchmarks as first semester Algebra II; or successfully completes one semester of one of the following courses: statistics (online), functions and data analysis (online), a technical mathematics class (online) for 15-16 only, or Consumer Math (offered by SLCS only to 12th graders beginning in 2016-17).

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| D. Social Studies | <u>3 Credits</u> |
| 1. 20th Century American History | 1 Credit |
| 2. World Studies | 1 Credit |
| 3. American Government or AP Government | ½ Credit |
| 4. Economics or AP Economics | ½ Credit |

* A personal curriculum can be utilized to reduce the total number of required Social Studies credits to 2.5; however the student must still successfully complete 20th Century American History, World Studies, and American Government or AP Government.

- E. Health and Physical Education 1 Credit
 1. Foundations of Health and Physical Education $\frac{1}{2}$ Credit
 2. Healthy Life Habits $\frac{1}{2}$ Credit

* A personal curriculum can be utilized to reduce the total number of required Health and Physical Education credits to zero; however, the student must take an additional credit in ELA, Mathematics, Science, or World Language OR must successfully complete an MDE-approved formal CTE program. The additional credit cannot be used concurrently to fulfill another required graduation credit.

- F. Applied, Visual and Performing Arts 1 Credit

(Visual and Performing Arts include elective courses like all art classes, drama, music, etc.)

(Applied Arts include elective courses with a creative design component, e.g. technology design, yearbook, etc.)

* A personal curriculum can be utilized to reduce the total number of required Applied, Visual, and Performing Arts credits to zero; however, the student must take an additional credit in ELA, Mathematics, Science, or World Language OR must successfully complete an MDE-approved CTE program. The additional credit cannot be used concurrently to fulfill another required graduation credit.

- G. World Language (Beginning with the Class of 2016) 2 Credits

The World Language earned in middle school may be used to meet high school World Language requirements and shall be counted toward the twenty-three (23) credits required for graduation. However, middle school grades will not be included in high school G.P.A. The two (2) credits must be earned in the same World Language course.

* With counselor and administrator approval, students in the Classes of 2016-2020, inclusive, may fulfill either $\frac{1}{2}$ credit or 1 credit through successful completion of an MDE-approved formal CTE program or curriculum OR by taking an additional half or full credit of Applied, Visual, and Performing Arts. The additional half or full credit cannot be used concurrently to fulfill another required graduation credit.

- H. Electives will fill the remainder of the twenty-three (23) credits required. I.

- I. On Line Learning Experience

All students must complete one (1) approved on-line learning experience. Credit given for all on-line courses may also serve to meet the on-line learning experience.

* No modifications except for State approved IEP purposes. The IEP will support required courses as a priority.

Michigan Merit Examination

The Michigan Merit Exam or State approved alternative to the Merit Exam, for students who qualify at the high school level, is a graduation requirement. For seniors only, in case of a critical incident where no allowable State accommodations can be made, this requirement may be appealed to a committee comprised of two Board members, a building administrator, and an administrator appointed parent. The committee's recommendation is presented to the Board for action, and the Board's decision is final.

Student Classification

High school students will be classified according to their number of years in high school:

- Year 1 - Freshman
- Year 2 - Sophomore
- Year 3 - Junior
- Year 4 - Senior

If a senior does not have enough credits earned to graduate at the end of year four (4), s/he will remain classified as a senior. Graduation requirements will remain those of the student's high school entering class.

For a student entering a school system for the first time at the high school level, his/her birth date, as required by Michigan Law to enter school, will be used to determine classification as a freshman, sophomore, junior or senior.

If a student leaves school for any time period, classification will be made based on the date s/he entered school based on Michigan Law.

Students who were retained at the elementary or middle school level remain classified with his/her current grade level when entering high school.

In order to assure that students are on schedule for graduation, students should adhere to the following credits:

Grade/Minimum Number of Credits

Sophomore	5 $\frac{1}{2}$
Junior	11
Senior	17

Recommendations

- A. All students should earn four (4) science credits, which will include three (3) year sequence of biology, chemistry and physics/geo physical.
- B. All students should earn at least two (2) credits in a two (2) year sequence in World Language. It is strongly encouraged and highly recommended that students schedule two (2) consecutive years in the same World Language.

Transfer Credits

- A. Students transferring to South Lyon high schools from another school will:
 - a. Receive credit from religion courses which shall be recorded as elective credit.
 - b. Not receive credit toward graduation for driver education classes.
 - c. Receive appropriate credit for other courses as indicated by sending school.
- B. Credit from correspondence courses will not be accepted toward graduation.
- C. Academic credits for transferring students should be reconfigured to equate to the credit system for South Lyon Community Schools. The maximum credits per semester shall equal three (3) credits. These requirements may be adjusted to insure that transfer students meet specific departmental requirements for graduation.
- D. Grades from accredited home schooling programs will not be averaged into the GPA, for any purpose, although credit may be accepted for courses passed as they apply to South Lyon curriculum.
- E. Testing out of class by achieving a final grade of 78% (C+) or higher on the testing out examination shall result in earned credit; however, it will not be included in the high school GPA for any purpose.

Dual Enrollment

Under Public Act 160, (Postsecondary Enrollment Options Act) the District provides qualified students the opportunity to dually enroll in college courses provided they have received authorization from the building principal or his/her designee prior to registration.

Students will receive one-half (1/2) credit for successful completion of each dual enrollment course. Grades will not be averaged into the GPA for any purpose.

Supplemental Credits

Supplemental credit can be earned in the following ways: College courses, summer school courses, Alternative Education courses, online courses and the extended day program at Oakland Technical Center. All supplemental credits must be approved by the building principal or his/her designee prior to registration. However, no student may be enrolled in more than one (1) credit per semester.

A. Alternative Education Credits

Students taking supplemental credits through the Alternative program must be at least sixteen (16) years of age. Full-time high school students may take no more than two (2) classes (one (1) credit) per semester, four (4) classes (two (2) credits) per year beyond the normal schedule.

B. Credit for Online Courses

The District recognizes the opportunity to enroll in online courses may enhance and enrich the educational opportunities already available to students. The District will abide by all State requirements and regulations regarding online coursework.

The following District requirements for acceptance of credit for online courses are consistent with State of Michigan requirements:

- a. All high school students are eligible to enroll in up to two (2) online course(s) for a maximum of one (1) credit per semester. Students may enroll in no more than two (2) online courses, or up to one (1) credit, during the summer.
- b. Online courses may not be used to substitute for South Lyon high schools' offerings, except on rare and unusual occasions approved by the high school principal or his/her designee.
- c. On rare and unusual occasions, Special Education students may be approved for an online seat time waiver as defined by the Individualized Educational Plan and approved by the Director of Special Services and the principal. These will be considered Alternative Path students.
- d. Students may receive credit for online courses offered by accredited high schools, Intermediate School Districts, universities and the Michigan Department of Education, that have been approved by the high school principal or his/her designee.
- e. Credit for online courses will appear on the student's transcript but the grade will not be averaged into the GPA. Grades from approved credit recovery courses will be considered for co-curricular and extracurricular eligibility.
- f. In place of a local course, a homebound student may take an approved online course for credit as long as the student is enrolled in six (6) classes through one (1) of the South Lyon high schools.
- g. In the case of home-schooled students, the District will claim one-sixth FTE (full time equivalent) for each high school class in which the student is enrolled, but will not claim one-sixth FTE for the online course. Therefore, the home-schooled student is also responsible for costs associated with the online course.

C. College Courses

High school students who have received authorization by the building principal to take college courses, but not under the provisions of the Postsecondary Enrollment Options Act, will receive one-half (1/2) credit for successful completion of each course. The grades will not be averaged into the GPA for any purpose.

HARASSMENT OF STUDENTS

Harassment of students is prohibited. This includes inappropriate conduct by other students as well as any other person in the school environment, including employees, Board members, parents, guests, contractors, vendors and volunteers. It is the policy of the District to provide a safe educational environment for all of its students. This policy applies to all activities on school property and to all school sponsored activities whether on or off school property.

Harassment is defined as inappropriate conduct that is repeated enough, or serious enough, to negatively impact a student's educational, physical or emotional well-being. This would include harassment based on any of the legally protected characteristics, such as disability, religion, race, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, height, and weight. The following definitions are provided for guidance only.

Harassment

- A. submission to such unwelcomed conduct or communication is made either an explicit or implicit condition of utilizing or benefiting from the services, activities, or programs of the School District;
- B. submission to, or rejection of, the unwelcomed conduct or communication is used as the basis for a decision to exclude, expel, or limit the harassed student in the terms, conditions, or privileges of the School District;
- C. the unwelcomed conduct or communication interferes with the student's education, creates an intimidating, hostile or offensive environment, or otherwise adversely affects the student's educational opportunities. This may include racial slurs, mocking behavior, or other demeaning comments.

Sexual Harassment may include, but is not limited to:

- A. verbal harassment or abuse;
- B. pressure for sexual activity;
- C. repeated remarks with sexual or demeaning implications;
- D. unwelcome touching;
- E. sexual jokes, posters, cartoons, etc.;
- F. suggesting or demanding sexual involvement, accompanied by implied or explicit threats concerning one's grades, safety, job, or performance of public duties.

See Policy 3363/5518 for Sex-Based Harassment.

Note: Any administrator, teacher, coach, other school authority who engages in sexual or other inappropriate physical contact with a student may be guilty of criminal "child abuse" as defined in State law. M. C. L. A. 722.621 et. seq.

Harassment through any means, including electronically transmitted methods (e.g., internet, telephone or cell phone, personal digital assistant (PDA), computer or wireless hand held device), may be subject to District disciplinary procedures. Such behavior is considered harassment whether it takes place on or off school property, at any school-sponsored function, or in a school vehicle if it is considered to have a negative impact on the school environment.

Any student that believes s/he has been or is the victim of harassment should immediately report the situation.

Every student, whether victim or not, should and every staff member **must** report any situation that they believe to be improper harassment of a student.

The Administration will develop procedures to implement this policy, including staff development and student awareness programs, procedures for reporting harassment, for investigating complaints, for disciplining of those who are found to have violated this policy and for documenting the complaint, the investigation and the results of the investigation.

If the investigation finds harassment occurred it will result in prompt and appropriate remedial action. This may include police involvement and disciplinary hearing for students; up to discharge for employee; exclusion for parents, guests, volunteers and contractors; and removal from any officer position and/or a request to resign for Board members.

Retaliation against any person for complaining about harassment, or participating in a harassment investigation, is prohibited. Suspected retaliation should be reported in the same manner as harassment. Intentionally false harassment reports, made to get someone in trouble, are also prohibited. Retaliation and intentionally false reports may result in disciplinary action as indicated above.

Confidentiality

To the extent appropriate and/or legally permitted, confidentiality will be maintained during the investigation process. However, a proper investigation will, in some circumstances, require the disclosure of names and allegations.

Notification

Notice of this policy will be annually circulated to all school buildings and departments within the District and discussed with students, as well as incorporated into the teacher, student and parent/guardian handbooks. State and Federal rights posters on discrimination and harassment based upon disability, religion, race, color, nation origin, sex, sexual orientation, height, weight, or generally in violation of any State or Federal law prohibiting discrimination shall also be posted at each building. All new hires of the District will be required to review and sign off on this policy.

Titles VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 42 U.S.C. 2000d et seq. 42 U.S.C. 2000e et seq.

Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972, 20 U.S.C. 1681 et seq.

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 29 U.S.C. 794

The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, 42 U.S.C. 12101 et seq.

The Handicappers' Civil Rights Act, M.C.L.A. 37.1101 et seq.

The Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act, M.C.L.A. 37.2101, et seq.

Child Protection Act, M.C.L.A. 722.621 et seq.

Policies on Bullying, Michigan State Board of Education, 7-19-01

Model Anti-Bullying Policy, Michigan State Board of Education, 09-2006

STUDENT HAZING

The Board believes that hazing activities of any type are inconsistent with the educational process and prohibits all such activities at any time in school facilities, on school property, and at any District-sponsored event.

Hazing shall be defined for purposes of this policy as performing any act or coercing another, including the victim, to perform any act of initiation into any class, group, or organization that causes or creates a risk of causing mental, emotional, or physical harm. Permission, consent, or assumption of risk by an individual subjected to hazing shall not lessen the prohibitions contained in this policy.

Hazing involves conduct such as but not limited to:

- A. illegal activity, such as drinking or drugs;
- B. physical punishment or infliction of pain;
- C. intentional humiliation or embarrassment;
- D. dangerous activity;
- E. activity likely to cause mental or psychological stress;
- F. forced detention or kidnapping;
- G. undressing or otherwise exposing initiates.

All District and contract employees shall be alert particularly to possible situations, circumstances, or events which might include hazing. If hazing or planned hazing is discovered, the students involved shall be informed by the discoverer of the prohibitions contained in this policy and shall be ordered to end all hazing activities or planned activities immediately. All hazing incidents shall be reported immediately to the building principal. Students, District employees, and contractors who fail to abide by this policy may be subject to disciplinary action and may be held personally liable for civil or criminal penalties.

This policy shall be included in all student handbooks of the District and shall be disseminated to the public in a manner to be determined by the Administration.

HEALTH SERVICES

In compliance with law, the Board may require students to submit to periodic health examinations to:

- A. protect the school community from the spread of communicable disease;
- B. ensure each student's safe participation in activities and events;
- C. determine that the learning potential of each child is not lessened by a remediable, physical disability.

The administration shall directly notify the parents/guardians of students, at least annually at the beginning of the school year, of the specific or approximate dates during the school year when any non-emergency, invasive physical examination or screening is scheduled or expected to be scheduled for students if the examination or screening is: (1) required as a condition of attendance; (2) administered by the school and scheduled by the school in advance; and (3) not necessary to protect the immediate health and safety of a specific student, or other students.

The term "invasive physical examination" means any medical examination that involves the exposure of private body parts, or any act during such examination that includes incision, insertion, or injection into the body, but does not include a hearing, vision or scoliosis screening.

HOMEBOUND INSTRUCTION PROGRAM

The Board shall provide, pursuant to requirements of the State Board of Education, individual instruction to students of legal school age who are not able to attend

classes because of a physical or emotional disability. Applications for homebound instruction shall be made by a parent, student, or other care giver securing a note from a certified physician which:

- A. certifies the nature and existence of a medical condition;
- B. states the probable duration of the confinement;
- C. requests such instruction;
- D. presents evidence of the student's ability to participate in an educational program.

Applications must be approved by the building administrator. The District shall recommend that the instruction begin within three (3) days from the date of notification for nonspecial-education students. In the case of students under an IEP, the instruction is to begin within fifteen (15) days after notification in order to arrange for a meeting of an I.E.P.C., if necessary. The program of homebound or hospitalized instruction given each student shall be in accordance with regulations of the State Board of Education with such exceptions as may be recommended by the physician. Teachers of homebound special education students shall hold a Michigan teaching certificate appropriate for the level of instruction for which the assignment is made or for the type of instruction called for by an I.E.P.C. Teachers of nondisabled students must hold a valid teaching certificate. The District reserves the right to withhold recommendation for homebound instruction when:

- A. the confinement is expected to last under five days;
- B. the instructor's presence in the place of a student's confinement presents a hazard to the health of the teacher;
- C. a parent or other adult in authority is not at home with the student during the hours of instruction;
- D. the condition of the student is such as to preclude his/her benefit from such instruction.

The Superintendent, or his/her designee, shall develop administrative guidelines for implementing the policy.

HOMEWORK

Homework may occur at any grade level. When homework is assigned, it should be a worthwhile supplement of the course objectives. It should enrich

skills developed in class.

When homework is assigned, it must be meaningful and reviewed or evaluated by the teacher and should not at any time be punitive. Written homework must be returned to the student in a timely manner so that each student may benefit from the homework assignment.

When a teacher considers individual ability differences among pupils, assignments may differ.

INTERROGATION OF STUDENTS BY OUTSIDE AGENCIES

The Board is committed to protecting students from harm that may or may not be directly associated with the school environment but also recognizes its responsibility to cooperate with law enforcement and State's child protection agency.

Such agencies should be encouraged to investigate alleged violations of the law off school property if at all possible. An investigation can take place immediately on school property at the request of the building administrator if the alleged violation of law took place on school property or in emergency situations.

When police or other authorities arrive at the school and wish to interview a student or investigate an alleged violation of law, they must contact the building administrator indicating the nature of their investigation and their desire to question a student or students. Regardless of age, parents/guardians shall be notified if a student is living at home or a dependent of the parent/guardian.

Before the student(s) is (are) questioned as a witness to or suspect in an alleged violation of law, the building administrator shall attempt to contact the parent/guardian prior to questioning. If it is related to school business the building administrator shall remain in the room during the questioning. If the parent/guardian cannot be reached, the questioning cannot occur on school property.

If an agency investigating child abuse/neglect indicates that the parent/guardian or a family member is believed to be the perpetrator, the building administrator will not contact either parent/guardian prior to the interview if so requested by the investigator.

If the student is a witness in a child abuse/neglect investigation in which the witness' parent/guardian is not the believed perpetrator, the building administrator shall contact the parent/guardian prior to questioning. If the parent/guardian cannot be reached, the questioning cannot occur on school property.

All attempts to notify the parents/guardians should be documented.

When an authorized law enforcement officer or child protection agency removes a student, the building administrator shall record the name of the investigator, the public agency involved and the destination of the student if possible. S/He shall notify the Assistant Superintendent for Administrative Services. The parent/guardian will also be notified unless otherwise directed in writing by law enforcement or State's child protection agency.

No school official may release personally identifiable student information in education records to the police or children's services agency without prior written permission of the parent/guardian, a lawfully-issued subpoena, or a court order, unless it is an emergency situation involving the health or safety of the involved student or other students. Proper directory information may be disclosed upon request, unless a parent/guardian has filed a non-disclosure for information, (See Board Policy 8330).

LATE ARRIVAL AND EARLY DISMISSAL

It is necessary that a student be in attendance throughout the school day in order to benefit fully from the educational program of the District; however, the Board also recognizes that from time-to-time compelling circumstances require that a student be late to school or dismissed before the end of the school day.

The building administrator shall require that the school be notified in advance of such absences by written or personal request of the student's parent/guardian, which shall state the reason for the tardiness or early dismissal. Justifiable reasons shall be determined by the building administrator.

If one (1) parent/guardian has been awarded custody of the student by the courts, the parent/guardian of custody shall provide the school with a copy of the custody order and inform the school in writing of any limitations in the rights of the noncustodial parent/guardian. Absent such notice, the school will presume that the student may be released into the care of either parent/guardian.

Students shall only be released to custodial parent(s)/guardian(s), anyone who is authorized by the School Emergency Card, or to a custodial parent's/guardian's designee when given explicit instruction.

NON DISCRIMINATION AND ACCESS TO EQUAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY

The Board does not discriminate on the basis of religion, race, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, disability or age in its programs, activities or employment.

Further, it is the policy of this District to provide an equal opportunity for all students, regardless of gender, sexual orientation, religion, race, color, national origin or ancestry, age, disability, marital status, place of residence within the boundaries of the District, or social or economic status, and/or any other legally protected characteristic, to learn through the curriculum offered in this District.

In order to achieve the aforesaid goal, the Board directs the Superintendent, or his/her designee, to:

- A. Curriculum Content
review current and proposed courses of study and textbooks to detect any bias based on any legally protected interest; ascertaining whether or not supplemental materials, singly or taken as a whole, fairly depict the contribution of both genders, various races, ethnic groups, etc. toward the development of human society;
- B. Staff Training
develop a program of in-service training for school personnel designed to identify and solve problems of any legally protected interest or other bias in all aspects of the program;
- C. Student Access
review current and proposed programs, activities, facilities, and practices to ensure that all students have equal access thereto and are not segregated on the basis of any legally protected interest in any duty, work, play, classroom, or school practice, except as may be permitted under State regulations; This language does not prohibit the District from establishing and maintaining a single-gender school, class, or program within a school if a comparable school, class, or program is made available to students of each gender.
- D. District Support
ensure that like aspects of the District program receive like support as to staff size and compensation, purchase and maintenance of facilities and equipment, access to such facilities and equipment, and related matters;
- E. Student Evaluation
ensure that tests, procedures, or guidance and counseling materials, which are designed to evaluate student progress, rate aptitudes, analyze personality, or in any manner establish or tend to establish a category by which a student may be judged, are not differentiated or stereotyped on the basis of any legally protected interest.

The Superintendent, or his/her designee, shall appoint and publicize the compliance officer whose responsibility it will be to ensure that Federal and State regulations are complied with and that any inquiries or complaints regarding discrimination or equal access are dealt with promptly in accordance with law. S/He shall also ensure that proper notice of nondiscrimination for Title II, Title VI, and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendment Act of 1972, and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 is provided to students, their parents, staff members, and the general public.

The Superintendent, or his/her designee, shall attempt annually to identify children with disabilities, ages 0-25, who reside in the District but do not receive public education.

In addition, s/he shall establish procedures to identify students who are Limited English Proficient (LEP), including immigrant children and youth, to assess their ability to participate in District programs, and develop and administer a program that meets the English language and academic needs of these students. This program shall include procedures for student placement, services, and evaluation and exit guidelines and shall be designed to provide students with effective instruction that leads to academic achievement and timely acquisition of proficiency in English. As a part of this program, the District will evaluate the progress of students in achieving English language proficiency in the areas of listening, speaking, reading and writing, on an annual basis (also see Policy 2225).

The District will endeavor to assist the student and/or his/her parents in their access to District programs.

Materials approved by the State Department of Education describing the benefits of instruction in Braille reading and writing shall be provided to each blind student's individualized planning committee. The District shall not deny a student the opportunity for instruction in Braille, reading, and writing solely because the student has some remaining vision.

The Superintendent, or his/her designee, shall develop administrative guidelines as needed for the proper implementation of this policy.

PARENT INVOLVEMENT IN THE SCHOOL PROGRAM

The Board recognizes and values parents and families as children's first teachers and decision-makers in education. The Board believes that student learning is more likely to occur when there is an effective partnership between the school and the student's parents and family. Such a partnership between the home and school and greater involvement of parents in the education of their children generally result in higher academic achievement, improved student behavior, and reduced absenteeism. The term "families" is used in order to include children's primary caregivers, who are not their biological parents, such as foster caregivers, grandparents, and other family members. Through this policy, the Board directs the establishment of a Parental Involvement Plan by which a school-partnership can be established and provided to the families of each child in the District. The plan shall follow all federal and state requirements for working with parents/guardians of special populations. The plan must encompass parent participation, through meetings and other forms of communication. Therefore, the Parental Involvement Plan includes the following:

- A. Relationships with Families
 - cultivating school environments that are welcoming, supportive, and student-centered;
 - providing professional development for school staff that helps build partnerships between families and schools;
- B. Effective Communication
 - providing information to families to support the proper health, safety, and well-being of their children;
 - providing information to families about school policies, procedures, programs, and activities;
 - promoting regular and open communication between school personnel and students' family members;
 - communicating with families in a format and language that is understandable, to the extent practicable;
 - providing information and involving families in monitoring student progress;
 - providing families with timely and meaningful information regarding Michigan's academic standards, state and local assessments, and pertinent legal provisions;
 - making available a description and explanation of the curriculum in use at the district/school, the form of assessment used to measure student progress and the achievement expectations of students;

- providing a copy of the parent/student handbook;
- arranging flexible scheduled parent/teacher conferences and parent/guardian requested conferences;
- publishing district and school newsletters, via electronic and/or hard copies, that provide important school information and include positive invitations to parents/guardians to participate in various school activities;
- informing parents about the building Shared Involvement Process Teams, and how to access the school and district annual reports;
- using on-line grading and reporting systems to inform parents/guardians of various assignments and activities;
- convening annual parent curriculum nights where an overview of the grade level/course curriculum and achievement expectations are shared;
- providing the school and district annual reports that meet all of the requirements of the State of Michigan. The reports will be posted on the district website and hard copies made available when requested;
- providing other reasonable support for parent involvement at parents' requests and responding to suggestions and comments as soon as practicably possible.

C. Parent Involvement Opportunities

- providing volunteer opportunities for families to support their children's school activities;
- helping families to provide a school and home environment that encourages learning and extends learning at home, including the following:
 - o participating in school functions, organizations and committees;
 - o supporting the teachers and the schools in maintaining discipline and a safe and orderly learning environment;
 - o expecting their child to observe all school rules and regulations;
 - o supporting or enforcing consequences for their child's willful misbehavior in school;
 - o sending their children to school with proper attention to his/her health, personal cleanliness, and dress;
 - o taking an active interest in their child's daily work, monitoring and making it possible for him/her to complete assigned homework by providing a quiet place and suitable conditions for study;
 - o reading all communications from the school, signing, and returning them promptly when required;
 - o working with the school in attending conferences set up for exchange of information of their child's progress in school.

D. Involving Families in Decision Making and Advocacy

- encouraging the participation as partners in the process of school review and continuous improvement planning, through participating:
 - o as members of the building level Shared Involvement Process Teams
 - o as members of hiring committees
 - o as members of the NCA Steering Committees
 - o by completing Shared Involvement Process feedback forms and surveys

F. Collaborating with the Community

- building constructive partnerships and connecting families with community-based programs and other community resources;
- coordinating and integrating family involvement programs and activities with District initiatives and community-based programs that encourage and support families' participation in their children's education, growth, and development (i.e., community recreation, community based sports organizations, community sponsored events, etc...).

Implementation

The expectations above will allow the Superintendent, or his/her designee, to provide for a comprehensive plan to engage parents, families, and community members in a partnership in support of each student's academic achievement, the District's continuous improvement, and individual school improvement plans. This plan will be distributed to all parents and students through publication in the Student Handbook or other suitable means. The Shared involvement Process teams will help in evaluating the effectiveness of the plan annually, and provide suggestions for ongoing improvement.

PHYSICAL ASSAULT OR THREAT VERBAL

Assaults Committed Against School Personnel

A. **Physical Assaults**

Physical assaults as defined by MCL 380.1310(3) (B), which are committed against a District employee or a person engaged as a volunteer or contractor for the District on school property, on a school bus or other school related vehicle or at a school-sponsored activity or event shall be handled by the building administrator in accordance with the Code of Conduct.

If the student is expelled for the physical assault, the parent/guardian may locate a suitable educational program and enroll the student in the program during the expulsion period. A list of such programs is available from the Michigan Department of Education Office of Safer Schools. Enrollment in other Michigan public schools is prohibited.

B. **Verbal Assaults**

Verbal assaults committed against a District employee or a person engaged as a volunteer or contractor on school property, while on a school bus or other school related vehicle or at a school sponsored activity or event shall be handled by the building administrator in accordance with the Code of Conduct. The student may be enrolled in another district at the enrolling district's discretion.

Assaults Committed Against Other Students

Physical assaults committed against other students shall be handled by the building administrator in accordance with the Code of Conduct.

Definitions

"Physical assault," as defined by MCL 380.1310(3) (B), means intentionally causing or attempting to cause physical harm to another through force or violence.

"Verbal assault" is defined as any willful spoken or written threat to inflict physical injury on another person, under circumstances which creates a reasonable fear of imminent injury, coupled with the apparent ability to inflict injury. "Verbal assault" also includes the making of a bomb threat and/or any other serious threat to school property and/or activities.

Reporting of Student Assaults

All reports mandated by law will be fulfilled.

Any student who is expelled under this policy shall be referred to the appropriate County Department of Social Services or Count Community Mental Health Agency. The student's parent/guardian or the emancipated student shall be notified of the referral.

Reinstatement

The parent/legal guardian of a student who was permanently expelled for physical assault, or an emancipated, permanently expelled student may petition the Board for reinstatement. The petition for reinstatement may be initiated after 150 school days and the Board may reinstate after 180 school days.

Summary of Rules for Expelled Students

- A. The expelled student may not be on school property at any time.
- B. The expelled student may not attend any South Lyon Community School event, whether it is held at South Lyon Community Schools or another school district's property or venue. This includes athletic events, performances, extracurricular activities and co-curricular activities.
- C. The expelled student may not attend a non-school sponsored event that takes place on school property. The expelled student may attend non-school sponsored events if they are scheduled off school property.
- D. If there are special circumstances, requests for written approval may be made to the Superintendent or his/her designee.

Application to Students with Disabilities

This policy does not diminish the due process rights under Federal law of a student who has been determined to be eligible for special education programs and services.

PUBLIC ATTENDANCE AT SCHOOL EVENTS

The Board welcomes the attendance of members of the community at public events held by the schools in the District. The Board also has the duty to maintain order and maintain the quality of its facilities.

The Board holds the legal authority to bar the attendance of or remove any person whose conduct may constitute a disruption at a school event. School administrators have the authority to call law enforcement officials if a person violates regulations or does not leave school property when requested.

If a student or adult is asked to leave or is removed from a school event, no admission fees shall be refunded.

The Board prohibits the possession, consumption, or distribution of alcoholic beverages, tobacco, or other controlled substances at any function sponsored by the District or at any function occurring on District premises.

Service animals used by persons requiring this type of assistance shall be permitted in all District facilities and at all school events. The person may be asked to provide evidence of the animal's certification for that purpose.

Any person or organization seeking to film students or a school activity which is not a public event shall obtain prior permission from the Assistant Superintendent for Administrative Services.

HARASSMENT OF STUDENTS, OTHER THAN SEX-BASED HARASSMENT

Harassment of students is prohibited. This includes inappropriate conduct by other students as well as any other person in the school environment, including employees, Board members, parents, guests, contractors, vendors and volunteers. It is the policy of the District to provide a safe educational environment for all of its students. This policy applies to all activities on school property and to all school sponsored activities whether on or off school property.

Harassment is defined as inappropriate conduct that is repeated enough, or serious enough, to negatively impact a student's educational, physical or emotional well-being. This would include harassment based on any of the legally protected characteristics, such as disability, religion, race, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, height, and weight.

The following definitions are provided for guidance only.

Harassment

- A. submission to such unwelcomed conduct or communication is made either an explicit or implicit condition of utilizing or benefiting from the services, activities, or programs of the School District;
- B. submission to, or rejection of, the unwelcomed conduct or communication is used as the basis for a decision to exclude, expel, or limit the harassed student in the terms, conditions, or privileges of the School District;
- C. the unwelcomed conduct or communication interferes with the student's education, creates an intimidating, hostile or offensive environment, or otherwise adversely affects the student's educational opportunities. This may include racial slurs, mocking behavior, or other demeaning comments.

Sexual Harassment may include, but is not limited to:

- A. verbal harassment or abuse;
- B. pressure for sexual activity;
- C. repeated remarks with sexual or demeaning implications;
- D. unwelcome touching;
- E. sexual jokes, posters, cartoons, etc.;

F. suggesting or demanding sexual involvement, accompanied by implied or explicit threats concerning one's grades, safety, job, or performance of public duties.

See Policy 3363/5518 for Sex-Based Harassment.

Note: Any administrator, teacher, coach, other school authority who engages in sexual or other inappropriate physical contact with a student may be guilty of criminal "child abuse" as defined in State law. M. C. L. A. 722.621 et. seq.

Harassment through any means, including electronically transmitted methods (e.g., internet, telephone or cell phone, personal digital assistant (PDA), computer or wireless hand held device), may be subject to District disciplinary procedures. Such behavior is considered harassment whether it takes place on or off school property, at any school-sponsored function, or in a school vehicle if it is considered to have a negative impact on the school environment.

Any student that believes s/he has been or is the victim of harassment should immediately report the situation.

Every student, whether victim or not, should and every staff member **must** report any situation that they believe to be improper harassment of a student.

The Administration will develop procedures to implement this policy, including staff development and student awareness programs, procedures for reporting harassment, for investigating complaints, for disciplining of those who are found to have violated this policy and for documenting the complaint, the investigation and the results of the investigation.

If the investigation finds harassment occurred it will result in prompt and appropriate remedial action. This may include police involvement and disciplinary hearing for students; up to discharge for employee; exclusion for parents, guests, volunteers and contractors; and removal from any officer position and/or a request to resign for Board members.

Retaliation against any person for complaining about harassment, or participating in a harassment investigation, is prohibited. Suspected retaliation should be reported in the same manner as harassment. Intentionally false harassment reports, made to get someone in trouble, are also prohibited. Retaliation and intentionally false reports may result in disciplinary action as indicated above.

Confidentiality

To the extent appropriate and/or legally permitted, confidentiality will be maintained during the investigation process. However, a proper investigation will, in some circumstances, require the disclosure of names and allegations.

Notification

Notice of this policy will be annually circulated to all school buildings and departments within the District and discussed with students, as well as incorporated into the teacher, student and parent/guardian handbooks. State and Federal rights posters on discrimination and harassment based upon disability, religion, race, color, nation origin, sex, sexual orientation, height, weight, or generally in violation of any State or Federal law prohibiting discrimination shall also be posted at each building. All new hires of the District will be required to review and sign off on this policy.

Titles VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 42 U.S.C. 2000d et seq. 42 U.S.C. 2000e et seq.

Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972, 20 U.S.C. 1681 et seq.

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 29 U.S.C. 794

The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, 42 U.S.C. 12101 et seq.

The Handicappers' Civil Rights Act, M.C.L.A. 37.1101 et seq.

The Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act, M.C.L.A. 37.2101, et seq.

Child Protection Act, M.C.L.A. 722.621 et seq.

Policies on Bullying, Michigan State Board of Education, 7-19-01

Model Anti-Bullying Policy, Michigan State Board of Education, 09-2006

SCHOOL SAFETY REPORTING

Michigan law establishes a "Student Safety Zone" that extends 1,000 feet from the boundary of any school property in relation to weapons, drugs and registered sex offenders. Individuals are prohibited from engaging in these activities at any time on District property, within the Student Safety Zone, or at any District related event.

The Assistant Superintendent for Administrative Services will develop administrative guidelines for the State required school safety reporting.

SCHOOL SPONSORED EVENTS

The Board recognizes the value of school sponsored events in enhancing and enriching the educational experience for the children of this community.

The District will make school facilities available per Policy 9250 - Community Use of District Physical Resources.

School sponsored events which take place outside school facilities must be approved by the Building Principal.

All students at school sponsored events, whether participants or spectators, shall be held responsible with the rules set forth for their conduct, and infractions of those rules will be subject to the same disciplinary measures applicable during the regular school program. The District endorses the MHSAA Sportsmanship Expectations and all students shall be expected to comply with these guidelines. All student participants are further expected to comply with the extracurricular code of conduct.

In order to ensure that students attending as nonparticipants are properly safe-guarded, the Board recommends that all elementary and middle school students be accompanied by a parent/guardian or adult chaperone when they arrive at the event and throughout its duration, unless otherwise noted. The Board will not be responsible for students if they attend without an adult chaperone.

The District will provide supervision for students who are participants in District-sponsored events.

Participation in school sponsored events is a privilege and may be denied to any student who has demonstrated disregard for the rules of the school.

SCHOOL VISITORS

The Board welcomes and encourages visits to school by parents and other adult residents of the community who are interested in education and others who have legitimate business in the school. However, in order for the educational program to continue undisturbed when visitors are present, and to prevent the intrusion of disruptive persons into the schools, it is necessary to establish visitor guidelines.

All visitors must report to the office to register.

The building administrator shall establish procedures to identify and authorize building access to adults. All visitors shall function in a positive manner in accordance with district and/or building guidelines.

The Superintendent and/or a building administrator or other authorized individual has the authority to prohibit the entry of any person to a school or other district owned property or to require the exit of any person when there is reason to believe the presence of such person would be detrimental to the educational process or keeping order in the school. If such an individual refuses to leave the school grounds or creates a disturbance, the building administrator is authorized to request from the local law enforcement agency whatever assistance is required to remove the individual.

Failure to follow these guidelines may result in limits being placed on the individual's access to school facilities.

The District strictly enforces the Michigan law which establishes a "Student Safety Zone" that extends school boundaries 1,000 feet from beyond school property and prohibits weapons, drugs and registered sex offenders on site and at school related events. The District prohibits volunteers working with students from engaging in "open carry" at school or school-related activities.

Parents/guardians who desire to visit classrooms must follow Policy 9145, Curriculum Involvement Rights of Parents and Legal Guardians.

SEARCHES

To maintain order and discipline in the schools and to protect the safety and welfare of students and school personnel, school officials may search a student under the circumstances outlined below and may seize any illegal, contraband or unauthorized material discovered in the search. Students are subject to searches while on school property, as well as at any school-sponsored activity or event, regardless of its location. All searches shall be conducted by the building administrator, or designee, with a second adult employee present. A student's failure to comply with any search request, as provided by this policy will be considered grounds for disciplinary action.

Student Searches

Student lockers and desks are school property and remain at all times under the control of the South Lyon Community Schools; however, students are expected to assume full responsibility for the security of their lockers and desks. Students should not expect privacy for items placed in school property because school property is subject to search at any time by school officials. Periodic general searches of lockers and desks may be conducted by school officials for any reason, at any time without notice, without consent, and without a search warrant.

A student's person and/or personal effects (e.g., purse, book bag, or athletic bag) may be searched whenever a school official has reason to suspect that the student is in possession of illegal, contraband or unauthorized materials. If a search yields illegal, contraband, or unauthorized materials, such findings shall be turned over to proper legal authorities for ultimate disposition.

Only in exceptional circumstances when the health, safety or welfare of the student or of others is immediately threatened, search of a student's person shall be conducted by a person of the student's gender in the presence of another staff member. A search prompted by the reasonable suspicion that health or safety is immediately threatened will be conducted with as much speed and dispatch as may be required to protect persons or property.

Parents/Guardians of students who are searched will be notified that a search has been conducted. Items confiscated during a search may remain in the possession of school personnel, delivered to proper legal authorities for ultimate disposition, or returned to the student or the parent/guardian at the discretion of the building administrator.

Vehicles

Students are permitted to park on school premises as a matter of privilege, not of right. South Lyon Community Schools retains its authority to conduct routine patrols of school parking lots and inspections of the exteriors of student vehicles parked on school property. Such patrols and inspections may be conducted without notice, without student consent, and without a search warrant. The interior of student vehicles may be searched whenever a school official has reason to suspect that illegal, contraband or unauthorized materials are contained inside. At the request of a district administrator, the student shall consent to unlocking and opening the vehicle, and permitting the administrator and/or designee to search the vehicle and its contents while parked on school premises. If a search yields illegal or contraband materials, such findings shall be turned over to proper legal authorities for ultimate disposition.

Canine Searches

The Board also authorizes the use of canines trained in detecting the presence of drugs or devices. Canine detection must be conducted in collaboration with law enforcement or other appropriately certified entities.

STUDENT ASSESSMENT

The Board will be in compliance with laws and rules of the State Board of Education in regards to student achievement and assessment. Each student's proficiencies and needs will be continually assessed by staff members. Assessments will include, but need not be limited to, teacher observation techniques, cumulative student records, and student performance data collected through standard State and District assessments. The Superintendent or his/her designee shall develop a program of testing and assessment that includes:

- A. selection of assessment instruments, data, and other District criteria that will be used to assess educational achievement of each student grades K-12;
- B. the Michigan Education Assessment Program (for grades 3-9) and the Michigan Merit Examination (or other readiness assessment program approved by the State Superintendent) administered each year in accordance with the schedule established by statute and the State Department of Education.

The purpose of the Michigan Education Assessment Program and the Michigan Merit Examination (MME) is to assess student performance in mathematics, science, social studies, reading, and English language arts for the purpose of improving academic achievement and establishing a statewide standard of competency. All eleventh grade students shall participate in the Michigan Merit Examination, unless excluded under the guidelines established by the State Department of Education.

This examination is required for graduation. Staff members are expected to comply with guidelines and standards for administering District and State assessments

STUDENT DISTRIBUTION OF OUTSIDE MATERIAL

Students of the South Lyon Community Schools have the right to exercise their freedom of speech as protected by the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. Recognizing this right, as well as the special characteristics of the school environment, the Board adopts this policy to establish standards to regulate a student's distribution of outside material on District property. Permission to distribute outside material does not imply approval of the material's content by the District or its representatives.

Time, Place and Manner Restrictions

- A. Without regard to content, all student distribution of any outside material shall be limited to a time, place and manner which does not disrupt any school activity, impede the safe flow of traffic within school corridors and/or entranceways or create litter from indiscriminate discarding of the material.
- B. Building administrators shall draft proposed administrative guidelines for the time, place and manner regulation of those school properties for which they have direct oversight. Those administrative guidelines shall be approved by the Administration. Upon approval, the guidelines shall be annually distributed to the building's students.

Review Procedure

- A. Students seeking to distribute outside material on District property shall submit a copy of the material to the principal for review and written approval before distribution, together with a completed review form which requires the following information:
 1. Name(s) of person(s) responsible for the distribution of the material.
 2. Brief description of the material.
 3. Date(s), time(s), and locations of intended distribution, as permitted by the time, place and manner restrictions for the affected school property.
 4. Grade level(s) of students to whom the distribution is intended.
- B. The publication must contain the name(s) of person(s) or group(s) (whose membership is recognized by the school) distributing the material.
- C. The principal shall respond to the distribution request as soon as practicable but no later than two (2) school days after receipt by the principal. The basis for any denial shall be identified.
- D. If the distribution request is denied, the student may either:
 1. Modify the material to conform to the standards identified in the basis for denial and resubmit the material to the principal; or
 2. Appeal the denial to the Assistant Superintendent/CITA.
- E. As applicable, the principal shall respond to the resubmission or the Assistant Superintendent/CITA shall respond to the appeal no later than two (2) school days after receipt by the principal or Assistant Superintendent/CITA.
- F. At every level of the review process, the student submitting the distribution request has the right to meet with the designated administrator and present the reasons, supported by relevant witnesses and documentation, as to why distribution of the material is appropriate.
- G. Distribution of any outside material without prior administrative approval shall be subject to appropriate discipline under the Student Code of Conduct.
- H. A form to facilitate the administrative review and appeal process shall be made available to students.

Content-Based Restrictions

Subject to reasonable time, place and manner restrictions, students may distribute outside materials on District property only after obtaining administrative approval as outlined in the "Review Procedure" section of this policy. Administrative approval for a student to distribute outside material on District property shall not be granted for material which is:

- A. Predicted to materially and substantially disrupt or interfere with the work or discipline of the school.
 1. For material to be considered disruptive, the likelihood of disruption must be reasonably forecast. Undifferentiated fear or apprehension of disturbance is not enough.
 2. Consideration must be given to the context of the distribution as well as the content of the material, including past experience in the school, current events influencing student attitudes or behavior or instances of actual or threatened

disruption relating to the material at issue.

- B. Obscene to minors if the average person, applying contemporary adult community standards, would find that the material:
 - 1. Appeals to the prurient interest of minors of the age to whom distribution is requested;
 - 2. Depicts or describes sexual conduct, lewd behavior or excretory functions in a manner that is patently offensive to prevailing standards in the adult community concerning what is suitable for minors of the age to whom distribution is requested.
 - 3. Considered as a whole, lacks serious literary, artistic, political, educational and/or scientific value for minors of the age to whom distribution is requested.
- C. Defamatory, *i.e.*, containing an unprivileged and false statement of fact which injures an individual's or entity's reputation.
 - 1. Certain statements of fact about a public official, a public figure or a matter of public interest may be "privileged" unless the author either knew that the statement was false or published the statement with a reckless disregard for the truth.
 - 2. A "public official" is a person who holds an elected or appointed public office and exercises a significant amount of governmental authority, while a "public figure" is a person who either has sought the public's attention or is well known because of personal achievements or actions.
 - 3. For purposes of this policy, a SLCS student or parent/guardian shall not be considered a public official or public figure.
- D. Indecent, vulgar or grossly offensive to a reasonable person.
- E. Constitutes an invasion of the rights of others.

Definitions

Distribution means any circulation or dissemination of outside material to students in areas of the school which are generally frequented by students during normal school activity or immediately before or after such activity, by means of handing out or displaying the material, subject to the building's time, place, and manner restrictions.

Outside Material means written matter, which is not sponsored or officially endorsed by the District, and which is intended for general distribution, *e.g.*, newspapers, newsletters, leaflets or magazines.

School Day means a day in which school is in session for students.

Policy Dissemination

This policy and the building's time, place and manner restrictions shall be incorporated in all middle school and high school student handbooks. An age-appropriate summary of this policy shall be included in all elementary school student handbooks. The District's central administrative office and school building offices shall make copies of this policy available upon request.

STUDENT HAZING

The Board believes that hazing activities of any type are inconsistent with the educational process and prohibits all such activities at any time in school facilities, on school property, and at any District-sponsored event.

Hazing shall be defined for purposes of this policy as performing any act or coercing another, including the victim, to perform any act of initiation into any class, group, or organization that causes or creates a risk of causing mental, emotional, or physical harm. Permission, consent, or assumption of risk by an individual subjected to hazing shall not lessen the prohibitions contained in this policy.

Hazing involves conduct such as but not limited to:

- A. illegal activity, such as drinking or drugs;
- B. physical punishment or infliction of pain;
- C. intentional humiliation or embarrassment;
- D. dangerous activity;
- E. activity likely to cause mental or psychological stress;
- F. forced detention or kidnapping;
- G. undressing or otherwise exposing initiates.

All District and contract employees shall be alert particularly to possible situations, circumstances, or events which might include hazing. If hazing or planned hazing is discovered, the students involved shall be informed by the discoverer of the prohibitions contained in this policy and shall be ordered to end all hazing activities or planned activities immediately. All hazing incidents shall be reported immediately to the building principal. Students, District employees, and contractors who fail to abide by this policy may be subject to disciplinary action and may be held personally liable for civil or criminal penalties.

This policy shall be included in all student handbooks of the District and shall be disseminated to the public in a manner to be determined by the Administration.

STUDENT PUBLICATIONS AND PRODUCTIONS

The Board may sponsor student publications and productions as a means for students to learn, under adult direction, the rights and responsibilities of the press in a free society.

For purposes of this policy, "publications" shall include any audio, visual, or written materials such as tapes, banners, films, pamphlets, notices, newspapers, books, web pages, internet productions, or other like materials. "Productions" shall include theatrical performances as well as impromptu dramatic presentations, radio/television productions, and any electronic media presentations which represent the School District and the student's work within the District.

Advertising is permitted in school newspapers, yearbooks, programs, etc. which are published by student organizations. Permission should be given by the building principal or designee.

The Board reserves the right to designate and prohibit the distribution of publications and productions which are not protected by the right of free expression because they violate the rights of others. Such unprotected materials are those which:

- A. are grossly prejudicial to an ethnic, religious, racial, or other delineated group;
- B. libel any specific person or persons;
- C. seek to establish the supremacy of a particular religious denomination, sect, or point of view over any other religious denomination, sect, or point of view;
- D. advocate the use or advertise the availability of any substance or material which may reasonably be believed to:
 - 1. constitute a direct and substantial danger to the health of students;
 - 2. contain obscenity or material otherwise deemed to be harmful to students who may receive them;
 - 3. incite violence, advocate the use of force, or urge the violation of law or school regulations.

The Board also prohibits publications and productions which:

- A. fail to identify the student or organization responsible for distribution;
- B. solicit funds for nonschool organizations or institutions when such solicitations have not been approved by the Board;
- C. promote, favor, or oppose any candidate for election to the Board or the adoption of any bond issue, proposal, or question submitted at any election.

The final decision to prohibit any article, advertisement, publication, production, etc., shall rest with the building principal.

STUDENT RECORDS

Student educational records are confidential and information from them shall not be released except as provided by law. The District may release certain directory information in accordance with the law. Directory information may be released without parental/guardian or eligible student consent, if public notice of the categories of information designated as directory information has been given and provided parent(s)/guardian(s) or eligible students are given the opportunity to request non-disclosure, in writing, within a specified reasonable time.

Specifically exempt from disclosure is directory information requested for the purpose of surveys, marketing or solicitation, unless the District determines that such use is consistent with its educational mission and beneficial to the affected students.

However, armed forces recruiting representatives and service academy recruiters are entitled under the law to receive directory information that includes the student's name, address and telephone number (if listed). Armed forces recruiting representatives and service academy recruiters can only use that data to provide information to students concerning educational and career opportunities available in the U.S. Armed Forces or service academies. High school students and their parents/guardians may prevent disclosure of a student's name, address and telephone number to military recruiting representatives by submitting a signed written request to that effect to the high school principal.

Directory information is defined by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) as information contained in a student's record "that would not generally be considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if disclosed."

- A. The following student data is considered to be "directory information," and it may be disclosed without prior written consent, providing the above conditions have been met:
 - 1. student's name
 - 2. names of the student's parent(s)/guardian(s)
 - 3. student's address
 - 4. student's date of birth
 - 5. student's class designation
 - 6. student's extracurricular participation
 - 7. student's achievement awards or honors - not scholastic grades
 - 8. student's weight and height, if a member of an athletic team
 - 9. student's photograph
- B. Parents of students, eligible students and persons representing the parents may inspect and review the student's education records upon request.
- C. Parents and students must be informed of the types of records maintained by the District as well as their location. Administrators responsible for these records should be identified.
- D. The District will only release information from, or permit access to, a student's education record with a parent or eligible student's prior written consent, with the following exceptions: records may be released by a person designated by the Superintendent as permitted by law or by court orders for student record disclosure procured by an Assistant U.S. Attorney General or higher-ranking government official.
- E. School officials will have access to student education records for legitimate educational purposes. A school official is defined as an administrator, teacher, temporary supervisor or instructional substitute, public health nurse, secretary, auditor, youth protective worker or any individual who has a legitimate educational interest in doing so.
- F. Parents and eligible students shall be informed annually of their rights under the law as well as the locations where copies of the student records policy may be obtained.
- G. The District may charge a fee for copies of the student's education records.
- H. A parent or an eligible student who believes that information contained in the education records of the student is inaccurate or misleading or violates the privacy or other rights of the student, may request the appropriate record custodian to amend the

- records.
- I. The District shall protect the confidentiality of personally identifiable information at the collection, storage, disclosure and destruction stages.
 - J. The rights of parents regarding educational records are transferred to the student at age eighteen (18) in accordance with the provisions of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA).

STUDENT SECLUSION AND RESTRAINT

Professional staff members may need to restrain and seclude students under certain emergency circumstances. This must be done only if students pose a threat to themselves or others.

All such intervention shall only be done in accordance with guidelines developed by the Director of Student Services, which shall be based on the Standards adopted by the State Board of Education regarding the use of student restraint and seclusion.

Training will be provided to professional staff and the support staff determined appropriate by the Assistant Superintendent for Administrative Services. Training will be in accordance with the State's Standards.

STUDENT USE OF LEARNING MATERIALS

Textbooks, equipment, and learning materials will be provided for the use of students.

Parents/Guardians, or students over the age of 18, will be responsible to pay for damaged and/or lost equipment and materials. The Superintendent, or his/her designee, will have the responsibility to so inform the parents/guardians, or students over the age of 18, of their responsibility in case of lost or damaged materials and equipment.

TEACHER SUSPENSION RIGHTS

A teacher is authorized to immediately remove and suspend a student from a class, subject, or activity for up to one (1) school day when the teacher has good reason to believe and can support and document that the student's behavior poses a clear and present danger to self or others.

For all other conduct, including conduct which would result in an automatic suspension or expulsion under the code of conduct, the teacher must handle the matter in accordance with the standard disciplinary process used in the school building. The teacher may also elect to disregard the teacher suspension rights provided in this policy and remove the student from class in accordance with the standard disciplinary process used in the school building.

A student receiving a teacher-imposed suspension shall not return to the class, subject or activity for the rest of that school day from the time of the student infraction, unless permitted by concurrence of both the teacher and the principal or designee.

At the discretion of the principal or designee, the student receiving a teacher-imposed suspension from a class, subject or activity may be permitted to attend other classes, subjects or activities if the student's conduct does not otherwise qualify for a multiple day suspension or expulsion in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct.

If the student remains at school, the student shall be appropriately supervised while suspended from the class, subject or activity.

All teacher-imposed suspensions shall be applied in a manner consistent with applicable student discipline procedures, as well as all Federal and State laws for students determined to be eligible for special education programs/services or reasonable accommodation of their disability.

This policy does not diminish the due process rights under Federal law of a student who has been determined to be eligible for special education programs and services.

Procedural Requirements

- A. Prior to imposing a suspension, the teacher must first specifically warn the student that if the conduct continues, the teacher will suspend the student from the class, subject or activity for the day.
- B. If the teacher imposes a suspension as defined and allowed in this policy, the teacher shall immediately report the suspension and the reason for the suspension to the principal or designee for appropriate action. This immediate report may be made verbally or on the District's *Classroom Suspension Form*.
- C. A teacher, who imposes a suspension from a class, subject or activity, shall complete the District's *Classroom Suspension Form* by the end of that school day.
- D. If the appropriate administrative action under the Code of Conduct requires the student's continued presence in the school, the student shall be under appropriate supervision.
- E. During the teacher-imposed suspension, the student shall not be returned that day to the class, subject or activity from which s/he was suspended without the concurrence of the principal and the teacher of the class, subject or activity.
- F. As soon as possible after the suspension, but not later than the next school day, the teacher shall ask the student's parent/guardian to attend a parent-teacher conference regarding the suspension.
 1. A school administrator shall attend the meeting if requested by the teacher or parent/guardian.
 2. The teacher shall contact a school counselor, school psychologist, or school social worker who shall attend the conference whenever practicable.
- G. The parent-teacher conference must be scheduled during the teacher's non-instructional time.
- H. A parent-teacher conference must be held before the teacher can suspend the student again for classroom conduct.
- I. The teacher must report the outcome of the parent teacher conference to the principal in writing.
- J. A record of the teacher-imposed suspension will be kept.

- K. A school principal, at his/her discretion, may revoke an individual teacher's right to suspend students.
- L. This policy is included in the student code of conduct.

Definitions

Class, Subject or Activity: At the elementary level, "class" is defined to mean any time during which the student is assigned to the regular classroom teacher who imposed the suspension. "Subject" is defined as music, art or physical education. "Activity" is defined as recess. At the middle school and high school, "class" and "subject" are interchangeable and refer to the period of time during which the student is assigned to the teacher imposing the suspension. There is no "activity" during the school day from which a middle school or high school teacher may suspend a student.

As Soon As Possible after a Suspension: The action must be taken not later than the next day following the suspension.

Teacher: The authority for teacher-imposed suspensions is limited to teachers under contract with the South Lyon Community Schools. All other teachers are not authorized to utilize the teacher-imposed suspension procedure and must refer student discipline matters to the principal or designee. Guest teachers may not suspend students from a class, subject or activity.

TRANSPORTATION

The purpose of this transportation policy is to provide guidelines governing the transportation of students of the South Lyon School District to and from school and school sponsored events.

The safety of all students in South Lyon Schools is of prime concern to the Transportation Department and its personnel. It is important that uniform policies be established for all and that students and parents be aware of such policies.

It is the policy of the Board to provide transportation to and from school for those students whose distance from their school of assignment makes this service necessary, within the limitations established by the State Law and the regulations of the State Superintendent of Instruction. Such laws and rules shall govern any questions not covered by this policy.

Secondary (6-12) students who live one and one-half (1 1/2) miles or more from the school which they attend shall be eligible to be transported to school. Elementary (K-5) students who live one (1) mile or more from school shall be eligible to be transported. Under normal conditions elementary students shall be expected to walk up to one-half (1/2) mile and secondary students up to one (1) mile to a bus stop. Walking distance is the linear measure of the shortest prescribed or authorized pedestrian route from a point at the curb or edge of a public road nearest the student's home to the bus stop or to the entrance of the school property closest to the student's home. Exceptions to these distances may be made if conditions warrant. The following is a list of factors which may be considered, when such an exception is under study:

- A. sidewalks
- B. traffic count
- C. posted speed limit
- D. visibility
- E. road shoulders

This list is not meant to be all inclusive, but is rather meant to serve as examples.

Bus routes and stops shall be planned to achieve maximum economy of operation with reasonable safety. School buses will travel over public roads; however, exceptions may be made if conditions warrant. Requests for transportation on private roads must be in writing to the Director of Operations who has the final say, must cite a compelling need for service and must show eligibility for transportation under this Board policy. The following is a list of factors which may be considered when such an exception is requested:

- A. the private road must be built to county specifications
- B. the presence of dead-ends or cul-de-sacs
- C. the condition and maintenance of the private road
- D. the number of students on the road who need transportation
- E. the absence of a legal and appropriate stop on a public road which could serve the students
- F. the impact that traveling on the private road would have on the length of time students spend on the bus
- G. the efficient use of personnel and equipment
- H. the District is provided a waiver of liability for damage to the road and/or private property caused by the bus. Private roads on which District buses currently travel have been grandfathered.

The Transportation Department reserves the right to re-evaluate all routes at least annually, and make changes as necessary. In addition, the Transportation Department reserves the right to eliminate travel on private roads at any time when there are compelling safety or other issues which make it prudent to do so.

School buses shall be purchased, housed and maintained by the District for the transportation of resident students between their home areas and school which is in the boundary to which they are assigned. Transportation of eligible vocational or special education children between their home areas and schools outside the District shall be arranged through the use of District-owned vehicles, through cooperation with other districts, through commercial carriers or by other means in the most efficient and economical manner.

Student transportation shall be considered a privilege to be enjoyed by a student as long as s/he accepts responsibility for his/her own conduct, carefully follows all rules and regulations and positively responds to the directions and requests of the bus driver. This privilege may be suspended or revoked if the student's conduct is in violation of the Code of Conduct pertaining to student transportation.

All such rules shall be published in the student handbook and copies given to students at the beginning of the school year.

The district will comply with the State law on regulating the transporting of large unsecure objects in district vehicles.

The Board authorizes the Transportation Department to install and operate video cameras on District buses to enhance student safety and well-being. Administration shall establish appropriate administrative guidelines for the proper use of the cameras.

The safety and conduct of the students at a bus stop is the responsibility of the parents.

Each student entitled to transportation will be assigned a specific bus route and bus stop, which will be the same for the entire year, unless altered by the Transportation Supervisor. No student will be permitted to use any other route or stop without permission from the Transportation Department. No request will be approved for the purpose of entertainment or for the simple convenience of the parent or student. Emergency requests will be considered.

The Transportation Department is not responsible to transport students in the Schools of Choice program. Students who have chosen the Schools of Choice program, for day care reasons, may be provided transportation only within that school boundary to and from one location (bus stop), providing space is available on the bus.

Transportation may be provided for students being day cared within his/her home address school boundary, to and from one location (bus stop) only, providing space is available on the bus.

The Board reserves the right to terminate transportation based on financial, legal, or other considerations.

Transportation for Field and Other District-Sponsored Trips

Transportation may be limited by the availability of vehicles, drivers and scheduling and will not be available when needed for general school purposes.

All field trips shall be supervised by members of the staff. All other District-sponsored trips shall be supervised by either staff members, contracted employees, or adults from the sponsoring organization. Any time students are in the district's vehicle at least one (1) sponsor, chaperone or staff member is expected to ride in the vehicle to supervise students on the bus as well as upon return to the District while students are waiting for rides home.

Students being transported in school vehicles on school sponsored events will be expected to comply with the Student Code of Conduct and all verbal, written and posted bus rules.

USE OF DISTRICT AND PERSONAL ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION DEVICES

South Lyon Community Schools recognizes that electronic communication devices (ECD) serve several important functions in our society, including the enhancement of instruction. In consideration of the beneficial value and also the potential for misuse of these devices, this policy has been developed to balance the integrity and instructional quality of our classrooms with the age and maturity levels of our students.

Student/Parent Handbooks will include rules for district and personal ECD use and consequences for misuse. This shall include, but not be limited to the following:

- A. ECD may not be used during instructional time without staff permission. Violations will result in confiscation and parent/guardian notification.
- B. ECD may not be used to violate the privacy of others or to send or receive personal messages, data, images or information that would contribute to or constitute cheating on tests or examinations. Violations will be addressed as outlined in the student handbook.
- C. The use of ECD to take photographs of or otherwise record individuals without the consent of the person entitled to privacy not only is a violation of this policy, but is also a violation of State law, and thus a crime.
- D. Possessing, sharing, and/or distributing an inappropriate photograph or caricature of any student or staff member, via cell phone, digital camera, or other electronic or personal communication device, on school property or during any school function or event is a disruption to the educational process. Possession, sharing and/or distribution is disruptive irrespective as to the time or place of the origin of the photo or caricature. Students who immediately notify an adult or immediately delete an unsolicited photo, shall not be regarded as in possession.

“Inappropriate photograph or caricature” is defined as, but not limited to:

- Nude or partially nude photos;
- Sexually explicit photos;
- Photos of illegal behavior (i.e., consuming drugs, underage drinking, theft, battery, etc);
- Demeaning or degrading caricatures;
- Electronic manipulation of a photo so that it is demeaning and/or degrading to the individual.

Determination of “inappropriate” shall initially be made by the building principal, with appeal to the Assistant Superintendent of CITA whose decision shall be final. Consequences include Administration having the right to impose the following:

1. Suspension up to 10 days or, in extreme cases, refer the student to the Board for a disciplinary hearing;
 2. Confiscation of the cell phone, camera, or electronic communication device;
 3. Loss of privilege to possess a cell phone, camera, or electronic communication device on school property for remainder of school career;
 4. If incident occurs 2nd semester of senior year, elimination or reduction in an individual's participation in graduation activities; and
 5. Referral to law enforcement as appropriate.
- E. ECD may not be used to violate any other rule under the Code of Conduct or the Acceptable Use Policy. If the devices are used in this way, additional penalties prescribed in the Student Code of Conduct and/or the Acceptable Use Policy will apply.

- F. ECD may be transported on the school bus, but may only be used with the following guidelines:
1. All provisions in B – E above apply to students while on the school bus (including field and athletic trips) and may result in school discipline in addition to bus disciplinary consequences.
 2. Cell phone calls may not be made or received while the bus is underway.
 3. If the ECD is used to produce sound (music, game, etc.), ear buds must be worn.
 4. If a bus driver directs a student to cease use of the ECD, the student will be expected to comply. Failure to comply will be considered insubordination.
 5. If circumstances warrant for student safety and well-being, a bus driver, coach, or trip sponsor may determine that use of any ECDs by all students is prohibited for the duration of a bus ride.
 6. Violation(s) of these guidelines will result in a bus referral and appropriate progression of discipline and/or loss of the privilege to use an ECD while on the school bus.
- H. If an ECD is damaged, lost, or stolen while on school property, the District is not responsible for recovering or reimbursing the student or his/her parent/guardian for the replacement of the device.

USE OF TOBACCO ON SCHOOL PREMISES

The District supports the Tobacco-Free Schools Law, which prohibits use of tobacco products in District buildings or on school property at any time. Staff, students or any other persons may not use tobacco products at any time in any District building or on school property owned or operated by the South Lyon Community School District. The use of tobacco products by any persons in violation of this policy will result in disciplinary action. Violation of the Tobacco-Free Schools Law is a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of not more than \$50.00

WEAPONS

The Board, as both an employer and a public school district, is concerned with and interested in protecting the health, safety and welfare of students, employees and visitors. The Board recognizes that school buildings, facilities, vehicles, grounds and other school property are best utilized in the educational process in the absence of threats to physical well being and safety, by individuals possessing weapons and/or dangerous weapons.

In furtherance of its commitment to provide a safe learning and work environment for its students and employees, the Board establishes this policy to govern procedures and consequences for students who are implicated for violating school conduct standards regarding "dangerous weapons" as well as other objects which may be used to cause or threaten harm to others. This policy shall also encompass such actions as look-alike items, false fire alarms, bomb threats, or intentional calls to falsely report a dangerous condition.

Any student who is aware of any weapon, i.e., knife, gun, etc., in school, on the bus, or at any school related activity, has an obligation to report it to a staff member to avoid violating this code. Failure to do so will result in disciplinary action. If a student accidentally brings a weapon to school, he/she should alert a staff member and turn the weapon in immediately.

The Michigan School Code requires the Board to expel a student for possession of a dangerous weapon on school property or in a school vehicle. However, as a matter of law, the Board is not required to expel a student for possessing a dangerous weapon if the student establishes in a clear and convincing manner at least one (1) of the following:

- A. that the object or instrument possessed by the student was not possessed by the student for use as a weapon, or for direct or indirect delivery to another person for use as a weapon;
- B. the weapon was not knowingly possessed by the student;
- C. the student did not know or have reason to know that the object or the instrument possessed by the student constituted a weapon or dangerous weapon; or
- D. that the weapon was possessed by the student at the suggestion, request, or direction of, or with the express permission of, school or police authorities.

Recordation and Referral

All expulsions pursuant to the School Code's mandatory expulsion requirement shall be entered and preserved on the student's individual permanent record. This information shall be disseminated by the District, as part of a student's permanent record, to any other public or private (primary or secondary) school where the expelled student seeks to enroll and where this District is requested, or otherwise required, to forward or release records to that institution.

Pre-Hearing Procedures

As part of the investigation of an alleged weapons violation, the appropriate administrator(s) shall take the following steps:

- A. Immediately report to the local law enforcement agency and the student's parent/legal guardian, (if the student is unemancipated), any incident involving a suspected dangerous weapon. The District shall also refer for prosecution conduct by any individual that is believed to violate State and Federal laws establishing weapon-free or gun-free school zones.
- B. Determine whether the item is a "dangerous weapon" mandating expulsion or another object which may be used to cause or threaten harm to others which may invoke discretionary discipline. As appropriate, the administrator shall rely on the opinion(s) of the local law enforcement agency and/or the District's legal counsel.
- C. Determine whether there is reasonable cause to believe that the student is a student with a disability eligible for accommodation(s) under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and/or special education program(s). Disciplinary procedures and recommended consequences for an eligible student with a disability shall be consistent with current legal requirements.
- D. Notify the student's parent/guardian (or the student if s/he is at least eighteen (18) years old or otherwise legally emancipated) in writing of the disciplinary procedures and recommended consequences, as well as their right to request that the Board meet in closed session to conduct the disciplinary hearing.

- E. The District shall, within three (3) days of expulsion, refer the expelled student to the appropriate County Department of Social Services or County Community Mental Health agency. The District shall also notify the individual's parent or legal guardian or (if the individual is at least eighteen (18) years old or otherwise legally emancipated) notify the expelled student of the referral.

All disciplinary proceedings under this policy shall follow the District's student discipline procedures set forth in the Student Handbook and other appropriate documents.

Petitions for Reinstatement

Students expelled pursuant to the School Code's mandatory expulsion requirement (or their parent or legal guardian if the student is unemancipated) may petition the Board of this School District for reinstatement to school. An expelled student's petition for reinstatement shall be processed as required by the School Code. An individual who was in grade 5 or below when expelled may petition for reinstatement at any time after the expiration of sixty (60) school days subsequent to the date of expulsion. Individuals who were in grade 6 or above at the time of expulsion may petition for reinstatement at any time after the expiration of 150 school days subsequent to the date of expulsion. The District will make available the proper forms to those who wish to petition for reinstatement. The petitioner shall provide an authorization and release for the Board to request, receive and review all student records and student record information maintained by any public or private school which the petitioning student has attended. If such records are already in the possession for this District, the parent/guardian or student (if emancipated) shall furnish written authorization for review of the Board members.

Upon receipt of a petition for reinstatement, the District shall do the following:

- A. Convene a due process hearing within two (2) weeks of the student's petition for reinstatement. The student will have the right to have his/her parent/guardian and advisor, who may or may not be an attorney, present at the hearing. The student has the right to an open or closed hearing.
- B. The Board will make a decision by vote in open session.
- C. Reinstatement for all expelled students may only be authorized by the Board.
- D. The Superintendent or his/her designee shall be allowed to attend meetings of the Board when considering petitions for reinstatement.

Criteria for Reinstatement

The Board shall consider at least the following factors when a petition for reinstatement is submitted.

- A. whether the reinstatement would create a risk of harm to other students or school personnel;
- B. whether reinstatement would create a risk of School District or individual liability for the School Board or School District personnel;
- C. the age and maturity of the individual;
- D. the individual's school record before the incident that caused the expulsion;
- E. the individual's attitude concerning the incident that caused the expulsion;
- F. the individual's behavior since expulsion and the prospects for remediation of the individual;
- G. the degree of cooperation and support from the individual's parent or guardian (if the petition was filed by a parent or guardian) as well as any support which may be expected from a parent or guardian, if the expelled student is reinstated.

Petitions for reinstatement from students expelled by another Board shall not be processed if that student has not first submitted a petition for reinstatement to the expelling Board. This District will only consider reinstatement, to the extent required by law, upon receiving verification of the denial of the student's petition for reinstatement by the expelling Board.

Conditions of Reinstatement

The Board may require an expelled student (if the petition was filed by a parent or legal guardian) to agree in writing to specific conditions before reinstating the student. These conditions may include, but are not limited to:

- A. signing a behavior contract;
- B. participation in or completion of an Anger Management Program or other appropriate counseling (at the expelled student's expense);
- C. periodic progress reviews; and
- D. specific immediate consequences for failure to abide by any conditions of reinstatement.

Reinstatement

If the School District decides to reinstate the expelled student, those who were in grade 5 and below at the time of the expulsion shall not be reinstated before the expiration of ninety (90) school days subsequent to the date of expulsion, unless a longer period of expulsion is required pursuant to the Federal Gun Free Schools Act.

For students in grade 5 and below who have violated the Federal Gun Free Schools Act and who are accordingly subject to mandatory one-year expulsion, the Superintendent or his/her designee may submit his/her own recommendation to the Board, in conjunction with the designated committee's recommendation, to modify the one-year expulsion requirement (on a case-by-case basis) to a period of time not less than ninety (90) school days.

Individuals in grade 6 or above at the time of expulsion shall not be reinstated before the expiration of 180 school days (one (1) legal school year) after the date of expulsion.

Discretionary Discipline (Including Expulsion) - for Use of Objects Which May Be Used to Cause or Threaten Harm to Others

Authorized administrators and the Board may exercise their discretion to impose disciplinary sanctions (including expulsion) on a student who is implicated in violating school conduct standards regarding an object which may be used to cause or threaten harm to others, but does not meet the definition of a "dangerous weapon" or does not fall within the circumstances by which the School Code mandates disciplinary sanctions.

School officials expressly reserve the right to apply these conduct standards to any student who is on school property or school-affiliated transportation, who is in attendance at any school or at any school-sponsored activity, or whose conduct at any time or place directly interferes with the operations, discipline or general welfare of the school, regardless of location, date or time.

School administrators are authorized to impose a suspension in excess of ten (10) school days but not more than thirty (30) school days to a student who violated school conduct standards regarding an object, which the student used to cause or threaten harm to others. The school principal, upon consultation with the Superintendent or his/her designee and with notice to the Board, may authorize or order the suspension of the student if the interest of the school is served.

The Board reserves for itself the authorization to impose disciplinary sanctions beyond thirty (30) days suspension or expulsion, and shall consider such matters upon the recommendation of a school administrator.

Application to Handicapped Students

This policy shall be applied in a manner consistent with the rights secured under Federal and State law to students with disabilities who are determined to be eligible for accommodation(s) under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, special education programs and/or services, as well as to students with disabilities who are determined to be eligible for accommodation(s).

Definitions

Dangerous Weapon - The School Code defines a dangerous weapon as a firearm, dagger, dirk, stiletto, knife with a blade over three (3) inches in length, pocket knife opened by a mechanical device (regardless of blade length), iron bar or brass knuckles.

- a. For purposes of determining whether an object is a "firearm," the Federal law definition of a firearm as provided in the Federal Gun-Free Schools Act of 1994 shall be used.
- b. For purposes of determining whether a knife is a dangerous weapon, the blade length shall be measured from the blade's tip to the place where the blade inserts into the handle.

Objects other than weapons as defined above (which the student used to cause or threaten harm to others), including but not limited to:

- c. BB gun, pellet gun, paintball gun, any pneumatic gun or other such weapon which does not meet the Federal law definition of a firearm as provided in the Federal Gun-Free Schools Act of 1994;
- d. look-alike gun or a facsimile of a gun (including "toy" guns);
- e. "McGyver" bomb, stink bomb, smoke bomb, fireworks, ammunition, mace, pepper spray, self-defense gas or other such object which does not meet the Federal law definition of a "destructive device" in the Federal Gun-Free Schools Act of 1994;
- f. knife with a blade three (3) inches or less in length;
- g. razor blade, box cutter;
- h. Numchucks chains.

Weapon Free School Zone means school property and/or a vehicle used by the school to transport students to or from school property.

School property means a building, playing field or property used for school purposes to impart instruction to children or used for functions and events sponsored by a school.

Firearm means (a) weapon (including a starter gun) which will or is designed to (or may readily be converted to) expel a projectile by an explosive, or by gas or air; (b) the frame or receiver of any such weapon; (c) any firearm muffler or firearm silencer; or (d) any destructive device, including explosives, incendiaries, poison gas, or any weapon which will (or may readily be converted to) expel a projectile by the action of an explosive or other propellant. For purposes of application and enforcement of this policy, a BB gun is considered to be a "firearm".

This policy will be published annually in all student handbooks. Publication is not a precondition to enforcement of this policy.