

STUDENT HANDBOOK 2021-2022



CANTON CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
305 MCKINLEY AVE., NW
CANTON, OHIO 44702
330-438-2525
www.ccsdistrict.org

MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT
Jeffery S. Talbert



Dear Canton City School District Family,

Welcome to an exciting new year in the Canton City School District. It is with both great anticipation and hopefulness that we move forward to prepare our students for success now and in the future.

With clear certainty, I believe we are responsible for providing a first-class, rigorous learning opportunity for all students in an environment that is safe and nurturing, promotes academic excellence, and supports learning. This Student Handbook communicates the expectations and procedures to help us work together to reach this objective.

Our goal is to continue to inspire the dedication and commitment of students, families, and staff. We welcome you to join our ever-growing list of community and business partners and volunteers. These important collaborative relationships are essential to our growth and improvement.

In the pages of this handbook, please find the general information needed to navigate the services, initiatives, and expectations established for your student's education. This handbook is a resource designed to foster communication and continue good relationships between our educators, students and families. A complete copy of the Canton City School District Board of Education Policy is available for your review at www.ccsdistrict.org.

Please review and discuss this book with your student. Together, we can continue to build positive relationships and encourage your student to reach both academic and personal goals. Thank you for your partnership and support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jeffery Talbert". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jeffery S. Talbert
Superintendent

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NOTE:	This Student/Parent Handbook is based in significant part on policies adopted by the Board of Education and Administrative Guidelines developed by the Superintendent. Those Board Policies and Administrative Guidelines are incorporated by reference into the provisions of this Handbook. The Policies and Administrative Guidelines are periodically updated in response to changes in the law and other circumstances. Therefore, there may have been changes to the documents reviewed in this Handbook since it was printed in November 2020. If you have questions or would like more information about a specific issue or document, contact your school principal or the Office of Student Services, or access the document on the District's website: www.ccsdistrict.org by clicking on "Board of Education" and "Board Policy," and finding the specific policy or administrative guideline in the Table of Contents for that section.
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FOREWORD

This Student Handbook was developed to answer many of the commonly asked questions that you and your parents may have during the school year and to provide specific information about certain Board policies and procedures. Please take time to become familiar with the important information contained in this Handbook and keep the Handbook available for frequent reference by you and your parents. If you have any questions that are not addressed in this Handbook, you are encouraged to talk to your teachers or the building principal. This Handbook replaces all prior handbooks and other written material on the same subjects. This Handbook does not equate to an irrevocable contractual commitment to the student, but only reflects the current status of the Board's policies and the School's rules as of 2020-2021. If any of the policies or administrative guidelines referenced herein are revised, the language in the most current policy or administrative guideline prevails. Copies of current Board policies and administrative guidelines are available from the building principal and on the District's web site.

MISSION OF THE SCHOOL

To inspire confident, creative and open-minded learners.

EQUAL EDUCATION OPPORTUNITY

This District provides an equal educational opportunity for all students.

Any person who believes that s/he has been discriminated against on the basis of his/her race, color, disability, religion, gender, or national origin while at school or a school activity should immediately contact the School District's Compliance Officer(s):

Deidre Stokes Davis
Director of Human Resources
330-430-4245

Tad Ellsworth
Business Manager
330-438-2566

Complaints will be investigated in accordance with the procedures described in Policy 2260, 2260.01 and 2266. Any student making a complaint or participating in a school investigation will be protected from retaliation. The Compliance Officer(s) can provide additional information concerning equal access to educational opportunity.

SCHOOL DAY

2021-2022 School Year Start/End Times

PreK at Schreiber	8:20am-2:50pm
K-3 Elementary (Cedar, Gibbs, Harter, Stone)	9:10am-3:40pm
K-6 (Patrick, Worley, Arts, AIM)	9:00am-3:45pm
4-6 Intermediate (Clarendon, McGregor, Youtz)	8:55am-3:55pm
Middle School (Crenshaw & STEAMM)	8:05am-3:00pm
High School (Including Early College 7-12)	7:25am-2:25pm

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

The School's rules and procedures are designed to allow students to be educated in a safe and orderly environment. All students are expected to follow staff members' directions and to obey all school rules.

Students must arrive at school on time, prepared to learn and participate. If, for some reason, this is not possible, the student should seek help from the school counselor.

- Adult students (age 18 or older) must follow all school rules.

- If residing at home, adult students are encouraged to include their parents in their educational program.

In order to keep parents informed of their child's progress in school, parents will be provided information on a regular basis and whenever concerns arise. Many times it will be the responsibility of the student to deliver the information. The School, however, may use the mail or hand delivery when appropriate. Parents have the option of receiving communication from the School via e-mail and/or facsimile by filling out the appropriate form available in the school's administrative office. Parents are encouraged to build a two-way link with their child's teachers and support staff by informing the staff of suggestions or concerns that may help their child better accomplish his/her educational goals.

STUDENT WELL BEING

Student safety is the responsibility of both students and staff. Staff members are familiar with emergency procedures such as evacuation procedures, fire and tornado drills, safety drills in the event of a terrorist or other violent attack, and accident reporting procedures. If a student is aware of any dangerous situation or accident, s/he must notify a staff person immediately.

State law requires that all students have an emergency medical authorization completed and signed by a parent or guardian on file in the School office.

Students with specific health care needs should deliver written notice about such needs, along with physician documentation, to the School office.

INJURY AND ILLNESS

All injuries must be reported to a teacher or the office. If the injuries are minor, the student will be treated and may return to class. If medical attention is required, the office will follow the School's emergency procedures and attempt to make contact with the student's parents.

A student who becomes ill during the school day should request permission to go to the office. An appropriate adult in the office will determine whether the student should remain in school or go home. No student will be released from school without proper parental permission.

SECTION I - GENERAL INFORMATION

ACCEPTABLE USE AND INTERNET SAFETY POLICY

All students will be permitted to use the computer and the internet for assigned research and class projects by signing the Canton City School District Acceptable Use Policy annually. Internet usage is not for visiting chat rooms, instant messaging, using social media sites, downloading music or for unsupervised personal entertainment. Not following the guidelines may result in suspension and/or loss of privileges or other administrative consequences.

ADDRESS CHANGE

Any change of address or telephone number during the school year is to be reported to the school's main office.

ADVERTISING OUTSIDE ACTIVITIES

Students may not post announcements or advertisements for outside activities without receiving prior approval from the Principal. The Principal will attempt to respond to a request for approval within 1 school day of its receipt.

Each school has a central bulletin board that may be used for posting notices after receiving permission from the Principal.

CARE TEAM

CARE Teams are in place in each school within the District for students and families. The purpose of a CARE Team is to develop strategies and align resources to ensure that academic, behavioral, and social programs and services meet students' individual needs to achieve their potential. A CARE Team is composed of teachers, staff, administrators, and community agencies.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH IN FOSTER CARE

Students who meet the Federal definition of "in foster care", including those who are awaiting foster care placement, will be provided a free appropriate public education (FAPE) in the same manner as all other students of the District. For additional information see Policy 5111.03.

CONTROL OF CASUAL-CONTACT COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

Because a school has a high concentration of people, it is necessary to take specific measures when the health or safety of the group is at risk. The School's professional staff may remove or isolate a student who has been ill or has been exposed to a communicable disease or highly-transient pest, such as lice.

Specific communicable diseases include diphtheria, scarlet fever, strep infections, whooping cough, mumps, measles, rubella, and other conditions indicated by the Local and State Health Departments.

Any removal will be limited to the contagious period as specified in the School's administrative guidelines.

CONTROL OF NONCASUAL-CONTACT COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

The School District has an obligation to protect staff and students from noncasual-contact communicable diseases. When a noncasual-contact communicable disease is suspected, the student's health will be reviewed by a panel of resource people, including the County Health Department. The School will protect the privacy of the person affected and those in contact with the affected person. Students and staff will be permitted to remain in school unless there is definitive evidence to warrant exclusion.

Noncasual-contact communicable diseases include sexually transmitted diseases, AIDS, ARC-AIDS Related Complex, HIV, Hepatitis B, and other diseases that may be specified by the State Board of Health.

As required by Federal law, parents will be requested to have their child's blood checked for HIV and HBV when the child bleeds at school and students or staff members are exposed to the blood. Any testing is subject to laws protecting confidentiality.

CONTROL OF BLOOD-BORNE PATHOGENS

The School District seeks to provide a safe educational environment for students and take appropriate measures to protect those students who may be exposed to bloodborne pathogens in the school environment and/or during their participation in school-related activities. While the risks of students being exposed to blood-borne pathogens may be low, students must assume that all body fluids are potentially infectious and must take precaution to follow universal procedures in order to reduce such risks and minimize and/or prevent the potential for accidental infection.

Students may be exposed to blood-borne pathogens in situations, including, but not limited to the following:

Engaging in activities with other students in the school environment (e.g., physical education class) where physical injuries or other actions that can cause bleeding or exposure to saliva and other body fluids may occur.

Working with equipment in the school environment that can cause cuts or similar injuries that produce bleeding.

Participating in extracurricular activities (i.e., athletic activities) where physical injuries or other actions that can cause bleeding may occur.

Whenever a student has contact with blood or other potentially infectious material, s/he must immediately notify his/her teacher, who will contact the school nurse and assist the student in completing the requisite documents.

The parents of a student who is exposed will be contacted immediately regarding the exposure and encouraged to have the student's blood tested for Hepatitis B and HIV either by his/her physician or another health service provider. The student's parents are encouraged to consult with the student's physician concerning any necessary post-exposure treatment.

The student's parent will also be asked to provide a copy of the test results and any post-exposure treatment for maintenance in the student's educational record in accordance with the Federal and State laws concerning confidentiality.

The parents of the student who caused the exposure will also be contacted immediately and advised to have the student's blood tested for Hepatitis B and HIV virus either in cooperation with his/her physician or another health service provider.

The student's parents will be asked to provide a copy of the test results for maintenance in the student's educational record in accordance with Federal and State laws concerning confidentiality.

The student's parents will be encouraged to allow the District to release their child's name to the exposed student's parents, in the event serious health issues are presented as a result of the exposure.

EARLY DISMISSAL

No student may leave school prior to dismissal time without a parent or guardian either submitting a signed written request or coming to the School Office personally to request the release. No student will be released to a person other than a custodial parent(s) or guardian without a written permission note signed by the custodial parent(s) or guardian.

EMERGENCY CLOSINGS AND DELAYS

If the School must be closed or the opening delayed because of inclement weather or other conditions, the School will notify the following radio and television stations:

Radio: WHBC 1480 AM

Television: CCS School Channel 11
Newsnet channel 5: www.newsnet5.com
WKYC channel 3: www.wkyc.com

Information concerning school closings or delays can also be found on the District's website at www.ccsdistrict.org.

Parents may be notified of school closings or delays via a pre-recorded telephone message delivered to the phone number on file.

Parents and students are responsible for knowing about emergency closings and delays.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNER

English Language Learners are students whose primary or home language is other than English who need special language assistance in order to effectively participate in school instructional programs. If a student has a language other than English spoken in the home and has completed the Home Language Survey at enrollment, the student will be assessed for English Language

Proficiency. If the student qualifies, he/she is then an ELL (English Language Learner). ELLs may be born in the USA or come from other countries.

ENROLLING IN THE SCHOOL

In general, State law requires students to enroll in the school district in which their parent or legal guardian resides.

New students under the age of 18 must be enrolled by their parent or legal guardian. When enrolling, parents must provide copies of the following:

- A. a birth certificate or similar document
- B. court papers allocating parental rights and responsibilities, or custody (if appropriate)
- C. proof of residency
- D. proof of immunizations

Under certain circumstances, temporary enrollment may be permitted. In such cases, parents will be notified about documentation required to establish permanent enrollment.

Students enrolling from another school must have an official transcript from their previous school in order to have credits transferred. The school registrar will assist in obtaining the transcript, if not presented at the time of enrollment.

Homeless students who meet the Federal definition of homeless may enroll and will be under the District Homeless Liaison with regard to enrollment procedures.

New students 18 years of age or older are not required to be accompanied by a parent when enrolling. When residing with a parent, these students are encouraged to include the parents in the enrollment process. When conducting themselves in school, adult students have the responsibilities of both student and parent.

In addition, if a new student resides in the District with a grandparent and is the subject of a: (1) power of attorney designating the grandparent as the attorney-in-fact; or (2) a caretaker authorization affidavit executed by the grandparent that provides the grandparent with authority over the care, physical custody, and control of the child, including the ability to enroll the child in school, consent in all school related matters, and discuss with the District the child's educational progress, the student's grandparent may enroll the child in school on a tuition-free basis. However, in addition to the above referenced documents that are typically required for enrollment, the grandparent must provide the District with a duly executed and notarized copy of a power of attorney or caretaker authorization affidavit.

A student suspended or expelled by another public school in Ohio may be temporarily denied admission to the District's schools during the period of suspension or expulsion even if that student would otherwise be entitled to attend school in the District. Likewise, a student expelled or otherwise removed for disciplinary purposes from a public school in another state and the period of expulsion or removal has not expired may be temporarily denied admission to the District's schools during the period of expulsion or removal or until the expiration of the period of expulsion or removal which the student would have received in the District had the student committed the offense while enrolled in the District. Prior to denying admission, however, the Superintendent shall offer the student an opportunity for a hearing to review the circumstances of the suspension or expulsion and any other factors the Superintendent determines to be relevant.

If a student has been recently discharged or released from the custody of the Department of Youth Services (DYS) and is seeking admittance or re-admittance into the District, the student will not be admitted until the following records, which are required to be released by DYS to the Superintendent, have been received:

- A. an updated copy of the student's transcript;
- B. a report of the student's behavior while in DYS custody;
- C. the student's current IEP, if one has been developed for the child; and
- D. a summary of the instructional record of the child's behavior.

Foreign students and foreign-exchange students (from recognized and approved student programs) are eligible for admission on the same basis as other non-resident students.

EMERGENCY MEDICAL AUTHORIZATION

A complete Emergency Medical Authorization form must be on file with the School in order for a student to participate in any activity off school grounds, including field trips, spectator trips, athletic and other extracurricular activities, and co-curricular activities. The Emergency Medical Authorization form is provided at the time of enrollment and at the beginning of each school year.

FERPA

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) sets out requirements designed to protect the privacy of parents and students. In brief, the law requires a school district to: 1) provide a parent access to the records that are directly related to the student; 2) provide a parent an opportunity to seek correction of the record he or she believes to be inaccurate or misleading; and 3) with some exceptions, obtain the written permission of a parent before disclosing information contained in the student's education record.

The definition of parent is found in the FERPA implementing regulation under 34 CFR 99.3. *"Parent" means a parent of a student and includes a natural parent, a guardian, or an individual acting as a parent in the absence of a parent or a guardian.*

Section 99.4 gives an example of the rights of parents.

An educational agency or institution shall give full rights under the Act to either parent, unless the agency or institution has been provided with evidence that there is a court order, State statute, or legally binding document relating to such matters as divorce, separation, or custody, that specifically revokes these rights.

This means that, in the case of divorce or separation, a school district must provide access to both natural parents, custodial and non-custodial, unless there is a legally binding document that specifically removes that parent's FERPA rights. In this context, a legally binding document is a court order or other legal paper that prohibits access to an education record, or removes the parent's rights to have knowledge about his or her child's education.

FIRE, TORNADO, AND SAFETY DRILLS

The School complies with all fire safety laws and will conduct fire drills in accordance with State law. The School conducts tornado drills during the tornado season following procedures prescribed by the State. Teachers will provide specific instructions on how to proceed in the case of fire or tornado and will oversee the safe, prompt, and orderly evacuation of the building in such cases.

Safety drills will be conducted once per school year. Teachers will provide specific instruction on the appropriate procedures to follow in situations where students must be secured in their building rather than evacuated. These situations can include a terrorist threat, a person in possession of a deadly weapon on school property, or other acts of violence.

HOMELESS STUDENTS

Homeless students will be provided with a free and appropriate public education in the same manner as other students served by the District. Homeless students are eligible to receive transportation services, participate in education programs for students with disabilities or limited English proficiency, participate in gifted and talented programs, and receive meals under school nutrition programs. Homeless students will not be denied enrollment based on lack of proof of residency.

IMMUNIZATIONS

Students must be current with all immunizations required by law, including but not limited to poliomyelitis, measles, diphtheria, rubella, pertussis, tetanus, and mumps, or have an authorized exemption from State immunization requirements. Kindergarten students must be immunized against Hepatitis B and chickenpox. For the safety of all students, the school principal may remove a student from school or establish a deadline for meeting State requirements if a student does not have the necessary immunizations or authorized exemption. In the event of a chicken pox epidemic, the Superintendent may temporarily deny admission to a student otherwise exempted from the chicken pox immunization requirement. Any questions about immunizations or exemptions should be directed to the School Nurse.

LOST AND FOUND

Check with the school office for the location of the lost and found area. Students who have lost items should check there and may retrieve their items if they give a proper description. Unclaimed items will be given to charity at the close of the school year.

MEAL SERVICE

Each school makes breakfast and lunch available to students at no cost. Ala carte items are available. Students may also bring their own lunch to school to be eaten in the School's cafeteria. No student may leave school premises during the lunch period without specific written permission from the Principal.

Applications for the School's Free and Reduced-Priced Meal program are distributed to all students. If a student does not receive an application form and believes s/he is eligible, contact Child Nutrition at 330-438-2576.

PREPAREDNESS FOR TOXIC AND ASBESTOS HAZARDS

The School is concerned for the safety of students and attempts to comply with all Federal and State Laws and Regulations to protect students from hazards that may result from industrial accidents beyond the control of school officials or from the presence of asbestos materials used in previous construction. A copy of the School District's *Preparedness for Toxic Hazard and Asbestos Hazard Policy* and asbestos management plan is available for inspection at the Board offices upon request.

SCHEDULING AND ASSIGNMENT

Elementary Level

The Principal will assign each student to the appropriate classroom and program. Any questions or concerns about the assignment should be discussed with the Principal.

Secondary Level

Schedules are provided to each student at the beginning of the school year or upon enrollment. Schedules are based on the student's needs and available class space. Any changes in a student's schedule should be handled through the school counselor. Students may be denied course enrollment due to lack of available space or the need for the student to pass prerequisite courses. Students are expected to follow their schedules. Any variation must be approved with a pass or schedule change.

STUDENT DIRECTORY INFORMATION RELEASE

State law (Ohio Revised Code 3319.321) does not restrict the release of "Directory Information" of students except to prohibit its release for profit-making activities. Directory information includes name, extracurricular participation, achievement awards or honors, weight and height (if a member of an athletic team), dates of attendance, and date of graduation and major field of study. Ohio Revised Code also requires the release of directory information, as well as address and telephone number, of high school students in grades 10 through 12 to military recruiters, unless the student (over 18) or his/her parent specifically requests such information not be released. Parents have the right to object, in writing, to the release of directory information. If you do not want "Directory Information" about your child released, you must fill out the online "Directory Information" form. All forms must be completed by October 1 of the current school year and will be valid for a period of one year.

STUDENT FEES AND FINES

Students will be provided necessary textbooks for courses of instruction without cost. In accordance with State law, specific fees are charged for certain activities and materials used in the course of instruction.

Charges may also be imposed for loss, damage or destruction of school apparatus, equipment, musical instruments, library materials, textbooks and for damage to school buildings or property. Students using school property and equipment can be fined for excessive wear and abuse of the property and equipment.

Fees may be waived in situations where there is financial hardship.

Students can avoid late fines by promptly returning borrowed materials.

Failure to pay fines, fees, or charges may result in the withholding of grades and credits.

STUDENT FUNDRAISING

Students participating in school-sponsored groups and activities may solicit funds from other students, staff members, and members of the community in accordance with school guidelines. The following general rules apply to all fundraisers:

Crowdfunding activities are governed by Policy and Administrative Guideline 6605.

Students involved in the fund-raiser must not interfere with students participating in other activities when soliciting funds.

Students may not participate in a fund-raising activity for a group in which they are not members without the approval of the students' counselor.

Students may not participate in fund-raising activities off school property without proper supervision by approved staff or other adults.

Students may not engage in house-to-house canvassing for any fundraising activity.

Students may not participate in a fund-raising activity conducted by a parent group, booster club, or community organization on school property without the approval of the Principal.

Students may not sell any item or service in school without the prior approval of the Principal. Violation of this policy may lead to disciplinary action.

STUDENT RECORDS

The School District maintains many student records including both directory information and confidential information.

Directory information includes: a student's name; address; telephone number; date and place of birth; major field of study; participation in officially-recognized activities and sports; height and weight, if a member of an athletic team; dates of attendance; date of graduation; or awards received.

Directory information can be provided upon request to any individual, other than a for profit organization, even without the written consent of a parent. Parents may refuse to allow the Board to disclose any or all "directory information" upon written notification to the Board. For further information about the items included within the category of directory information and instructions on how to prohibit its release you may consult the Board's annual *Family Education Rights and Privacy Act* (FERPA) notice which can be found on the School District website.

Other than directory information, access to all other student records is protected by FERPA and Ohio law. Except in limited circumstances as specifically defined in State and Federal law, the School District is prohibited from releasing confidential education records to any outside individual or organization without the prior written consent of the parents, or the adult student, as well as those individuals who have matriculated and entered a postsecondary educational institution at any age. The Board will provide access or release directory information to armed forces recruiters unless the parent or student requests that prior written consent be obtained.

Confidential records include test scores, psychological reports, behavioral data, disciplinary records, and communications with family and outside service providers.

Students and parents have the right to review and receive copies of all educational records. Costs for copies of records may be charged to the parent. To review student records please provide a written notice identifying requested student records to the Office of Student Services. You will be given an appointment with the appropriate person to answer any questions and to review the requested student records.

Parents and adult students have the right to amend a student record when they believe that any of the information contained in the record is inaccurate, misleading or violates the student's privacy. A parent or adult student must request the amendment of a student record in writing and if the request is denied, the parent or adult student will be informed of his/her right to a hearing on the matter.

Consistent with the Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA), no student shall be required, as a part of the school program or the District's curriculum, without prior written consent of the student (if an adult, or an emancipated minor) or, if an unemancipated minor, his/her parents, to submit to or participate in any survey, analysis, or evaluation that reveals information concerning:

- A. political affiliations or beliefs of the student or the student's parents;
- B. mental or psychological problems of the student or the student's 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).

Consistent with the PPRA and Board policy, parents may inspect any materials used in conjunction with any such survey, analysis, or evaluation. Please contact the Office of Student Services to inspect such materials.

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 principal.

The Superintendent will notify parents of students in the District, at least annually at the beginning of the school year, of the specific or approximate dates during the school year when the following activities are scheduled or expected to be scheduled:

- A. activities involving 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); and
- B. the administration of any survey by a third party that contains one or more of the items described in A through H above.

The Family Policy Compliance Office in the U.S. Department of Education administers both FERPA and PPRA. Parents and/or eligible students who believe their rights have been violated may file a complaint with:

Family Policy Compliance Office
U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20202-4605
www.ed.gov/offices/OM/fpco

Informal inquiries may be sent to the Family Policy Compliance Office via the following email addresses:

FERPA@ED.Gov; and
PPRA@ED.Gov.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

The American's with Disabilities Act (A.D.A.) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act (Section 504) prohibit discrimination against persons with a disability in any program receiving Federal financial assistance. This protection applies not just to students, but to all individuals who have access to the District's programs and facilities.

The laws define a person with a disability as anyone who:

- A. Has a mental or physical impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities;
- B. Has a record of such an impairment; or
- C. Is regarded as having such an impairment.

The District has specific responsibilities under these two laws, which include identifying, reviewing and, if the child is determined to be eligible, affording access to appropriate educational accommodation.

Additionally, in accordance with State and Federal mandates, the District seeks out, assesses and appropriately services students with disabilities. Staff members use a comprehensive child study process to systematically screen, assess and, if appropriate, place students in special education and related services. Students are entitled to a free appropriate public education in the "least restrictive environment."

A student can access special education and related services through the proper evaluation procedures. Parent involvement in this procedure is important and required by Federal (IDEIA), A.D.A. Section 504) and State law. Contact the Office of Special Education at 330-438-2551 to inquire about evaluation procedures, programs, and services.

STUDENT VALUABLES

Students should not bring items of value to school. Items such as jewelry, expensive clothing, electronic equipment, and the like, are tempting targets for theft and extortion. The School is not liable for any loss or damage to personal valuables.

TITLE IX AND NON DISCRIMINATION POLICY

The Canton City School District has developed policies that focus on the right of pupils and the right to participate in academic, athletic, and any other extra curricular activities without regard to sex, race, color, national origin or disability.

In accordance with all federal, state, and local laws, Canton City School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex (including sexual orientation and transgender identity), disability, age, religion, military status ancestry, genetic information (collectively, "Protected Classes"), or any other legally protected category, in its programs and activities, including employment opportunities (in accordance with Policy 4122). The Canton City School District Section 504 Coordinator is Ms. Chastity Trumpower, Director of Special Education, and the Title IX Coordinators are Ms. Deidre Stokes-Davis, Director of Human Resources, and Mr. Tad Ellsworth, Business Manager.

USE OF THE LIBRARY

The library is available to students throughout the school day. Passes may be obtained from a student's teacher or from the librarian/media specialist. Books may be checked out for a period of time designated by the librarian/media specialist. To check out any other materials, contact the librarian/media specialist.

In order to avoid late fees, all materials checked out of the library must be returned to the librarian/media specialist within the designated time frame.

USE OF MEDICATIONS

Students who must take prescribed medication during the school day, must comply with the following guidelines:

- A. Parents should, with the counsel of their child's prescriber, determine whether the medication schedule can be adjusted to avoid administering medication during school hours.
- B. The appropriate form must be filed with the respective building principal before the student will be allowed to begin taking any medication during school hours or to use an inhaler to self-administer asthma medication. Such forms must be filed annually and as necessary for any change in the medication.
- C. All medications must be registered with the Principal's Office and must be delivered to school in the original containers in which they were dispensed by the prescribing physician or licensed pharmacist, labeled with the date, the student's name, and the exact dosage to be administered.
- D. Medication that is brought to the office will be properly secured. Except as noted below, medication must be delivered to the Principal's Office by the student's parent or guardian or by another responsible adult at the parent or guardian's request. Except as noted below, students may not bring medication to school. Students may carry emergency medications for allergies and/or reactions, or asthma inhalers during school hours provided the student has written permission from a parent or physician and has submitted the proper forms. In the case of epinephrine autoinjectors ("epi pens"), in addition to written permission and submission of proper forms, the parent or student must provide a backup dose to the school nurse. Students are strictly prohibited from transferring emergency medication, epi pens, or inhalers to any other student for their use or possession.
 - Medication may be conveyed to school directly by the parent or transported by transportation personnel (bus driver and/or bus aide) at parental request. This should be arranged in advance.
 - If, for supportable reasons, the Principal wishes to discontinue the privilege of a student self-administering a medication, except for the possession and use of asthma inhalers, the parent(s) shall be notified of the decision in sufficient time for an alternative means of administration to be established.
- E. Any unused medication unclaimed by the parent will be destroyed by school personnel when a prescription is no longer to be administered or at the end of a school year.
- F. The parents shall have sole responsibility to instruct their child to take the medication at the scheduled time.
- G. The principal will maintain a log noting the personnel designated to administer medication, as well as the date and the time of day that administration is required. This log will be maintained along with the prescriber's written request and the parent's written release.

Non Prescribed (Over-the-Counter) Medications

No staff member will dispense non prescribed, over-the-counter (OTC) medication to any student without prior parent authorization. Parents may authorize administration of a non prescribed medication on forms that are available from the Principal's Office. Physician authorization is not required in such cases.

A student in Grades 6-12 may be allowed to receive an OTC medication upon written authorization of the parent. The medication must be kept in the school clinic.

A student in Grades Preschool-5 must have a physician's order for OTC medication.

If a student is found using or possessing a non prescribed medication, the medication will be confiscated and the student will be brought to the School office while the student's parents are contacted.

Any student who distributes medication of any kind or who is found in possession of unauthorized medication is in violation of the School's Code of Conduct and will be disciplined in accordance with the drug-use provision of the Code.

A student may possess and use a metered dose inhaler or a dry powder inhaler to alleviate asthmatic symptoms or before exercise to prevent the onset of asthmatic symptoms, at school or at any activity, event, or program sponsored by or in which the student's school is a participant if the appropriate form is completed and on file in the Principal's/Nurse's Office.

A student who is authorized to possess and use a metered dose or dry powder inhaler may not transfer possession of any inhaler or other medication to any other student.

USE OF OFFICE TELEPHONES

Office telephones may not be used for personal calls. Except in an emergency, students will not be called to the office to receive a telephone call. Telephones are available in the School for students to use when they are not in class. Students are not to use telephones to call parents to receive permission to leave school. Office personnel will initiate all calls on behalf of a student seeking permission to leave school.

USE OF PERSONAL COMMUNICATION DEVICES

A "personal communication device" (PCD) includes computers, tablets (e.g., iPad-like devices), electronic readers ("e-readers"; e.g., Kindle-like devices), cell phones, smartphones (e.g., iPhones, Android devices, Windows Mobile devices, etc.), and/or other web-enabled devices of any type.

Students may use PCDs before and after school, during their lunch break, in between classes as long as they do not create a distraction, disruption or otherwise interfere with the educational environment, during after school activities (e.g., extra-curricular activities), or at school-related functions. Use of PCDs, except those approved by a teacher or administrator, at any other time is prohibited and they must be powered completely off (i.e., not just placed into vibrate or silent mode) and stored out of sight.

Students may not use PCDs on school property or at a school-sponsored activity to access and/or view Internet web sites that are otherwise blocked to students at school.

Students may use PCDs while riding to and from school on a school bus or other Board-provided vehicles or on a school bus or Board-provided vehicle during school sponsored activities, at the discretion of the bus driver, classroom teacher, or sponsor/advisor/coach. Distracting behavior that creates an unsafe environment will not be tolerated.

During after school activities, PCDs shall be powered completely off (not just placed into vibrate or silent mode) and stored out of sight when directed by the administrator or sponsor.

Under certain circumstances, a student may keep his/her PCD "On" with prior approval from the Principal.

Except as authorized by a teacher, administrator or IEP team, students are prohibited from using PCDs during the school day, including while off-campus on a field trip, to capture, record and/or transmit the words or sounds (i.e., audio) and/or images (i.e., pictures/video) of any student, staff member or other person. Using a PCD to capture, record and/or transmit audio and/or pictures/video of an individual without proper consent is considered an invasion of privacy and is not permitted. Students who violate this provision and/or use a PCD to violate the privacy rights of another person may have their PCD confiscated and held until a parent/guardian picks it up, and may be directed to delete the audio and/or picture/video file while the parent/guardian is present. If the violation involves potentially illegal activity, the confiscated-PCD may be turned over to law enforcement.

PCDs, including but not limited to those with cameras, may not be activated or utilized at any time in any school situation where a reasonable expectation of personal privacy exists. These locations and circumstances include, but are not limited to, classrooms, gymnasiums, locker rooms, shower facilities, rest/bathrooms, and any other areas where students or others may change clothes or be in any stage or degree of disrobing or changing clothes. The Superintendent and Principal are authorized to determine other specific locations and situations where use of a PCD is absolutely prohibited.

Students are expressly prohibited from using covert means to listen-in or make a recording (audio or video) of any meeting or activity at school. This includes placing recording devices, or other devices with one - or two-way audio communication technology (i.e., technology that allows a person off-site to listen to live conversations and sounds taking place in the location where the device is located), within a student's book bag or on the student's person without express written consent of the Superintendent. Any requests to place a recording device or other device with one- or two-way audio communication technology within a student's book bag or on a student's person shall be submitted, in writing, to the Principal. The District representative shall notify the parent(s), in writing, whether such request is denied or granted within five (5) days.

Students shall have no expectation of confidentiality with respect to their use of PCDs on school premises/property.

Students may not use a PCD in any way that might reasonably create in the mind of another person an impression of being threatened, humiliated, harassed, embarrassed or intimidated. See Policy 5517.01 - Bullying and Other Forms of Aggressive Behavior. In particular, students are prohibited from using PCDs to: (1) transmit material that is threatening, obscene, disruptive, or sexually explicit or that can be construed as harassment or disparagement of others based upon their race, color, national origin, sex (including sexual orientation/transgender identity), disability, age, religion, ancestry, or political beliefs; and (2) engage in "sexting" - i.e., sending, receiving, sharing, viewing, or possessing pictures, text messages, e-mails or other materials of a sexual nature in electronic or any other form. Violation of these prohibitions shall result in disciplinary action. Furthermore, such actions will be reported to local law enforcement and child services as required by law.

Students are also prohibited from using a PCD to capture, record, and/or transmit test information or any other information in a manner constituting fraud, theft, cheating, or academic dishonesty. Likewise, students are prohibited from using PCDs to receive such information.

"Sexting" is prohibited at any time on school property or at school functions. Sexting is the electronic transmission of sexual messages or pictures, usually through cell phone text messaging. Such conduct not only is potentially dangerous for the involved students, but can lead to unwanted exposure of the messages and images to others, and could result in criminal violations related to the transmission or possession of child pornography. Such conduct will be subject to discipline and possible confiscation of the PCD.

Possession of a PCD by a student at school during school hours and/or during extra-curricular activities is a privilege that may be forfeited by any student who fails to abide by the terms of this policy, or otherwise abuses this privilege.

Violations of this policy may result in disciplinary action and/or confiscation of the PCD. The Principal will also refer the matter to law enforcement or child services if the violation involves an illegal activity (e.g., child pornography, sexting). Discipline will be imposed on an escalating scale ranging from a warning to an expulsion based on the number of previous violations and/or the nature of or circumstances surrounding a particular violation. If the PCD is confiscated, it will be released/returned to the student's parent/guardian after the student complies with any other disciplinary consequences that are imposed, unless the violation involves potentially illegal activity in which case the PCD may be turned-over to law enforcement. A confiscated device will be marked in a removable manner with the student's name and held in a secure location in the building's central office until it is retrieved by the parent/guardian or turned-over to law enforcement. School officials will not search or otherwise tamper with PCDs in District custody unless they reasonably suspect that the search is required to discover evidence of a violation of the law or other school rules. Any search will be conducted in accordance with Policy 5771 - Search and Seizure. If multiple offenses occur, a student may lose his/her privilege to bring a PCD to school for a designated length of time or on a permanent basis.

A person who discovers a student using a PCD, recording device, or other device with one- or two-way audio communication technology in violation of this policy is required to report the violation to the Principal.

Students are personally and solely responsible for the care and security of their PCDs. The Board assumes no responsibility for theft, loss, or damage to, or misuse or unauthorized use of, PCDs brought onto its property.

Parents/Guardians are advised that the best way to get in touch with their child during the school day is by calling the school office.

Students may use school phones to contact parents/guardians during the school day.

USE OF SCHOOL EQUIPMENT AND FACILITIES

Students must receive teacher permission before using any equipment or materials in the classroom. Students must seek permission from the Principal prior to using any other school equipment or facility. Students are responsible for the proper use and protection of any equipment or facility they are permitted to use.

VISITORS

Visitors, particularly parents, are welcome at the School. Visitors must report to the office upon entering the School to sign in and obtain a pass. Any visitor found in the building without signing in shall be reported to the Principal. If a person wishes to confer with a member of the staff, s/he should call for an appointment prior to coming to the School in order to schedule a mutually convenient meeting time.

Students may not bring visitors to school without prior written permission from the Principal.

WITHDRAWAL/TRANSFER FROM SCHOOL

No student under the age of eighteen (18) is allowed to withdraw from school without the written consent of his/her parents and in compliance with State law. A student who otherwise withdraws from school shall be reported to the juvenile judge of the county and to the Bureau of Motor Vehicles for suspension of their driver's license, if s/he is under the age of 18.

Parents must notify the Principal about plans to transfer their child to another school. School records, including disciplinary records of suspension and expulsion, will be transferred to the new school within 14 days of the parents' notice or request.

SECTION II - ACADEMICS

CAREER ADVISING PROGRAM

Career advising is an integrated process that helps students understand how their personal interests, strengths and values might predict satisfaction and success in school and related career fields, as well as how to tie these interests and strengths to their academic and career goals. Students need to have access to comprehensive resources and support to prepare for their future success. Through relevant classroom instruction, career-related learning experiences, and a program of counseling and advising, students can discover their interests and explore academic and career pathway options. Refer to Board Policy 2413.

COLLEGE CREDIT PLUS PROGRAM

Any student in grades 7 through 12 may enroll in a postsecondary program provided s/he meets the requirements established by law and by the participating college or university. A student will be denied high school credit for any portions of or for the entire class if taken during a period of expulsion. Student participation requires written consent of the Superintendent and, for students under 18, written consent of the parents or attendance in counseling services offered with this educational option. Any interested student should contact the School Counselor to obtain the necessary information.

COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY AND NETWORKS

The Board of Education is committed to the effective use of technology to both enhance the quality of student learning and the efficiency of District operations.

Students' use of the District's network and technology resources is a privilege, not a right. Students and their parents must sign and submit a student *Acceptable Use of Technology Agreement Including Internet Use & Safety* form annually. (See also, Policy 7540.03).

Further safeguards shall be established so that the Board's investment in both hardware and software achieves the benefits of technology and inhibits negative side effects. Accordingly, students shall be educated about appropriate online behavior including, but not limited to, using social media to interact with others online; interacting with other individuals in chat rooms or on blogs; and, recognizing what constitutes cyberbullying, understanding cyberbullying is a violation of Board policy, and learning appropriate responses if they experience cyberbullying. Refer to Board Policy 7450 and 7544.

COURSE OFFERINGS

Secondary courses offered can be found on the District's website.

School counselors use the Course Guide book to work with students on individual plans for the courses taken throughout their middle and high school years.

DIPLOMA REFERRAL

Social graduation is an opportunity for students with individualized education programs (IEPs) to participate in high school graduation ceremonies without obtaining an official diploma. Students with IEPs who have completed all academic requirements for high school graduation, but who have not yet completed their transition-related IEP goals may be eligible for social graduation. Students may participate in social graduation only upon the recommendation of their respective IEP teams. If social graduation is recommended, the student may engage in all aspects of the graduation celebration (e.g., wearing a cap and gown; sitting with the graduation class; having his/her name printed in the program and read aloud at the ceremony; walking across the stage to receive a faux diploma). Instead of receiving an official diploma, however, the student will receive an unsigned diploma or certificate of participation. Refer to Board Policy 5460.01.

EARLY GRADUATION

The Board of Education acknowledges that some students seek to pursue educational goals that include graduation from high school at an earlier date than their designated class.

A student who completes the requirements for early high school graduation may participate in the graduation ceremonies with his/her designated class or the class graduating in the year in which s/he completes the District's requirements for high school graduation. Refer to Board Policy 5464.

EDUCATIONAL OPTIONS

The Board of Education recognizes the need to provide alternative means by which students achieve the goals of the District.

Educational options are learning experiences or activities that are designed to extend, enhance, supplement, or serve as an alternative to classroom instruction.

The Superintendent shall prepare a plan of educational options for use in meeting a variety of student needs. Such options will include the District's Credit Flexibility Plan and may include, but not be limited to, distance learning, on-line coursework, tutorial programs, independent study, correspondence courses, educational travel, project portfolios, internships, mentorship programs, summer school, and early college entrance. Refer to Board Policy 2370.

FIELD TRIPS

Field trips are academic activities that are held off school grounds. There are also other trips that are part of the School's co-curricular and extracurricular program. No minor student may participate in any school-sponsored trip without parental consent and a current emergency medical form on file in the office. Medications normally administered at school will be administered while on field trips. The Student Code of Conduct applies to all field trips.

- Attendance rules apply to all field trips.
- While the District encourages students to participate in field trips, alternative assignments will be provided for any student whose parent does not give permission for the student to attend.
- Students who violate school rules may lose the privilege to go on field trips.

GRADES

The Board of Education recognizes its responsibility for providing a system of grading student achievement that can help the student, teachers, and parents judge properly how well the student is achieving the goals of the District's program.

The Board believes that the District's grading system should be a reliable system and one that ensures each student's grades signify accurately his/her degree of accomplishment of those expected learning outcomes. Refer to Board Policy 5421.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

In order to acknowledge each student's successful completion of the instructional program, appropriate to the achievement of District goals and objectives as well as personal proficiency, the Board of Education awards a diploma to eligible students at a graduation ceremony.

The Board of Education shall award a regular high school diploma to every student enrolled in this District who meets the requirements of graduation established by State law and this Board or who properly completes the goals and objectives specified in his/her individualized education program (IEP) including either the exemption from or the requirement to complete the tests required by the State Board of Education in order to graduate. In addition to earning course credits, each student must fulfill the graduation pathway requirements approved by the State. Refer to Board Policy 5460.

HOMEWORK

The Board of Education acknowledges the educational validity of out-of-school assignments as adjuncts to and extensions of the instructional program of the schools. Student grades will reflect the completion of all work, including outside assignments.

"Homework" shall refer to those assignments to be prepared outside of the school by the student or independently while in attendance at school. Homework is also part of the student's preparation for the assessment tests and graduation. Refer to Board Policy 2330.

PROMOTION, ACCELERATION, AND RETENTION

The Board of Education recognizes that the personal, social, physical, and educational growth of children will vary and that they should be placed in the educational setting most appropriate to their needs at the various stages of their growth.

It is the Board's intent that each student be moved forward in a continuous pattern of achievement and growth that is in harmony with his/her own development.

Such a pattern should coincide with the system of grade levels established by this Board and the instructional objectives established for each.

The promotion and retention provisions of this policy shall be in compliance with the terms of Ohio's Third Grade Reading Guarantee (Policy 2623.02)

Promotion:

A student will be promoted to the succeeding grade level when she/he has:

- A. Completed the course and State-mandated requirements at the presently assigned grade;
- B. Demonstrated the degree of social, emotional, and physical maturation necessary for a successful learning experience in the next grade.

Retention:

A student may be retained at his/her current grade level when s/he has, in the opinion of the professional staff, failed to demonstrate proficiency in mathematics and reading and the core subjects of science, language arts or social studies.

A student may be placed at the next grade level when retention would no longer benefit the student.

The Superintendent shall develop administrative guidelines for promotion, placement, and retention of students that:

- A. require the recommendation of the relevant staff members for promotion, placement, or retention;
- B. require that parents are informed in advance of the possibility of retention of a student at a grade level;
- C. assure that efforts will be made to remediate the student's difficulties before she/he is retained;
- D. require that a student be retained if s/he is truant for ten percent (10%) or more of the required school days and has failed at least two (2) courses of study, unless the principal and the teachers of the failed subjects determine that the student is academically prepared to be promoted;
- E. assign to the principal the final responsibility for determining the promotion, placement, or retention of each student.
- F. provide parents the opportunity to appeal the decision about their child's promotion, placement, or retention.

Academic Acceleration:

Academic acceleration may involve whole-grade acceleration or individual subject acceleration. Academic acceleration occurs when a student is not only doing the caliber of work necessary to be promoted to the next grade or enrolled in the next course in the academic sequence, but also demonstrates the ability to do the caliber of work required of students in that next grade level/subject/course. An acceleration evaluation committee will determine whether the student will be permitted to skip a grade level (i.e., whole-grade acceleration), or take a subject at a higher grade level or skip a course in the usual and customary academic sequence (i.e., individual subject acceleration). Refer to Board Policy 5410.

RECOGNITION OF STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

The Board of Education values excellence and wishes to inculcate in students the desire to do their best in all things. It shall be the policy of this Board, therefore, to recognize outstanding accomplishment in curricular, co-curricular, and extra-curricular areas.

The Board authorizes the Superintendent to develop a plan for recognition of outstanding student achievement based on well-defined, consistent criteria and standards.

RTI

Response to Intervention (RTI) is a multi-tier approach to the early identification and support of students with learning and/or behavior needs. The RTI process begins with identifying students in the general education classroom. Struggling learners are provided with interventions at increasing levels of intensity to accelerate their rate of learning. These services may be provided by a variety of personnel, including general education teachers, special educators, and specialists. Progress is closely monitored to assess both the learning rate and level of performance of individual students. Educational decisions about the intensity and duration of interventions are based on individual student response to instruction. RTI is designed for use when making decisions in both general education and special education, creating a well-integrated system of instruction and intervention guided by child outcome data.

SOCIAL MEDIA

It is critical that students be taught how to use social media platforms safely and responsibly. Social media are a powerful and pervasive technology that affords students and employees the opportunity to communicate for school and work purposes, and to collaborate in the delivery of a comprehensive education. Federal law mandates that the District provide for the education of students regarding appropriate online behavior, including interacting with other individuals on social networking websites and in chat rooms, and regarding cyberbullying awareness and response. Refer to Board Policy 7544 and Board Policy 7540.03.

STUDENT ASSESSMENT

The Board shall administer the State-mandated tests (e.g., diagnostic assessments and achievement tests) to students at the times designated by the State Board of Education. The Board may, for medical reasons or other good cause, excuse a student from taking a State-mandated test on the date scheduled, but any such test shall be administered to such excused student not later than nine (9) days following the scheduled date. The Board shall annually report, not later than June 30th, the number of students who have not taken one (1) or more of the State-mandated tests to the State Board of Education. Refer to Board Policy 2623.

STUDENTS AT-RISK OF NOT QUALIFYING FOR A HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA

The Board of Education is committed to ensuring that all students have an opportunity to graduate with a high school diploma. To assist with this commitment, a graduation plan is developed for all students who are enrolled in high school. The Board also utilizes specific procedures and criteria to identify students who are at-risk of not qualifying for a high school diploma and provides appropriate interventions and supports to assist at-risk students in meeting graduation requirements.

The Superintendent will develop and implement procedures for identifying at-risk students enrolled in grades nine (9) through twelve (12). Procedures may also include a process to identify at-risk students before they enter ninth grade.

The procedures will include a method for determining when a student is not making adequate progress in meeting the terms of their graduation plan, as well as a process for determining whether students meet any of the other criteria included in this policy and administrative guidelines. Students who are identified as at-risk will be provided appropriate interventions and supports in accordance with Board policy and administrative guidelines. Refer to Board Policy 5460.02.

TITLE I

Title I is a federally funded program that provides financial assistance for our nation's schools. Title I funds enhance educational programs at our school and encourage parental involvement.

The goal of Title I is to help ensure that all children have the opportunity to obtain a high-quality education and reach proficiency on challenging state academic standards and assessments.

In order to meet this goal, home and school partnerships are essential. Parents, students, and teachers work together so that all of our children succeed in school.

District parents may request policies regarding student participation in state mandated assessments as well as information on each assessment. Please see your building principal for this information and/or Board Policy 2623. Information on mandated State Assessments can also be found at the following website web address: <http://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Testing>.

SECTION III - STUDENT ACTIVITIES

ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY

In order to be eligible for any co-curricular, interscholastic and non interscholastic extracurricular activity, a student must have maintained at least a 2.0 grade point average on a 4.0 grading scale for the grading period prior to the grading period in which s/he wishes to participate. Students who are educated at home or enrolled in nonpublic schools are eligible to participate in accordance with Policy 9270. Students attending community or STEM schools may participate in extra-curricular activities in accordance with Policy 2430.02.

An exception may be made by the principal if the student has been participating in an intervention program and has shown satisfactory progress toward achieving the minimum grade-point average.

If a student who becomes ineligible under these standards improves his/her grade point average during the current grading period enough to meet the eligibility standard, s/he may be reinstated at the beginning of the next grading period. Refer to Board Policy 2430.

In addition to the eligibility requirements established by the Ohio High School Athletic Association, to be eligible for any interscholastic extracurricular activity, a student must have maintained at least a 2.0 grade-point average on a 4.0 grading scale for the grading period prior to the grading period in which s/he wishes to participate. However, students with a GPA between 1.5 and 1.9 can still participate.

Athletes with a GPA between 2.0 and 2.49 are on Academic Watch and must participate in an academic intervention program during which athletes may participate but are subject to certain requirements. Please see athletic probation/intervention guidelines.

Students with a GPA between a 1.5 and 1.9 are on Academic Probation. Academic Probation will last four (4) weeks during which the athletes may participate but are subject to certain requirements. Please see athletic probation/intervention guidelines.

Athletes with a GPA between 1.0 and 1.49 are on Academic Intervention. Academic Intervention will last four (4) weeks during which the athletes may practice but not participate in scrimmages or games. Please see athletic probation/intervention guidelines.

Students educated at home or enrolled in a nonpublic school who are permitted to participate on a District interscholastic team must fulfill the same academic, nonacademic, and financial requirements as any other participant. See Policy 9270.

Students educated at home or enrolled in a nonpublic school who are permitted to participate on a District interscholastic team must fulfill the same academic, nonacademic, and financial requirements as any other participant. See Policy 9270.

An exception may be made by the principal if the student has been participating in an intervention program and has shown satisfactory progress toward achieving the minimum grade-point average.

If a student who becomes ineligible under these standards improves his/her grade point average during the current grading period to meet the eligibility standard, s/he may be reinstated at the beginning of the next grading period. Refer to Board Policy 2431.

ATHLETICS

The Canton City School District provides a variety of athletic activities in which students may participate provided they meet eligibility requirements established by the Board and by the Ohio High School Athletic Association (OHSAA). Participation in these activities is a privilege and not a right, and students may be prohibited from all or part of their participation in such activities by authorized school personnel without further notice, hearing and/or appeal rights in accordance with Board Policy 5610.05.

For further information, contact Mr. Antonio Hall, the Athletic Director, at 330-438-2750 ext. 104.

NON SCHOOL-SPONSORED CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES

The Board of Education will not permit the use of school facilities by non district-sponsored student clubs and activities or District-sponsored, non curriculum-related clubs and activities during instructional hours. During non instructional time, however, no group of students, regardless of the size of the group, will be denied an opportunity to meet on the basis of the religious, political, philosophical, or other content of the activity.

An application for permission for non district-sponsored student clubs and activities to meet on school premises shall be made to the building principal where the activity will take place, who shall grant permission provided that s/he determines that:

- A. the activity has been initiated by students;

- B. attendance at the meeting is voluntary;
- C. no agent or employee of the District will promote, lead, or participate in the meeting;
- D. the meeting does not materially and substantially interfere with the orderly conduct of instructional activities in the school;
- E. nonschool persons do not direct, conduct, control, or regularly attend the activity.

A student-initiated group granted permission to meet on school premises shall be provided the same rights and access and shall be subject to the same administrative guidelines that govern the meetings of student organizations sponsored by this Board, except as provided by this policy. Participation in a student-initiated meeting must be available to all students who wish to attend and cannot be denied on the basis of a student's race, color, creed, religion, gender, national origin, disability, or social or economic status.

The Board will not permit the organization of a fraternity, sorority, or secret society. The building principal will determine the number of outside resource person(s) that may attend a student-initiated meeting based on the needs of the activity. The Superintendent may exclude nonstudents from directing, controlling, or attending any such meetings of students.

A professional staff member may be assigned to attend a student-initiated meeting in a custodial capacity but shall not participate in the activity. No professional staff member shall be compelled to attend a student-initiated meeting if the content of the speech at the meeting is contrary to his/her beliefs.

The principal may take such actions as may be necessary to maintain order and discipline on school premises and to protect the safety and well-being of students and staff members.

PROHIBITION FROM EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Participation in extracurricular activities, including interscholastic sports, is a privilege and not a right. Therefore, the Board of Education authorizes the Superintendent, principals, and assistant principals and other authorized personnel employed by the District to supervise or coach a student activity program, to prohibit a student from participating in any particular or all extra-curricular activities of the District for offenses or violations of the Student Code of Conduct/Student Discipline Code for a period not to exceed the remainder of the school year in which the offense or violation of the Student Code of Conduct/Student Discipline Code took place.

In addition, student athletes are further subject to the Athletic Code of Conduct and may be prohibited from participating in all or part of any interscholastic sport for violations therein. Students prohibited from participation in all or part of any extracurricular activity are not entitled to further notice, hearing, or appeal rights.

SCHOOL-SPONSORED CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES

The Canton City School District provides students the opportunity to broaden their learning through curricular-related activities. A curricular-related activity may be taken for credit, required for a particular course, and/or contain school subject matter. Refer to Board Policy 2430.

Extra-curricular activities do not reflect the School curriculum, but are made available to students to allow them to pursue additional worthwhile activities such as recreational sports, drama, and the like.

All students are permitted to participate in the activities of their choosing, as long as they meet the eligibility requirements. Participation in these activities is a privilege and not a right, and students may be prohibited from all or part of their participation in such activities by authorized school personnel without further notice, hearing and/or appeal rights in accordance with Board Policy 5610.05.

STUDENT ATTENDANCE AT SCHOOL EVENTS

The Board of Education encourages students to attend as many school events held after school as possible, without interfering with their school work and home activities. Enthusiastic spectators help to build school spirit and encourage those students who are participating in the event.

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

The Board will continue to provide adequate supervision for all students who are participants in District-sponsored events.

STUDENT EMPLOYMENT

The Board of Education believes that attendance at school should occupy a student's full attention and should take precedence over nonschool-related employment.

If a student must work while attending school, s/he should receive counseling and assistance in seeking appropriate job opportunities and in correlating work schedules with school studies and activities. Refer to Board Policy 5895.

STUDENT PRECINCT WORKERS

In conjunction with the County Board of Elections, the Board of Education will permit high school students to apply and, if appointed by the Board of Election, to serve as precinct officers at a primary, special, or general election.

To be eligible, a student shall be:

- A. a United States citizen;
- B. a resident of the county;
- C. at least seventeen (17) years of age;
- D. enrolled in the senior year of high school.

As part of the application process, the student shall declare his/her political party affiliation with the Board of Election. Any student selected shall be excused from school on the day of an election at which the student is serving as a precinct officer.

SECTION IV - STUDENT CONDUCT

ATTENDANCE

Regular attendance is a significant student responsibility at all grade levels. Many studies correlate regular attendance with success in school. Regular attendance means that the academic learning process is not interrupted, less time is spent on make-up assignments, and students benefit from participation and interaction with others in class. Many important lessons are learned through active participation in classroom and other school activities that cannot be replaced by individual study.

Establishing a pattern of good attendance will benefit the student in school and in the workplace. Attendance is important in the development of a high quality work ethic, which will be a significant factor in a student's success with future employers. One of the most important work habits that employers look for in hiring and promoting a person is his/her dependability in coming to work every day on time. This is a habit the School wants to help students develop as early as possible.

The educational program offered by this District is predicated upon the presence of the student and requires continuity of instruction and classroom participation. Attendance shall be required of all students enrolled in the schools during the days and hours that the school is in session or during the attendance sessions to which s/he has been assigned.

A student in grades 9 through 12 may be considered a full-time equivalent student provided the student is enrolled in at least five (5) units of instruction, as defined by State law, per school year.

In accordance with statute, the Superintendent shall require, from the parent of each student of compulsory school age or from an adult student who has been absent from school or from class for any reason, a written statement of the cause for such absence. The Board of Education reserves the right to verify such statements and to investigate the cause of each single absence or prolonged absence.

When a parent, guardian, or other person having care of a student has failed to initiate a telephone call or other communication notifying the school or building administration of the student's excused or unexcused absence within 120 minutes after the beginning of the school day, the attendance officer or designee for each school building shall make at least one (1) attempt to contact the parent, guardian, or other person having care of any student who is recorded as absent without legitimate excuse within 120 minutes after the beginning of each school day by a method designated by the Superintendent in accordance with Ohio law (see AG 5200).

Excused Absences

Students may be excused from school for one or more of the following reasons and will be provided an opportunity to make-up missed school work and/or tests. The Board considers the following factors to be reasonable excuses for time missed at school:

- A. personal illness (a written physician's statement verifying the illness may be required)
- B. appointment with a health care provider
- C. illness in the family necessitating the presence of the child
- D. quarantine of the home
- E. death in the family
- F. necessary work at home due to absence or incapacity of parent(s)/guardian(s)
- G. observation or celebration of a bona fide religious holiday
- H. out-of-state travel (up to a maximum twenty-four (24) hours per school year that the student's school is open for instruction) to participate in a District-approved enrichment or extracurricular activity

Any classroom assignment missed due to the absence shall be completed by the student.

If the student will be absent for twenty-four (24) or more consecutive hours that the student's school is open for instruction, a classroom teacher shall accompany the student during the travel period to provide the student with instructional assistance.

- I. such good cause as may be acceptable to the Superintendent
- J. medically necessary leave for a pregnant student in accordance with Policy 5751
- K. service as a precinct officer at a primary, special or general election in accordance with the program set forth in Policy 5725

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.

The Board shall consider each student assigned to a program of other guided learning experiences to be in regular attendance for the program provided that s/he reports to such staff member s/he is assigned for guidance at the place in which s/he is conducting study, and regularly demonstrates progress toward the objectives of the course of study.

The Superintendent may excuse a student over fourteen (14) years of age from attendance at school for a future limited period for the purpose of performing essential work directly or exclusively for his/her parents or guardians. Such excuse should not exceed five (5) days and may at the discretion of the Superintendent be renewed for five (5) additional days. At no time, however, shall such excuse cause a student to be absent from school for a period of more than ten (10) consecutive days.

At the discretion of the Superintendent or his/her designee, a student may be excused for a longer period of time than ten (10) days if a child's parent or guardian has recently died or become totally or partially incapacitated and there is no older brother or sister living in the home who is out of school. (The Superintendent may request a certificate of a physician attesting to the physical condition of the parent or guardian.)

Attendance shall be taken at the beginning of every block/period in buildings with block/period-based scheduling. Absences from a class block/period shall be accounted for to the nearest full hour.

Attendance shall be taken at the commencement of the school day in buildings with non-period-based schedules. Attendance for students arriving late or leaving early must be tracked and recorded to the nearest full hour.

Contacting the Parent/Guardian of an Absent Student

When a parent, guardian, or other person having care of a student has failed to initiate a telephone call or other communication notifying the school or building administration of the student's excused or unexcused absence within 120 minutes after the beginning of the school day, the attendance officer or designee for each school building shall make at least one (1) attempt to contact the parent, guardian, or other person having care of any student who is recorded as absent without legitimate excuse within 120 minutes after the beginning of each school day by a method designated by the Superintendent in accordance with Ohio law (see AG 5200).

Excessive Absences

When a student of compulsory school age is absent from school with combined non medical excused absences and unexcused absences in excess of thirty-eight (38) or more hours in one (1) school month, or sixty-five (65) or more hours in a school year, that student is considered "excessively absent" from school. The District or school shall notify the child's parent or guardian of the child's absences, in writing, within seven (7) school days after the date of the absence that triggered the notice requirement. At the same time written notice is given, any appropriate intervention action listed herein may be taken.

The following "medical excuses" will not count towards a student's excessive absence hours: (1) person illness; (2) illness in the family necessitating the presence of the child; (3) quarantine of the home; (4) health care provider appointments (doctor, dentist, mental health provider, etc.); (5) medically-necessary leave for a pregnant student in accordance with Policy 57511; (6) death in the family; or (7) other set of circumstances the Superintendent deems on a case-by-case basis to be a good and sufficient cause for medical absences from school.

A medically excused absence occurs any time a student is out of school due to illness or medical visit (physician, dentist, mental health, etc.). A medical excuse for personal illness will be accepted in the form of doctor's note within five (5) school days of the absence or parent call-in on the day of the absence due to illness or doctor's visit. A student may have up to seven (7) medically excused absences without a doctor's note, but with a phone call from a parent/guardian. For the 2020-2021, medical excuse absences will be accepted through this process for students participating both in-person and remotely. This policy will be extended beyond seven(7) days if the student or someone in the student's family is in quarantine due to recognized pandemic/epidemic (e.g., COVID-19) or experiencing symptoms of the pandemic/epidemic.

Habitual Truancy

Unexcused absence from school (truancy) is not acceptable. Students who are truant will receive no credit for school work that is missed. A student will be considered habitually truant if the student is of compulsory school age and absent without a legitimate excuse for thirty (30) or more consecutive hours, for forty-two (42) or more hours in one (1) school month, or for seventy-two (72) or more hours in one (1) school year. If a student is habitually truant and the student's parent fails to excuse the student's attendance, a complaint will be filed with the Judge of the Juvenile Court in compliance with State law and Board Policy 5200.

Legitimate excuses for the absence of a student who is otherwise habitually truant include but are not limited to:

- A. the student was enrolled in another school district;
- B. the student was excused from attendance in accordance with R.C 3321.04; or

- C. the student has received an age and schooling certificate.

Absence Intervention Team

To the extent required by law as determined on an annual basis, within ten (10) days of a student becoming habitually truant, the Principal shall assign the student to an absence intervention team.

Within fourteen (14) school days after the assignment of a student to an absence intervention team, the team shall develop an intervention plan for that student in an effort to reduce or eliminate further absences. Each intervention plan shall vary based on the individual needs of the student, but the plan shall state that the attendance officer shall file a complaint not later than sixty-one (61) days after the date the plan was implemented, if the child has refused to participate in, or failed to make satisfactory progress on, the intervention plan. Within seven (7) school days after the development of the plan, reasonable efforts shall be made to provide the student's parent/guardian/custodian, with written notice of the plan.

As part of the absence intervention plan, the Principal may, in his/her discretion, contact the appropriate juvenile court and ask to have a student informally enrolled in any alternative to adjudication described in R.C. 2151.27(G).

Each absence intervention team may vary based on the needs of each individual student but shall include a representative from the child's building, another representative from the child's building who knows the child, and the child's parent or parent's designee, or the child's guardian, custodian, guardian ad litem, or temporary custodian. The team also may include a school psychologist, counselor, or representative of a public or nonprofit agency designed to assist students and their families in reducing absences.

The members of the absence intervention team shall be selected within seven (7) school days of the student meeting the habitually truant threshold. Within the same period of seven (7) school days, the Principal shall make at least three (3) meaningful, good faith attempts to secure the participation of the student's parent/guardian/custodian, guardian ad litem, or temporary custodian on that team. A good faith attempt to secure the participation of the parent shall include, but not be limited to, contacting (or attempting to contact) the parent by telephone, email, or regular mail. If the student's parent responds to any of those attempts, but is unable to participate for any reason, the Principal shall inform the parent of the parent's right to appear by designee. If seven (7) school days elapse and the student's parent/guardian/custodian, guardian ad litem, or temporary custodian fails to respond to the attempts to secure participation, the attendance officer shall investigate whether the failure to respond triggers mandatory abuse or neglect reporting to the public children services agency. At the same time, the absence intervention team shall continue to develop an intervention plan for the child notwithstanding the absence of the child's parent/guardian/custodian, guardian ad litem, or temporary custodian.

Intervention Strategies

In order to address the attendance practices of a student who is habitually truant, the intervention team may, as part of an intervention plan, take any of the following intervention actions:

- A. provide counseling to the student
- B. request or require the student's parent to attend a parental involvement program
- C. request or require a parent to attend a truancy prevention mediation program
- D. notify the Registrar of Motor Vehicles of the student's absences
- E. take appropriate legal action
- F. assignment to an alternative school (Note: If the District has established an alternative school, it must appear as an alternative intervention strategy.)

In the event that a student becomes habitually truant within twenty-one (21) school days prior to the last day of instruction of a school year, the Principal may, in his/her discretion, assign a school official who knows the student well to work with the child's parent/guardian/custodian, guardian ad litem, or temporary custodian to develop an absence intervention plan during the summer.

The plan shall be implemented not later than seven (7) days prior to the first day of instruction of the next school year.

The absence intervention process shall commence upon the first day of instruction of the next school year.

Reporting Requirements

The attendance officer shall file a complaint in the juvenile court against a student on the sixty-first (61st) day after the implementation of an absence intervention plan or other intervention strategies, provided that all of the following apply:

- A. The student is habitually truant.
- B. The school district or school has made meaningful attempts to re-engage the student through the absence intervention plan, other intervention strategies, and any offered alternatives to adjudication, if applicable.
- C. The student has refused to participate in or failed to make satisfactory progress on the plan, as determined by the absence intervention team, or any offered intervention strategies or alternative to adjudication.

If the student, at any time during the implementation phase of the absence intervention plan or other intervention strategies, is absent without legitimate excuse for thirty (30) or more consecutive hours or forty-two (42) or more hours in one school month, the attendance officer shall file a complaint in juvenile court against that student, unless the absence intervention team has determined that the student has made substantial progress on the absence intervention plan.

In the event that the sixty-first (61st) day after the implementation of the absence intervention plan or other intervention strategies falls on a day during the summer months, the absence intervention team may extend the implementation of the plan and delay the filing of the complaint for an additional thirty (30) days from the first day of instruction of the next school year.

The Superintendent is authorized to establish an educational program for parents of truant students which is designed to encourage parents to ensure that their children attend school regularly. Any parent who does not complete the program is to be reported to law enforcement authorities for parental education neglect, a fourth class misdemeanor if found guilty.

Whenever any student of compulsory school age has sixty (60) consecutive hours in a single month or a total of ninety (90) hours of unexcused absence from school during the school year, s/he will be considered habitually absent under R.C. 3321.13(b)(2). The Board authorizes the Superintendent to inform the student and his/her parents, guardian, or custodian of the record of absences without a legitimate excuse as well as the District's intent to notify the Registrar of Motor Vehicles, if appropriate, and the Judge of the Juvenile Court of the student's unexcused absences and habitually absent status.

If a student who is habitually truant violates the order of a juvenile court regarding the student's prior adjudication as an unruly child for being a habitual truant, s/he may further be adjudicated as a delinquent child.

The District shall report to the Ohio Department of Education, as soon as practicable, and in a format and manner determined by the Department, any of the following occurrences:

- A. when a notice that a student has been absent with or without legitimate excuse for thirty-eight (38) or more hours in one (1) school month, or sixty-five (65) or more hours in a school year is submitted to a parent/guardian/or custodian;
- B. when a child of compulsory school age has been absent without legitimate excuse from the public school the child is supposed to attend for thirty (30) or more consecutive hours, forty-two (42) or more hours in one school month, or seventy-two (72) or more hours in a school year;
- C. when a child of compulsory school age who has been adjudicated an unruly child for being a habitual truant violates the court order regarding that adjudication;
- D. when an absence intervention plan has been implemented for a child under this policy.

This policy was developed after consultation with the judge of the juvenile court of StarkCounty/Counties, with the parents, guardians, or other persons having care of the students attending school in the district, and with appropriate State and local agencies.

Tracking Remote Attendance

Consistent with the Remote Learning Plan submitted to the Ohio Department of Education, the District will provide a variety of instruction models, including both teacher-led remote learning and self-directed remote learning.

Student attendance in teacher-led remote learning (synchronous web-based instruction) shall be tracked in the same manner as hourly, in-person instruction. Teachers shall determine hourly attendance by evidence of student login and logoff data. Teachers are encouraged to verify meaningful attendance in a method selected by the teacher, such as an ungraded quiz at the close of a lesson, a survey or poll questions (unrelated to the lesson and unpredictable) at the end of the lesson, or asking students questions at random throughout a session.

In addition to the reasons listed at the beginning of this policy, absences from teacher-led remote learning (synchronous web-based instruction) may be considered excused under the following circumstances, with written notice from a parent/guardian:

1. temporary internet outage for individual students or households;
2. unexpected technical difficulties for individual students or households, such as password resets or software upgrades occurring during a teacher-led remote learning lesson;
3. computer/device malfunction;
4. malfunction of a District-owned device for which the District is providing technical assistance, repair, or

Attendance in self-directed remote learning (asynchronous) shall be tracked by evidence of participation, which may include, but is not limited to:

1. daily logins to learning management systems;
2. daily interactions with the teacher to acknowledge attendance, which may include, but are not limited to, messages, emails, telephone calls, video chats or other formats that enable teachers to engage with students; and
3. assignment completion.

The teacher will determine the number of hours a typical student would take to complete an assignment and report those hours of attendance when the assignment is completed. A teacher may adjust the number of hours of attendance based on the length of time the student actually spent on the assignment, as reported by the student, parent, or other person with knowledge.

Notification of Absence

If a student will be absent, the parents must notify the school and provide an explanation. If prior contact is not possible, the parents should provide a written excuse as soon as possible after the student's absence. When no excuse is provided, the absence will be unexcused and the student will be identified as truant for that school day. If the offered excuse for a student's absence is questionable or if the number of student absences is excessive, the school staff will notify the parents of the need for improvement in the student's attendance.

A skipped class or part of the school day will be identified as an unexcused absence and students will not be permitted to make-up missed class work. The student will also be subject to disciplinary action.

Students with a health condition that causes repeated absences must provide the administration with an explanation of the condition from a registered physician.

When a student is absent without prior notification, parents will be notified of the absence via an automated phone call within the first 90 minutes of the school day.

Homebound Instruction

The School may arrange for individual instruction at home for students who are unable to attend school because of an accident, illness, or disability. Such instruction may be arranged upon receipt of documentation of the student's condition from a physician. For more information, contact the Office of Student Services.

Make-up of Tests and Other School Work

Students who are absent from school with an excuse shall be given the opportunity to make up missed work. The student should contact their teacher(s) as soon as possible to obtain assignments.

Make-up work due to an excused absence must be completed within five (5) days after returning to school.

If a student misses a teacher's test due to an excused absence, s/he should make arrangements with the teacher to take the test at another time. If s/he misses a State Mandated assessment test or other standardized test, the student should consult with the Principal to arrange for administration of the test at another time.

Suspension from School

Absence from school due to suspension shall be considered an authorized absence.

A suspended student will be responsible for making up school work missed due to suspension. Assignments may be obtained from the teacher(s) beginning with the first day of suspension. Make up of missed tests may be scheduled when the student returns to school.

The student must complete missed assignments during the suspension and turn them in to the teacher by the time the student returns to school.

The student will be given at least partial credit for properly-completed assignments and will receive a grade for any made-up tests.

Unexcused Absences

Any student who is absent from school for all or any part of the day without a legitimate excuse shall be considered truant and the student and his/her parents shall be subject to the truancy laws of the State. (Please refer also to "Truancy" on page 34 of this handbook.)

High School

If a student under the age of 18, has 10 or more consecutive or 15 total days of unexcused absence during a semester, s/he will be considered habitually absent and will be reported to the Judge of the Juvenile Court and to the Bureau of Motor Vehicles for suspension of his/her driver's license, if appropriate, as a result of this excessive absence.

Tardiness

Elementary Level

A student who is not in his/her assigned location by the start of class shall be considered tardy. Any student arriving late to school is to report to the School office before going to class.

Secondary Level

Each student is expected to be in his/her assigned location throughout the school day. If a student is late arriving at school, s/he must report to the School office before going to his/her first assigned location. Any student who is late to class shall be disciplined by the teacher. Students who are more than fifteen (15) minutes late will be considered absent for that instructional period.

Students who are tardy to school more than seven (7) times during a semester shall be disciplined according to the Student Code of Conduct.

Vacations During the School Year

It is recommended that parents not take their child out of school for vacations. When a family vacation must be scheduled during the school year, the parents should discuss the matter with the Principal to make necessary arrangements. It may be possible for the student to receive certain assignments that may be completed during the trip.

BULLYING, HARASSMENT, AND INTIMIDATION

The Board of Education is committed to providing a safe, positive, productive, and nurturing educational environment for all of its students. The Board encourages the promotion of positive interpersonal relations between members of the school community.

Harassment, intimidation, or bullying toward a student, whether by other students, staff, or third parties is strictly prohibited and will not be tolerated. This prohibition includes aggressive behavior, physical, verbal, and psychological abuse, and violence within a dating relationship. The Board will not tolerate any gestures, comments, threats, or actions which cause or threaten to cause bodily harm or personal degradation. This policy applies to all activities in the District, including activities on school property, on a school bus, or while enroute to or from school, 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, in a school vehicle, or where an employee is engaged in school business.

This policy has been developed in consultation with parents, District employees, volunteers, students, and community members as prescribed in R.C. 3313.666 and the State Board of Education's Model Policy.

Harassment, intimidation, or bullying means:

A. any intentional written, verbal, electronic, or physical act that a student or group of students exhibits toward another particular student(s) more than once and the behavior both causes mental or physical harm to the other student(s) and is sufficiently severe, persistent, or pervasive that it creates an intimidating, threatening, or abusive educational environment for the other student(s); or

B. violence within a dating relationship.

"Electronic act" means an act committed through the use of a cellular telephone, computer, pager, personal communication device, or other electronic communication device.

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. This type of behavior is a form of intimidation and harassment, although it need not be based on any of the legally protected characteristics, such as sex, race, color, national origin, marital status, or disability. It would include, but not be limited to, such behaviors as stalking, bullying/cyberbullying, intimidating, menacing, coercion, name calling, taunting, making threats, and hazing.

Harassment, intimidation, or bullying also means cyberbullying through electronically transmitted acts (i.e., internet, e-mail, cellular telephone, personal digital assistant (PDA), or wireless hand-held device) that a student(s) or a group of students exhibits toward another particular student(s) more than once and the behavior both causes mental and physical harm to the other student and is sufficiently severe, persistent, or pervasive that it creates an intimidating, threatening, or abusive educational environment for the other student(s).

Any student or student's parent/guardian who believes s/he has been or is the victim of aggressive behavior should immediately report the situation to the Building Principal or assistant principal, or the Superintendent. The student may also report concerns to teachers and other school staff 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.

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 may be made to those identified above.

All complaints about aggressive behavior that may violate this policy shall be promptly investigated. The Building Principal or appropriate administrator shall prepare a written report of the investigation upon completion. Such report shall include findings of fact, a determination of whether acts of harassment, intimidation, and/or bullying were verified, and, when prohibited acts are verified, a recommendation for intervention, including disciplinary action shall be included in the report. Where appropriate, written witness statements shall be attached to the report.

If the investigation finds an instance of harassment, intimidation, and/or bullying/cyberbullying by an electronic act or otherwise, has occurred, it will result in prompt and appropriate remedial and/or disciplinary action. This may include suspension or 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 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 - Anti-Harassment.

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 aggressive behavior is prohibited and will not be tolerated. 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 aggressive behavior. Retaliation may result in disciplinary action as indicated above.

Deliberately making false reports about harassment, intimidation, bullying and/or other aggressive behavior for the purpose of getting someone in trouble is similarly prohibited and will not be tolerated. Deliberately making false reports may result in disciplinary action as indicated above.

If a student or other individual believes there has been aggressive behavior, regardless of whether it fits a particular definition, s/he should report it and allow the administration to determine the appropriate course of action.

The District shall implement intervention strategies (AG 5517.01) to protect a victim or other person from new or additional harassment, intimidation, or bullying and from retaliation following such a report.

This policy shall not be interpreted to infringe upon the First Amendment rights of students (i.e., to prohibit a reasoned and civil exchange of opinions, or debate, that is conducted at appropriate times and places during the school day and is protected by State or Federal law).

The complainant shall be notified of the findings of the investigation, and as appropriate, that remedial action has been taken. If after investigation, acts of bullying against a specific student are verified, the Building Director or appropriate administrator shall notify the custodial parent/guardian of the victim of such finding. In providing such notification care shall be taken to respect the statutory privacy rights of the perpetrator of such harassment, intimidation, and/or bullying.

If after investigation, acts of harassment, intimidation, and/or bullying by a specific student are verified, the Building Director or appropriate administrator shall notify in writing the custodial parent/guardian of the perpetrator of that finding. If disciplinary consequences are imposed against such student, a description of such discipline shall be included in the notification.

Complaints

Students and/or their parents/guardians may file reports regarding suspected harassment, intimidation, or bullying. Such reports shall be reasonably specific including person(s) involved, number of times and places of the alleged conduct, the target of suspected harassment, intimidation, and/or bullying, and the names of any potential student or staff witnesses. Such reports may be

filed with any school staff member or administrator, and they shall be promptly forwarded to the Building Director for review, investigation, and action.

Students, parents/guardians, and school personnel may make informal or anonymous complaints of conduct that they consider to be harassment, intimidation, and/or bullying by verbal report to a teacher, school administrator, or other school personnel. Such complaints shall be reasonably specific including person(s) involved, number of times and places of the alleged conduct, the target of suspected harassment, intimidation, and/or bullying, and the names of any potential student or staff witnesses. A school staff member or administrator who receives an informal or anonymous complaint shall promptly document the complaint in writing, including the information provided. This written report shall be promptly forwarded by the school staff member and/or administrator to the Building Director for review, investigation, and appropriate action.

Individuals who make informal complaints as provided above may request that their name be maintained in confidence by the school staff member(s) and administrator(s) who receive the complaint. Anonymous complaints shall be reviewed and reasonable action shall be taken to address the situation, to the extent such action may be taken that (1) does not disclose the source of the complaint, and (2) is consistent with the due process rights of the student(s) alleged to have committed acts of harassment, intimidation, and/or bullying.

When an individual making an informal complaint has requested anonymity, the investigation of such complaint shall be limited as is appropriate in view of the anonymity of the complaint. Such limitation of investigation may include restricting action to a simple review of the complaint subject to receipt of further information and/or the withdrawal by the complaining student of the condition that his/her report be anonymous.

Refer to Board Policy 5517.01.

CODE OF CONDUCT

Student Conduct

Respect for law and for those persons in authority shall be expected of all students. This includes conformity to school rules as well as general provisions of law affecting students. Respect for the rights of others, consideration of their privileges, and cooperative citizenship shall also be expected of all members of the school community. The Board of Education has zero tolerance of violent, disruptive, or inappropriate behavior by its students.

Respect for real and personal property; pride in one's work; achievement within the range of one's ability; and exemplary personal standards of courtesy, decency, and honesty shall be maintained in the schools of this District. It is the responsibility of students, teachers and administrators to maintain a classroom environment that:

- A. allows teachers to communicate effectively with all students in the class;
- B. allows all students in the class the opportunity to learn;
- C. has consequences that are fair, and developmentally appropriate;
- D. considers the student and the circumstances of the situation; and
- E. enforces the student Code of Conduct/Student Discipline Code accordingly.

Students may be subject to discipline for violation of the Code of Conduct/Student Discipline Code even if that conduct occurs on property not owned or controlled by the Board but that is connected to activities or incidents that have occurred on property owned or controlled by the Board, or conduct that, regardless of where it occurs, is directed at a Board official or employee, or the property of such official or employee.

Student conduct shall be governed by the rules and provisions of the Student Code of Conduct/Student Discipline Code. This Code of Conduct/Student Discipline Code shall be reviewed annually.

Student Discipline

The Board of Education acknowledges that conduct is closely related to learning - an effective instructional program requires an orderly school environment and the effectiveness of the educational program is, in part, reflected in the behavior of students.

The Board believes that the best discipline is self-imposed and that students should learn to assume responsibility for their own behavior and the consequences of their actions. The Board has zero tolerance of violent, disruptive or inappropriate behavior by its students.

The Board shall require each student of this District to adhere to the Student Code of Conduct/Student Discipline Code adopted by the Board and to submit to such disciplinary measures as are appropriately assigned for infraction of those rules. Such rules shall require that students:

- A. conform to reasonable standards of socially-acceptable behavior;
- B. respect the person and property of others;
- C. preserve the degree of order necessary to the educational program in which they are engaged;
- D. respect the rights of others;
- E. obey constituted authority and respond to those who hold that authority.

The Student Code of Conduct/Student Discipline Code designates sanctions for the infractions of rules, excluding corporal punishment, which shall:

- A. relate in kind and degree to the infraction;
- B. help the student learn to take responsibility for his/her actions;
- C. be directed, where possible, to reduce the effects of any harm which may have been caused by the student's misconduct.

Students may be prohibited by authorized school personnel from participating in all or part of co-curricular and/or extra-curricular activities without further notice, hearing or appeal rights. A student who has been disorderly on a school bus may be suspended from transportation services consistent with Board policy and the Student Code of Conduct/Student Discipline Code.

The Superintendent shall publish to all students and their parents the rules of this District regarding student conduct and the sanctions which may be imposed for breach of those rules.

The Superintendent shall inform the Board periodically of the methods of discipline imposed by this District and the incidence of student misconduct in such degree of specificity as shall be required by the Board.

The Superintendent, principals, and other administrators shall have the authority to assign discipline to students, subject to the Student Code of Conduct/Student Discipline Code and, where required by law, to the student's due process right to notice, hearing, and appeal.

Teachers, school bus drivers, and other employees of this Board having authority over students may take such action as may be necessary to control the disorderly conduct of students in all situations and in all places where such students are within the jurisdiction of this Board and when such conduct interferes with the educational program of the schools or threatens the health and safety of others.

Discipline on Board vehicles shall be the responsibility of the driver on regular bus runs. When Board vehicles are used for field trips and other Board activities, the teacher, coach, advisor, or other Board employee shall be responsible for student discipline. If a student becomes a serious discipline problem on a vehicle, the Superintendent and/or his/her designee may suspend the transportation privileges of the student providing such suspension conforms with due process. The procedures for suspension are set forth in the Student Code of Conduct/Student Discipline Code and Board Policy 5611 - Due Process Rights.

No student is to be detained after the close of the regular school day unless the student's parent has been contacted and informed that the student will be detained. If a parent cannot be contacted, the student should be detained on another day.

Discipline of A Student With A Disability

Students with disabilities are entitled to the rights and procedures afforded by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act. (I.D. E. I. A.), and, where applicable, the Americans with Disabilities Act. (A. D. A.), and/or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act. of 1973.

Student Discipline Code

The Board of Education recognizes the rights of students as individuals and therefore seeks to balance and protect those rights by establishing the rules and regulations necessary to create a suitable curricular climate as well as a suitable co-curricular climate.

Students in the Canton City School District have the responsibility to act in such a way as not to interfere with the right of others to the same educational opportunity. By accepting the right to participate in school programs on or off school property, the students shall also accept the responsibility to conduct themselves according to the rules, regulations, and provisions governing the operation of these programs.

Each of the behaviors and/or types of misconduct described below are prohibited and may subject the student to disciplinary action including, but not limited to, student conference, parent/guardian notification, parent/guardian conference, detention, in-school discipline, suspension and/or expulsion from school. Furthermore, any criminal acts committed at or related to the School will be reported to law enforcement officials as well as disciplined at school. Certain criminal acts may result in permanent exclusion from school.

A001 - Persistent absence or tardiness

Attendance laws require students to be in school all day or to have a legitimate excuse for their absence. Penalties for unexcused absences can range from detention to a referral to court and/or revocation of the student's driver's license.

B003 - Interference, disruption or obstruction of the educational process

Any actions or manner of dress that materially and substantially disrupts or interferes with school activities or the educational process, or which threaten to do so are unacceptable. Such disruptions include, but are not limited to, delay or prevention of lessons, assemblies, field trips, athletic and performing arts events.

B006 - Possession of electronic equipment

The School will supply any electronic equipment or devices necessary for participation in the educational program. Students shall not use or possess any electronic equipment on school property or at any school sponsored activity without permission. Unauthorized electronic equipment will be confiscated from the student by school personnel and disciplinary action will be taken.

B007 - Knowledge of dangerous weapons or threats of violence

Because the Board believes that students, staff members, and visitors are entitled to function in a safe school environment, students are required to report knowledge of dangerous weapons or threats of violence to the Principal. Failure to report such knowledge may subject the student to discipline.

B008 - Falsification of school work, identification, forgery

Falsifying signatures or data, or refusing to give proper identification or giving false information to a staff member. This prohibition includes, but is not limited to, forgery of hall/bus passes and excuses, as well as use of false I.D.'s.-

Plagiarism and cheating are also forms of falsification and will subject the student to academic penalties as well as disciplinary action.

B009 - Gambling

Gambling (i.e., playing a game of chance for stakes) includes casual betting, betting pools, organized-sports betting, and any other form of wagering. Students who bet on any school activity in which they are involved may also be banned from that school activity.

B010 - Hazing

Performing any act, or coercing another, including the victim, to perform any act of initiation into any class, team, or organization, that causes or creates a substantial risk of causing mental or physical harm. Permission, consent, or assumption or risk by an individual subjected to hazing shall not lessen the prohibitions contained in this rule.

Hazing by any individual, school group, club, or team is not permitted. This includes any form of initiation that causes or creates a risk of causing mental or physical harm, no matter how willing the participant may be. Hazing activities are prohibited at any time in school facilities, on school property, and/or off school property but connected to activities or incidents that have occurred on school property.

All incidents of hazing must be reported immediately to any of the following individuals: the building principal or other administrator; teacher; coach; student club advisor/supervisor, and/or Superintendent. Students who engage in hazing may also be liable for civil and criminal penalties.

B012 - Harassment and/or Aggressive Behavior (including Bullying/Cyberbullying)

The Board encourages the promotion of positive interpersonal relations between members of the school community. Harassment and/or aggressive behavior (including bullying/cyberbullying) toward a student, whether by other students, staff, or third parties is

strictly prohibited and will not be tolerated. This prohibition includes physical, verbal, and psychological abuse, and any speech or action that creates a hostile, intimidating, or offensive learning environment. The Board will not tolerate any gestures, comments, threats, or actions which cause or threaten to cause bodily harm or personal degradation. Individuals engaging in such conduct will be subject to disciplinary action.

B014 - Insubordination

Students are expected to comply with the reasonable directions of staff. Willful refusal or failure to follow or comply with an appropriate direction given by a staff member, or acting in defiance of staff members.

B014 - Refusing to accept discipline

Students failing to comply with disciplinary penalties may face enhanced penalties for such action.

B014 - Violation of individual school/classroom rules

Each learning environment has different rules for students. These rules are for the safe and orderly operation of that environment. Students will be oriented to specific rules within each learning environment, all of which will be consistent with this Code.

B014 - Unauthorized use of vehicles

Occupying or using vehicles during school hours without parental permission and/or school authorization.

B015 - Burglary

Entering a building or a specific area of a building without consent and with intent to commit a crime, or entering a building without consent and committing a crime.

B015 - Extortion

Extortion is the use of threat, intimidation, force, or deception to take, or receive something from someone else. Extortion is against the law.

B016 - Trespassing

Although schools are public facilities, the law allows the Board to restrict access to school property. Being present in any Board-owned facility or portion of a Board-owned facility when it is closed to the public or when the student does not have the authorization to be there, or unauthorized presence in a Board-owned vehicle; or unauthorized access or activity in a Board-owned computer, into district, school or staff computer files, into a school or district file server, or into the Network. When a student has been removed, suspended, expelled, or permanently excluded from school, the student is prohibited from being present on school property without authorization of the principal.

B017 - Displays of affection/sexual activities

Affection between students is personal and not meant for public display. This includes touching, petting, or any other contact that may be considered sexual in nature. Sexual activity of any nature is prohibited and will result in disciplinary action.

B017 - Careless or Reckless Driving

Driving on school property in such a manner as to endanger persons or property.

B017 - Possession of Pornography

Possessing sexually explicit material.

B018 - Improper Dress

Clothing may not include words or visuals that are lewd, obscene, disruptive, abusive, or discriminatory, or that advertise drugs, alcohol or tobacco. Dress or grooming that is disruptive of the classroom or school atmosphere is not allowed. Shoes must be worn at all times for health and safety reasons.

B020 - Violation of bus rules (see Section V – Transportation)

C001 - Fighting

Engaging in adversarial physical contact (differentiated from poking, pushing, shoving or scuffling) in which one or the other party(ies) or both contributed to the situation by verbally instigating a fight and/or physical action. Promoting or instigating a fight (i.e., contributing to a fight verbally or through behavior).

C001 - Misconduct against a school official or employee, or the property of such a person, regardless of where it occurs.

The Board prohibits misconduct committed by a student against a school official or employee, including, but not limited to, harassment (of any type), vandalism, assault (verbal and/or physical), and destruction of property.

C001 - Physically assaulting a staff member/student/person associated with the District.

Acting with intent to cause fear in another person of immediate bodily harm or death, or intentionally bullying, inflicting or attempting to inflict bodily harm upon another person. Physical assault of a staff member, student, or other person associated with the District, regardless of whether it causes injury, will not be tolerated. Any intentional, harmful or potentially harmful physical contact or bullying initiated by a student against a staff member will be considered to be assault. Assault may result in criminal charges and may subject the student to expulsion.

C001 - Violent Conduct

Students may be expelled for up to one school year for committing an act at school, on other school property, at an interscholastic competition, extracurricular event, or any other school program, or directing an act at a Board official or employee, regardless of where or when that act may occur, or their property that would be a criminal offense if committed by an adult and results in serious physical harm to person(s) or property.

C002 - Aiding or abetting violation of school rules

Assisting other students in the violation of any school rule. Students are expected to resist peer pressure and exercise sound decision making regarding their behavior.

C003 - Verbally threatening (either orally, in writing or otherwise expressed) a staff member/student/person associated with the District.

Any oral or written statement or otherwise expressed action that a staff member, student, or other person associated with the District reasonably feels to be a threat will be considered a verbal assault. Profanity directed toward a staff member in a threatening tone may also be considered a verbal assault. Confrontation with a student or staff member that bullies, intimidates, or causes fear of bodily harm or death is also prohibited.

C003 - Terroristic Threat

Threatening, directly or indirectly, to commit a crime of violence with the purpose to terrorize another or with reckless disregard of the risk of causing terror in another.

D001 - Theft, or knowingly receiving or possessing stolen property

Unauthorized taking of property of another person or receiving or possessing such property. Students caught stealing will be disciplined and may be reported to law enforcement officials. Students should not bring anything of value to school. The School is not responsible for personal property.

D001 - Unauthorized use of school or private property

Students must obtain permission to use any school property or any private property located on school premises. Any unauthorized use of school property, or private property located on school premises, shall be subject to disciplinary action.

D002 - Damaging property (Vandalism)

Defacing, cutting, or otherwise damaging property that belongs to the school, district, other students, employees or others and disregard for school property.

E001 - Bomb Threats, and other false alarms and reports

Making a bomb threat (i.e., intentionally giving a false alarm of a bomb) against a school building or any premises at which a school activity is being held at the time the threat is made may result in expulsion for a period of up to one (1) school year. Additionally, intentionally giving a false alarm of a fire, or tampering or interfering with any fire alarm is prohibited. It should be remembered that false emergency alarms or reports endanger the safety forces that are responding to the alarm/report, the citizens of the community, and the persons in the building. What may seem like a prank, is a dangerous stunt that is against the law and will subject the student to disciplinary action.

F001 - Use and/or possession of a firearm

Bringing a firearm (as defined in the Federal Gun-Free Schools Act of 1994) onto school property or to any school-sponsored activity, competition, program, or event, regardless of where it occurs, will result in a mandatory one (1) year expulsion under Ohio law. This expulsion may be reduced on a case-by-case basis by the Superintendent using the guideline(s) set forth in Board Policy 5610.

Firearm is defined as any weapon (including a starter gun) that will or is designed to or may readily be converted to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive; the frame or receiver of any such weapon; any firearm muffler or firearm silencer; or any destructive device (as defined in the Federal Gun-Free Schools Act of 1994). Firearms include any unloaded firearm and any firearm that is inoperable but that can be readily operated.

F002/F003/F004 - Use and/or possession of a weapon

A weapon is any device that may be used for offensive or defensive purposes, including but not limited to conventional objects such as guns, pellet guns, knives, or club type implements. It may also include any toy that is presented as a real weapon or reacted to as a real weapon. Possession and/or use of a weapon may subject a student to expulsion and possible permanent exclusion.

A knife is defined as any cutting instrument consisting of a sharp blade fastened to a handle, a razor blade or any similar device that is used for, or is readily capable of causing death or serious bodily injury.

F002 - Use of an object as a weapon

Any object that is used to threaten, harm, or harass another may be considered a weapon. This includes but is not limited to padlocks, pens, pencils, laser pointers, and jewelry.

F003 - Lighting Incendiary Devices

Unauthorized igniting of matches, lighters and other devices that produce flames.

F003 - Possession and/or use of explosives and/or fireworks

Possessing or using any compound or mixture, the primary or common purpose of which is to function by explosion, with substantially instantaneous release of gas and heat (including, but not limited to explosives and chemical-reaction objects such as smoke bombs and poppers). Additionally, possessing or offering for sale any substance, combination of substances or article prepared to produce a visible and/or audible effect by combustion, explosion, deflagration or detonation.

F003 - Arson

Intentional or purposeful destruction or damage to school or district buildings or property by means of fire. Anything, such as fire, that endangers school property and its occupants will not be tolerated. Arson is a felony.

G001 - Possession/use of tobacco

Possession, consumption, distribution, purchase or attempt to purchase, and/or use of tobacco products () or electronic cigarettes or similar devices in school, on school grounds, on school buses, and at any interscholastic competition, extra-curricular event, or other school sponsored event. Tobacco products include, but are not limited to cigarettes, cigars, pipe tobacco, chewing tobacco, snuff or any other matter or substance that contains tobacco. Smoking of electronic, "vapor", other substitute forms of cigarettes, or clove cigarettes is also prohibited.

G002/G003 - Possession/use of drugs and/or alcohol

Possessing, using, transmitting or concealing, or being under the influence of any alcoholic beverage, controlled substance including, but not limited to, narcotics, mood altering drugs, counterfeit controlled substances, lookalikes, over the counter stimulants or depressants, anabolic steroids, or drug related paraphernalia.

If a building principal has a reasonable individualized suspicion of drug or alcohol use, s/he may request the student in question to submit to any appropriate testing, including but not limited to, a breathalyzer test or urinalysis. In such circumstances, the student will be taken to a private administrative or instructional area on school property for such testing with at least one other member of the teaching or administrative staff present as a witness to the test. If a student refuses to take the test, s/he will be advised that such denial leaves the observed evidence of alcohol or drug use unrefuted thus leading to possible disciplinary action. The student will then be given a second opportunity to take the test.

Any - Misconduct off school grounds

Students may be subject to discipline for their misconduct even when it occurs off school property when the misconduct is connected to activities or incidents that occurred on property owned or controlled by the District.

Misconduct is defined as any violation of the Student Discipline Code.

Leveled Student Conduct

Level 1 Infractions	Level 2 Infractions	Level 3 Infractions
<p>Conduct that inhibits orderly operation of classroom/school</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Truancy • Improper Dress • Foul Language Directed Toward Another Person • Electronic Communication Devices • Loitering or Trespassing • Falsification of School Work, Identification, Forgery • Public Displays of Affections • Violation of Individual School/Classroom Rules 	<p>Conduct that is serious and/or illegal, but not life/health threatening</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assault/Fighting • Insubordination • Disruption of School • Harassment/Sexual Harassment • Hazing • Civil Rights • Unauthorized Use of Computer/Internet or School Property • Unauthorized Use of Vehicles • Careless or Reckless Driving • Gambling • Vandalism • Theft • Threats • Frightening, Degrading, or Disgraceful Acts • Inciting Others to Violence or Disruption • Violation of Bus Rules • Possession/Use/Sale of Tobacco 	<p>Conduct that is serious and/or illegal and potentially life/health threatening</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bullying • Physical Assault • Bomb Threats/False Alarms/False Reports • Possession/Use/Sale of Drugs or Alcohol or Look-Alike Drugs • Possession/Use/Sale of a Firearm or Look-Alike Firearm • Possession/Use/Sale of a Dangerous Weapon or Instrument • Possession/Use/Sale of Explosives and/or Fireworks • Arson • Gangs • Extortion • Violent Conduct • Burglary • Possession of Pornography • Sexual Activity • Sexual Misconduct
Responses to Level 1 Infractions	Responses to Level 2 Infractions	Responses to Level 3 Infractions
<p><i>A variety of corrective, restorative, and age appropriate responses may be used progressively, beginning with the lowest level.</i></p>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Warning • Loss of privileges • Parent/guardian contact • Student conference • Apology • Restoration • In-class time out • Reflective assignment • Temporary removal from class • Reteach behavioral expectations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Loss of privileges • Detention • Corrective assignment • Time-out outside of classroom • Parent/guardian conference • Behavioral contract • Reteach behavioral expectations • Administrator mediation • Restitution • Community service task • In-school suspension • Short-term suspension 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Long-term suspension • Alternative program placement • Expulsion • Referral to law enforcement

DRESS CODE

The Board of Education 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. The Board authorizes the Superintendent to establish a reasonable dress code in order to promote a safe and healthy school setting and enhance the educational environment. See Board Policy 5541.

Students are expected to dress in a manner that is appropriate to the school environment and does not cause disruption to the academic process. Research has shown a correlation between appearance and behavior, especially in the school setting. Cleanliness and appropriateness are the two most important aspects of personal appearance. While the standard of cleanliness is rather obvious, the standard of appropriateness raises some questions. What is appropriate for a formal occasion relative to what the activity is and the activity's purpose. In the District, the activity is education and the purpose is learning.

To assist parents, students, staff, and administrators, general guidelines for appropriate dress and appearance include the following:

- Parents and students maintain responsibility for their dress and personal appearance.
- Any dress or grooming which interferes with the cleanliness, health, welfare, or safety of students, or when any dress or grooming disrupts the educational process by being distracting, indecent, or inappropriate to the educational process, is prohibited.
- Sponsors and teachers of elective programs or elective activities (such as sports, music or clubs) may require more strict standards regarding dress and appearance for participants in their program or activity.
- The principal, with the assistance of the staff, has the responsibility of uniformly administering the dress code. The decision of the principal is final.
- As new trends in fashion or dress are accepted or become out of date, the District reviews the changing standards of the community served.

In order to minimize misunderstanding in terms of what is appropriate for the District, the following regulations will define appropriate standards for dress while at school or school sponsored activities:

1. No shorts or mini skirts that end above mid-thigh.
2. No shirts or blouses that expose the midriff or come off the shoulder.
3. No Spaghetti straps, tube tops, tank tops, mesh tops, sleeveless shirts, shirts worn off the shoulder that expose bra straps, muscle shirts, half shirts or any tops that allow bare midriffs .
4. Items which obscure your identity such as hats, bandannas, sunglasses, sweatbands, hoods on the head and headwear are not permitted to be worn in the building during the school day. Head coverings for religious purposes are permissible.
5. No dress that promotes hate, violence, profanity, vulgar, or negative messages, anything advertising or related to alcohol, tobacco, and drugs or anything sexually explicit.
6. No transparent garments, open mesh garments, or garments with large open sides may be worn without an under liner.
7. No slippers. Shoes or sandals must be worn and must not present a safety hazard.
8. No pajama pants, bike pants, spandex, or tights worn as pants.
9. Hair must be clean, worn out of the eyes, and groomed at all times; free of grooming tools such as picks, rollers, combs, and other such articles.
10. Lower garments are to be worn at waist level; if a belt is worn, it must be of proper length; undergarments are not to be exposed or worn as outerwear.
11. No 'dog collars', spiked bracelets or chains that could be dangerous to persons or destructive to school property.
12. No gang or cult-related items of any kind.
13. No inappropriate and excessively tattered clothing
14. No pants with holes above mid-thigh.
15. No outerwear, coats, blankets, cloaks, etc may be worn during the school day.

Student violations of the dress code can result in removal from class (until the violation can be resolved) and disciplinary action. Parents will be contacted to bring appropriate clothing for their student to change attire.

DUE PROCESS RIGHTS

The Board of Education recognizes that students have limited constitutional rights when it comes to their education.

Accordingly, the Board establishes the following procedures:

A. **Student subject to suspension:**

When a student is being considered for an out-of-school suspension by the Superintendent, principal, or other administrator:

1. The student will be informed in writing of the potential suspension and the reasons for the proposed action.

2. The student will be provided an opportunity for an informal hearing to challenge the reason for the intended suspension and to explain his/her actions.
3. An attempt will be made to notify parents or guardians by telephone if a suspension is issued.
4. Within one (1) school day of the suspension the Superintendent, principal, or other administrator will notify the parents, guardians, or custodians of the suspension. The written notice will include the reasons for the suspension and the right of the student, parent, guardian, or custodian to appeal to the Board or its designee; the right to be represented at the appeal; and the right to request the hearing be held in executive session if before the Board. The notice shall also specify that if the student, parent, guardian, or custodian intends to appeal the suspension to the Board or its designee, such notice of appeal shall be filed, in writing, with the Superintendent within ten (10) calendar days after the date of the notice to suspend. If the offense is one for which the District may seek permanent exclusion, then the notice will contain that information.
5. Notice of this suspension will also be sent to the:
 - a. Superintendent;
 - b. student's school record (not for inclusion in the permanent record).
6. If a student leaves school property without permission immediately upon violation (or suspected violation) of a provision of the Student Code of Conduct/Student Discipline Code or prior to an administrator conducting an informal hearing as specified above, and the student fails to return to school on the following school day, the principal, assistant principal, Superintendent, or any other administrator, may send the student and his/her parent(s)/guardian(s) notice of the suspension, and offer to provide the student and/or his/her parents an informal hearing upon request to discuss the reasons for the suspension and to allow the student to challenge the reasons and to explain his/her actions, any time prior to the end of the suspension period.

Appeal of Suspension to the Board or its designee

The student who is eighteen (18) or older or the student's parent(s) or guardian(s) may appeal the suspension to the Board or its designee. They may be represented in all such appeal proceedings.

A verbatim record will be kept of the hearing which may be held in executive session at the request of the student, parent, or guardian, if held before the Board.

The procedure to pursue such appeal will be provided in regulations approved by the Superintendent. Notice of appeal must be filed, in writing, with the Superintendent within ten (10) calendar days after the date of the notice to suspend.

While a hearing before the Board may occur in executive session, the Board must act in public.

The student may be excluded from school during the appeal process.

Appeal to the Court

Under Ohio law, appeal of the Board's or its designee's decision may be made to the Court of Common Pleas.

B. Students subject to expulsion:

When a student is being considered for expulsion by the Superintendent:

1. The Superintendent will give the student and parent, guardian, or custodian written notice of the intended expulsion, including reasons for the intended expulsion.
2. The student and parent or representative have the opportunity to appear before the Superintendent or designee to challenge the proposed action or to otherwise explain the student's actions. The written notice will state the time and place to appear, which must not be earlier than three (3) school days nor later than five (5) school days after the notice is given, unless the Superintendent grants an extension upon request of the student or parent.
3. Within one (1) school day of the expulsion, the Superintendent will notify the parents, guardians, or custodians of the student and Treasurer of the Board. The notice will include the reasons for the expulsion and the right of the student, parent, guardian, or custodian to appeal to the Board or its designee; the right to be represented at the appeal; and the right to request the hearing be held in executive session if before the Board. The notice shall also specify that if the student, parent, guardian, or custodian intends to appeal the expulsion to the Board or its designee, such notice of appeal shall be filed, in writing, with the Treasurer of the Board or the Superintendent within fourteen (14) calendar days after the date of the notice of expulsion. If the offense is one for which the District may seek permanent exclusion, then the notice will contain that information.

Appeal of Expulsion to the Board

A student who is eighteen (18) or older or a student's parent(s) or guardian(s) may appeal the expulsion by the Superintendent to the Board or its designee. They may be represented in all such appeal proceedings and will be granted a hearing before the Board or its designee.

A verbatim record will be kept of the hearing which may be held in executive session at the request of the student, parent, or guardian, if it is held before the Board.

The procedure to pursue such appeal will be in accordance with regulations approved by the Superintendent. Notice of appeal must be filed, in writing, within fourteen (14) calendar days after the date of the Superintendent's decision to expel, with the Treasurer of the Board or the Superintendent.

While a hearing before the Board may occur in executive session, the Board must act in public.

The student may be excluded from school during the appeal process.

Appeal to the Court

Under State law, the decision of the Board or its designee may be further appealed to the Court of Common Pleas.

C. Students subject to emergency removal:

Students whose conduct warrants emergency removal shall be dealt with in accordance with the rights and procedures outlined in Policy 5610.03 - Emergency Removal.

D. Students subject to permanent exclusion:

Students whose conduct is that for which permanent exclusion is warranted shall be dealt with in accordance with the rights and procedures outlined in Policy 5610.01 - Permanent Exclusion of Nondisabled Students.

E. Students subject to suspension from bus riding/transportation privileges:

Student whose conduct warrant suspension from bus riding and/or transportation services shall be dealt with in accordance with the rights and procedures outlined in Policy 5610.04 - Suspension of Bus Riding/Transportation Privileges.

The Superintendent shall ensure that all members of the staff use the above procedures when dealing with students. In addition, this statement of due process rights is to be placed in all student handbooks in a manner that will facilitate understanding by students and their parents.

These procedures shall not apply to in-school disciplinary alternatives including in-school suspensions. An in-school suspension is one served entirely in a supervised learning environment within a school setting. Nor shall these disciplinary alternative procedures apply to students who are prohibited by authorized school personnel from all or part of their participation in co-curricular, interscholastic, and/or non interscholastic extracurricular activities.

INTERROGATION OF STUDENTS

The Board of Education 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 public children's services agencies.

When law enforcement 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. In order to avoid disruption of the learning environment and the student's class schedule, such interviews should take place during a student's study hall period or lunch, if at all possible.

Investigation of Child Abuse/Neglect by a Public Children's Services Agency or Law Enforcement Agency

Every Board official and employee who, in connection with his/her position, knows or suspects child abuse or neglect must immediately report that knowledge or suspicion to a public children's services or law enforcement agency in accordance with Board Policy 8462.

At the request of the building administrator, an official of a public children's services agency or law enforcement agency may interview a student on school property during school hours in order to investigate a claim of child abuse/neglect involving such student or a member of the student's family. If neither the student nor a member of his/her family is the subject of the child abuse/neglect investigation, such agency should contact the student during non-school hours and investigate the matter off school property, if at all possible, unless the alleged child abuse took place on school property and/or involves an emergency situation.

If the student (or a member of his/her family) is the subject of a child abuse/neglect investigation, or the student is being interviewed regarding alleged child abuse that took place on school property or involves an emergency, the building administrator

shall attempt to contact the parent prior to questioning, and s/he will remain in the room during questioning unless compelling reasons for exclusion are provided by the agency.

If an agency investigating child abuse/neglect indicates that the parent is believed to be the perpetrator, the building administrator will not contact either parent prior to the interview. The building administrator will remain in the room during questioning unless compelling reasons for exclusion are provided by the agency.

Investigations of Violations of Law by Law Enforcement Agencies

Such agencies should contact a student during non-school hours and investigate alleged violations of the law off school property if at all possible. An investigation can take place immediately on school property during school hours at the request of the building administrator if the alleged violation of law took place on school property or in emergency situations.

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 prior to questioning and shall remain in the room during the questioning unless compelling reasons for exclusion are provided by the agency.

In those circumstances when an interrogation may expose a student to criminal charges, the building principal should also verify that the student(s) has been informed of his/her right to refuse to answer questions, to be informed that anything he/she says may be used against him/her in court, and to consult with and be advised by legal counsel. Refer to Board Policy 5540.

OLWEUS

The Olweus Bullying Prevention Program (OBPP) is implemented to address bullying at the schoolwide, classroom, individual, and community levels. The goal of OBPP is to change the norms around bullying behavior and to restructure the school setting itself so that bullying is less likely to occur or be rewarded. Through concerted and coordinated efforts, implementation of OBPP will result in reduced occurrences of bullying problems and improved school environment.

PBIS

The District practices Positive Behavioral Interventions & Supports, through individualized strategies for achieving social and learning outcomes in school communities while preventing problem behavior. The key attributes of PBIS include preventive activities, data-based decision making, and a problem solving orientation. PBIS is implemented to reduce behavior, increase academics, reduce bullying behaviors to ensure a safe learning environment for a positive school climate and culture.

RESTORATIVE PRACTICES

Restorative Practices are approaches to dealing with challenging behavior in ways that focus on building community, repairing harm, restoring relationships, and making things right. It emphasizes teaching students, helping students understand how their behavior impacts others, and offering students a chance to repair the harm that was caused. A restorative culture teaches social-emotional and conflict resolution skills by using behavior as learning opportunities in which students accept responsibility for behaviors and make right what has been wronged.

RTI

Response to Intervention (RTI) is a multi-tier approach to the early identification and support of students with learning and/or behavior needs. The RTI process begins with identifying students in the general education classroom. Struggling learners are provided with interventions at increasing levels of intensity to accelerate their rate of learning. These services may be provided by a variety of personnel, including general education teachers, special educators, and specialists. Progress is closely monitored to assess both the learning rate and level of performance of individual students. Educational decisions about the intensity and duration of interventions are based on individual student response to instruction. RTI is designed for use when making decisions in both general education and special education, creating a well-integrated system of instruction and intervention guided by child outcome data.

SEARCH AND SEIZURE

School authorities are charged with the responsibility of safeguarding the safety and well-being of the students in their care. In the discharge of that responsibility, school authorities may search the person or property, including vehicles, of a student, with or without the student's consent, whenever they reasonably suspect that the search is required to discover evidence of a violation of law or of school rules. The extent of the search will be governed by the seriousness of the alleged infraction and the student's age. Refer to Board Policy 5771.

STUDENT RIGHTS OF EXPRESSION

The School recognizes the right of students to express themselves. With the right of expression comes the responsibility to do so appropriately. Students may distribute or display, at appropriate times, non sponsored, noncommercial written material and petitions; buttons, badges, or other insignia; clothing, insignia, and banners; and audio and video materials. All items must meet school guidelines.

A. Material cannot be displayed if it:

1. is obscene to minors, libelous, or pervasively indecent or vulgar;
2. advertises any product or service not permitted to minors by law;
3. intends to be insulting or harassing;
4. intends to incite fighting; or
5. presents a clear and present likelihood that, either because of its content or manner of distribution or display, it will cause or is likely to cause a material and substantial disruption of school or school activities, a violation of school regulations, or the commission of an unlawful act.

B. Material may not be displayed or distributed during class periods, or between classes. Permission may be granted for display or distribution during lunch periods, and/or before or after school in designated locations, as long as exits are not blocked and there is proper access and egress to the building.

Distribution/Posting of Literature

No outside organization or staff member or student representing an outside organization may distribute or post literature on that organization's behalf on District property either during or after school hours without the permission and prior review of the Superintendent.

The Superintendent shall develop administrative guidelines that:

1. establish criteria concerning distribution or posting of student materials;
2. address distribution or posting of materials employees wish to distribute on behalf of an employee organization in compliance with the terms of negotiated collective bargaining agreements;
3. prohibit the use of the District or school mail system by the community, students or staff for distribution of nonschool-related materials;

unless authorized by the Superintendent

4. prohibit distribution of materials from any profit-making organization to students to take home to their parents;

unless authorized by the Superintendent

5. permit flyers and notices from outside non-profit organizations to be made available for students to pick-up at the literature distribution rack/table by the school building's office, under the following circumstances:
 - a. the flyer/notice publicizes a specific community activity or event that is age-appropriate for the students that attend the school;
 - b. if the event or activity is religious in nature, the flyer may not contain a proselytizing message (i.e., a message that promotes and/or advocates the benefits of the specific religion);
 - c. the organization submits the number of copies of the flyer that it wants placed in the literature distribution rack/table;
 - d. the organization shows the building principal its 501(C)(3) or other proof of non-profit status, and the principal confirms that the flyer/notice does not overtly advocate or entice support for any religious organization;

No student shall be required to take any of the flyers/notices placed in the literature/distribution rack/table, and the rack/table shall contain a clear notice that the Board does not support or endorse any of the organizations and/or activities/events identified in the flyers/notices.

- e. establish and clearly communicate the time, place, and manner restrictions concerning the distribution of all non school-related materials.

TITLE IX SEXUAL HARASSMENT

The Board prohibits Sexual Harassment that occurs within its education programs and activities. When the District has actual knowledge of Sexual Harassment in its education program or activity against a person in the United States, it shall promptly respond in a manner that is not deliberately indifferent.

Pursuant to its Title IX obligations, the Board is committed to eliminating Sexual Harassment and will take appropriate action when an individual is determined responsible for violating this policy. Board employees, students, third-party vendors and contractors, guests, and other members of the School District community who commit Sexual Harassment are subject to the full range of disciplinary sanctions set forth in this policy. The Board will provide persons who have experienced Sexual Harassment ongoing remedies as reasonably necessary to restore or preserve access to the District's education programs and activities. Refer to Board Policy 2266.

ZERO TOLERANCE

The Board of Education has zero tolerance of violent, disruptive, or inappropriate behavior by its students. Refer to Board Policy 5500, 5600 and 5610.

SECTION V - TRANSPORTATION

BUS CONDUCT

Students who are riding to and from school on District-provided transportation must follow all basic safety rules. This applies to school-owned buses as well as any contracted transportation.

The driver may assign seating or direct students in any reasonable manner to maintain transportation safety.

Students must comply with the following basic safety rules:

Prior to loading (on the road and at school)

Each student shall:

- be on time at the designated loading zone (5-10 minutes prior to scheduled stop);
- stay off the road at all times while walking to and waiting for school transportation;
- line up single file off the roadway to enter;
- wait until the school transportation is completely stopped before moving forward to enter;
- refrain from crossing a highway until the driver signals it is safe to cross;
- properly board and depart the vehicle;
- go immediately to a seat and be seated.

It is the parents' responsibility to inform the bus driver when their child will not be aboard school transportation. Drivers will not wait for students who are not at their designated stops on time.

During the trip

Each student shall:

- remain seated while the school transportation is in motion;
- keep head, hands, arms, and legs inside the school transportation at all times;
- not push, shove or engage in scuffling;
- not litter in the school vehicle or throw anything in, into, or from the vehicle;
- keep books, packages, coats, and all other objects out of the aisle;
- be courteous to the driver and to other riders;
- not eat or play games, cards, etc.;
- not use nuisance devices (e.g., laser pointers) on the bus in a way that disrupts the safe transportation of students and/or endangers students or employees;
- not tamper with the school vehicle or any of its equipment (including, but not limited to emergency and/or safety equipment).

Exiting the school vehicle

Each student shall:

- remain seated until the vehicle has stopped;
- cross the road, when necessary, at least 10 feet in front of the vehicle, but only after the driver signals that it is safe;
- be alert to a possible danger signal from the driver.

The driver will not discharge students at places other than their regular stop at home or at school unless s/he has proper authorization from school officials.

BUS TRANSPORTATION TO SCHOOL

The District provides bus transportation for all students in grades Kindergarten through 12 who reside with their legal guardian in the District and live farther than one mile from school. Questions or concerns about bus transportation should be directed to the Transportation Supervisor at 330-456-6710.

Students may only ride assigned buses and must board and depart from the bus at assigned bus stops. Students will not be permitted to ride unassigned buses for any reason other than an emergency, except as approved by the Principal.

The principal may approve a change in a student's regular assigned bus stop to address a special need. Parents should send a note to the principal stating the reason for the request and the duration of the requested change. Refer to Board Policy 8600.

PENALTIES FOR INFRACTIONS

A student who misbehaves on the bus shall be disciplined in accordance with the Student Discipline Code and may lose the privilege of riding on the bus.

SELF-TRANSPORTATION TO SCHOOL

Driving to school is a privilege that can be revoked at any time. Students who are provided the opportunity to ride school transportation are encouraged to do so. Students and their parents assume full responsibility and liability for any transportation to and from school not officially provided by the School. The Board shall not be responsible for motor vehicles which are lost, stolen, or damaged while on school property. See Board Policy 5515.

TRANSPORTATION OF STUDENTS BY PRIVATE VEHICLE

When transportation by District vehicle is either not available or feasible, there may be a need to provide transportation to students by private vehicle. However, no students will be permitted to ride in a private vehicle unless written consent is provided by each student's parent. Upon request, parents of participating students will be given the name of the driver, the owner of the vehicle, and the description of the vehicle.

USE OF MOTORIZED UTILITY VEHICLES

Motorized utility vehicles may be used on school property and/or in conjunction with approved school activities only if operated for the approved purpose and in accordance with AG 5515.01.

All operators must be at least sixteen (16) years of age, licensed to drive a motor vehicle in the State of Ohio, and have adequate liability insurance.

Prior written permission by the student operator's parent/guardian and release of liability is required.

All operators must be approved in advance by the Superintendent or the principal and must be accepted in the District's liability insurance program.

Student operators shall only operate utility vehicles at the direction and under the supervision of the approved teacher/activity sponsor/coach.

Operators shall participate in basic safety training for operation of motorized utility vehicles, as prescribed in the administrative guidelines, prior to operating any such vehicle(s). Individuals authorized to operate such utility vehicles may not allow anyone else to use the vehicle (e.g., other students, relatives, friends, etc.). The utility vehicle may only be used for the specific activity and function that has been assigned.

VIDEOTAPES ON SCHOOL BUSES

The Board of Education has installed video cameras on school buses to monitor student behavior.

If a student misbehaves on a bus and his/her actions are recorded on a videotape, the tape will be submitted to the Principal and may be used as evidence of misbehavior.