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# WELCOME TO CAPE HORN-SKYE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

It is a pleasure to serve the Cape Horn-Skye community as School Principal. My goal is to foster a positive learning environment where each student is known, nurtured, and challenged to rise as a scholar.

Our school is deeply committed to our community and partners with families and agencies to give our children a well-rounded learning experience! Our staff is deeply committed to excellence by demonstrating effective instructional practices, support systems, engaging in professional collaboration, and by researching cutting-edge learning opportunities for kids.

You are your child's first teacher! We believe in a partnership with families for student success. If you have questions please do not hesitate to reach out to me or your child's teacher so that we can hear how to best meet the needs of our Kodiaks. Thank you for sharing your children with us!

Brooke Henley Principal

#### CAPE HORN-SKYE MISSION STATEMENT:

Cape Horn-Skye fosters strong relationships, personalized learning, and equitable opportunities to ensure learning without limits for all students.

# **GUIDELINES FOR SUCCESS**

All staff and students at Cape Horn-Skye School will work together to help each other reach their fullest potential. Everyone will be treated with respect and dignity. Any behavior or action that helps someone to grow and mature will be encouraged. Staff will keep students focused on our school guidelines.

- 1. Be responsible
- 2. Be safe
- 3. Be respectful

## **PLEDGE OF SUCCESS**

Today is a new day, a new beginning. It has been given to me as a new gift. I can either use it or throw it away. What I do today will affect me tomorrow. I cannot blame anyone but myself if I do not succeed. I promise to use this day to its fullest by giving my best, realizing it can never come back again. This is my life, and I choose to make it a success.

C.I.T.Y Pledge from Dr. Carl Parker

# CAPE HORN-SKYE ELEMENTARY HOURS

The building will close for general business at 3:30 PM daily.

Grades K – 5: except Wednesdays Wednesdays – Grades K – 5	8:00 - 2:30 8:00 - 1:50
Office Hours Preschool Hours:	7:30 – 3:30
Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri. AM	8:00 - 10:25
Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri. PM	12:00 – 2:25

The building is open to students from 7:40 AM to 2:30 PM. Building supervision is available during that time. Students **should not** arrive before 7:40 AM, and all students should be picked up by 2:30 PM.

In the event of an emergency in which these hours are changed, you will be notified by phone, bulletin, or local news media. During the winter months, please check the district website at <a href="https://www.washougal.k12.wa.us">www.washougal.k12.wa.us</a> or listen to your radio for any school closure or delayed-opening announcements. If you do not receive a recorded phone call alerting you of school closure or late start, please check with the school office to make sure we have the correct phone number for you.

# **EMERGENCY CLOSURE PLAN**

Each year, emergencies can arise which require the students to be bused home early without warning to parents (e.g. snow, ice, flooding conditions, power outages, etc.). To plan for this emergency, there are two things we feel need to be done. *First*, the student needs to know what his/her parents expect him/her to do if he or she arrives home early. *Secondly*, the student needs to practice the routine established. Unfortunately, when an emergency closure situation arises, <u>we cannot call parents</u> of over three hundred children; therefore, it is wise to plan ahead for such situations.

Please fill out the emergency closure plan form, update all phone numbers and <u>return it to the office</u> <u>the first week of school</u> to make us aware of the plan that you and your child have discussed. In this way, your child's teacher will be able to review your plan with your child before we send him/her home on the bus if an early closure were to occur. **If your emergency plans should change throughout the year, please notify your child's teacher and the office.** 

If we do not have an emergency closure plan for your child, your child will be sent to his/her regular destination unless advised otherwise.

# Research tells us...

# Parents of the most successful students do these things to ensure success:

- 1. Send their children to school prepared after a good night's sleep.
- 2. Attend parent/school conferences.
- 3. Check their child's backpack or bookbag daily for work to discuss.
- 4. Keep their children attending school on time, unless the child is ill.
- 5. Keep students home that show symptoms of communicable diseases.
- 6. Remember to send their child prepared with lunch or lunch money.
- 7. Return required signed notes to school promptly.
- 8. Keep in contact with the school if they have questions or when there are special issues, which affect their child.
- 9. Feed their child nutritious meals.
- 10. Read communications from school.

# PARENTS PARTNERING WITH CAPE HORN-SKYE

We ask that you please help us with the following things during this school year so that we can be sure that your child will be safe and have stress-free days, free of interruptions to his or her learning. You will find the following in greater detail later in this handbook.

# **Student School Hours**

There is no before or after school supervision. Please do not bring your children to school before 7:40 AM. Likewise after school all students must be picked up at 2:30, unless attending an after -school community education course.

Mon, Tue, Thurs, & Fri: 8:00 AM - 2:30 PM Wednesdays Early Dismissal 1:50 PM

#### **Absences**

Research proves that students who have good school attendance do better in school than those who don't. If your child cannot attend on a particular day, *it is the parent's responsibility to call the school.* Please leave a message at (360) 954-3600, Option 1, before 9:00 AM. This number works 24 hours a day. You may also send a note upon your child's return or it will be considered an unexcused absence.

Please excuse	Cape Horn-Skye EXCUSED ABSENCE for being absent	
Flease excuse	TOI being absent	
	first & last name	Date(s)
	due to	
	Reason	
Signed	Dated	
l		

PLEASE REVIEW THE DISTRICT ATTENDANCE POLICY INCLUDED IN THE DISTRICT POLICY SECTION OF THIS HANDBOOK.

# **Excused and Unexcused Absences**

#### Excused Absences:

If an elementary school student has **five or more excused absences** in a single month or **ten or more excused absences in the current school year, the district** will schedule a conference with the students, their parents or guardians and the principal. The conference is intended to identify barriers to the student's regular attendance and to identify supports and resources so the student may regularly attend school. Please review the district attendance policy #3122 for a list of valid excuses for excused absences.

#### **Unexcused Absences:**

An unexcused absence occurs when:

- 1. The parent, guardian or adult student submits an excuse that does not meet the definition of an excused absence as defined above; or
- 2. The parent, guardian, or adult student fails to submit any type of excuse statement, whether by phone, e-mail or in writing, for an absence.

Each unexcused absence within any month of the current school year will be followed by a letter or phone call to the parent informing them of the consequences of additional unexcused absences.

After three unexcused absences within any month of the current school year, a conference will be held between the principal, student and parent to analyze the causes of the student's absenteeism. The principal will work with the student and their family to identify barriers to the student's regular attendance and to identify supports and resources so the student may regularly attend school.

At some point after the second and before the fifth unexcused absence, the district will take data-informed steps to eliminate or reduce the student's absences. School personnel will meet with parent or quardian to develop a written plan for attendance.

Ongoing unexcused absences may result in a referral to truancy court.

PLEASE REVIEW THE DISTRICT ATTENDANCE POLICY INCLUDED IN THE DISTRICT POLICY SECTION OF THIS HANDBOOK.

# **Bus Destination Changes**

Please send a note in the morning if you need to change your child's after school destination or if you will be picking them up after school. Alternatively, you can call (360) 954-3600, Option 2, before 1 p.m. to leave a detailed message regarding your child's transportation. Please be aware that if a pick-up or bus note/message is not sent to the CH-S Office, your student's regular plan for afterschool will be followed.

<u>Due to safety restrictions, we cannot issue bus passes to students attempting to board buses other than what they've been assigned - i.e. we will not send students home on buses with friends. If your student needs to go home with another, please coordinate pick up and let the office know.</u>

# **Parent Visitation**

Parents are always welcome at CH-S School; however, according to contract, parents need to make arrangements with the teacher 24 hours in advance of classroom visits. This helps the consistency and structure for students.

# **Don't Let Your Child Bring**

Weapons (or look-alikes), drugs, alcohol, money (unless it is being turned in to the teacher in a sealed envelope), gum, animals (unless prior arrangements have been made with the teacher), scooters, skateboards, skate shoes (Heelys or similar type), fidget spinners, or anything you would care about, if it was lost or stolen.

Be sure your child's name is written inside backpacks, coats and lunch bags.

# **ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

#### **Staff**

Our staff accepts the responsibility outlined in this manual. Through consistency, we will encourage all students to develop the skills and attitudes needed to develop self-confidence and to maximize learning.

## **Parents**

We need the support and cooperation of parents to effectively help each student reach his/her fullest potential. The major role of parents in assisting us with school discipline and responsibility is to consistently demonstrate interest and support in how their child is doing.

# **Volunteers**

Parent volunteers are an integral part of our program at Cape Horn-Skye. We need and appreciate the help they give us. Opportunities for volunteers are available in many areas: in the classroom for such activities as preparing materials, putting up and displaying work, reading groups, library, computer lab, music classes and in the office.

# PARENT VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

We encourage parents to volunteer at CH-S and we value the partnership we have with them. Some of the ways to volunteer at school:

- Weekly classroom help
- Class field trips
- Booster Club
- Office help
- Library help

All volunteers need to complete a District volunteer form online so that we may conduct a motor vehicle background check, fingerprinting, and health information. These forms are available on the district website. We will also need a copy of your driver's license. These checks are good for two school years. Even if your occupation requires you to have a formal background check, we would like you to complete this form; it enables us to have your name on a database of volunteers in our building.

If you would like to work regularly in your student's classroom, please make arrangements through your child's teacher. Notify the office if you will not be able to come on an assigned day.

#### **CH-S Booster Club:**

CH-S Boosters are a service and school fund-raising organization. All parents are urged to participate in some manner. All money earned for the school benefits all students through new equipment, enrichment, reinforcements, and scholarships for field trips.

Who are Cape Horn-Skye Boosters? – Any parent with a child in this school or patron of the community.

Parents are encouraged to participate by attending the meetings or by volunteering for a project. Meetings are held once a month in the Booster Room, which is located next to the office.

Booster **Popcorn Sales** will start Mid-September and occur every Friday. This is a great way to volunteer if you have limited time.

# **VOLUNTEERS DO AND DON'T**

# For more information see our volunteer guidelines

- Always wear your nametag. Stop by the office to sign in and receive visitor's name badge.
- All Washougal School volunteers must have completed the necessary background check and be on the approved list of volunteers.
- Be discreet and trustworthy with confidential matters relating to the classroom and students.
- Accept the fact that a teacher is the professional educator and that the volunteer is there to supplement.
- Have the desire to motivate children to work and to help them succeed in school.
- Arrive on time for your assignment. Give advance notice of absence. Remember, you made a commitment to the teacher and the students.
- Accept directions and constructive feedback.
- Ask teachers what is expected in their classrooms. Be familiar with policies and procedures listed in the Student Handbook.
- Participate in training relevant to your assignment if necessary.
- Have a pleasant, warm, positive attitude, and maintain a sense of humor.
- Have a neat appearance.
- Be sensitive to children's needs.
- Use language at levels students can understand.
- Always use student's names.
- Compliment students whenever possible.
- Ask questions to check for understanding. Listen carefully to what the student has to say.
- You may ask students questions about favorite activities, family members, good friends and personal hopes and dreams.
- Volunteers always defer questions to the teacher and parents.
- Students make mistakes. Let them know that making mistakes is a part of the learning process.
- Volunteers must receive instructions before using any machine in the school. Ask the teacher
  you are assisting for a quick lesson or review. If a teacher needs to use a machine, please
  stop and let them use it.

#### Don't:

- Assume total responsibility for students.
- Administer discipline
- Substitute for the teacher unless qualified through the Washougal School District.
- Diagnose student's needs, or counsel students.
- Prescribe instructional programs.
- Evaluate student progress and achievement.
- Enter grades into computer.
- Ask or answer questions about religion, politics, sex, etc.
- Work exclusively with your own children.
- Bring siblings unless prior approval has been made.

# CH-S Important Things to Know

Our cafeteria staff prepares both breakfast and lunch. For best service, for safety, and least congestion we have developed the following guidelines for lunch.

Appropriate behavior includes:

- Sitting at tables
- Waiting to be excused
- Using polite manners

- Using indoor voices
- Touching one's own food only
- Cleaning up

# Meal prices:

ullet	Student and Adult Milk	\$ .80
•	Elementary Student Lunch (K-5)	\$3.50
•	Adult Lunch	\$4.75
•	Elementary Student Breakfast	\$2.25
•	Adult Breakfast	\$2.60

You may add money to your child's lunch account in the office by cash or check or on the school district website.

No meals will be removed or denied at the K-12 grade levels. Students who receive breakfast and/or lunch will continue to be charged for their meals regardless of their negative balance. No ala carte items may be charged when a student's food service account balance is in the negative. No exceptions.

A statement will be mailed to the parent/guardian of all K-12 students with negative balances at the end of the school year requesting immediate payment. Any balance over negative -\$35.00 will be sent to collections if payment arrangements are not made prior to July 1<sup>st</sup>.

Because of the federal lunch program parameters, adults may not purchase a student lunch for themselves or use a student's account to purchase an adult lunch, so please do not ask us to do this. Parent volunteers who frequently eat at school may set up their own lunch account through the office. To receive a lunch or milk, you must have an account or present cash at the time the lunch or milk is picked up. Students are not allowed to trade or give away lunches, or portions thereof, because of the federal guidelines also.

Please refer all requests for free or reduced-price student lunches/breakfasts (40 cents for lunch or 30 cents for breakfast) to the office. Applications are included in the registration packets or may be picked up in the office. The government sets very strict guidelines and the District *must* follow these. Everyone must reapply each year, and the previous year's allocation will only be good for the first month of school.

Students may use their accounts for milk purchases. Even if a child qualifies for free breakfasts or lunches, he/she will have to pay full price (80 cents) for milk.

#### **BUSES**

Students will not be permitted to get off the bus at any stop other than their own, or ride a different bus, unless they have <u>written</u> permission from their parents to do so. <u>The permission note must be presented at the office upon arrival at school and a bus pass written, which is then given to the driver. We discourage calling to make bus changes except for in cases of emergency. You may email cynthia.fahrenkrug@washougalsd.org or, if needed, call 954-3603. Any bus changes made by email or phone during the day need to be made before 1:55 PM to give time to process the note and ensure your student will receive the change.</u>

If the bus is running late in the morning or after school, you will get information more quickly if you call the bus garage at (360) 954-3030. Our Transportation Department is in radio contact with the buses and can contact the driver directly.

\*Also see the student expectations section

#### **CH-S ABSENCE POLICY**

Research proves that students who have good school attendance do better in school than those who don't. If your child cannot attend on a particular day, *it is the parent's responsibility to call the school.* Please leave a message at (360) 954-3600 option 1, before 9:00 AM. This number works 24 hours a day.

# **Pre-Arranged Absences**

Please fill out a **Planned Absence Request** to the OFFICE if you are planning a future absence for your child (i.e. vacation-out of town trip, etc.). You are encouraged to discuss these plans with the teacher, but the form must still be sent to the office. Without such a note, all absences will be considered unexcused and treated as such by the Washington Mandatory Attendance Law.

#### Absences Due to Head Lice

The school district allows up to 4 days for treating each reported case of head lice. After the fourth day, you will be marked unexcused and processed as such. (chapter 28 A225RCW Compulsory School Attendance)

\* Please review the district attendance policy included in the "District Policy" Section of this handbook.

#### COMMUNICATIONS

CH-S communicates important information in a variety of methods to our students and families.

- Our website can be found at: http://www.washougal.k12.wa.us/cape/.
- Our Facebook page can be found at: https://www.facebook.com/CapeHornSkyeElementarySchool/.
- Informational emails and newsletters are sent home periodically through email and ParentSquare.

In the event of a serious emergency, you will be notified via email, Parent Square, or a phone call regarding details. It is common for individuals to learn information from text messages, social media, etc. Please wait for school and/or district officials to communicate with you regarding accurate, pertinent information. Do not take action (call, come to the school) unless directed to do so. We will be busy first making sure students and staff are safe.

# **COMMUNITY EDUCATION AND RECREATION**

Washougal Community Education offers many fun classes at CH-S on early release Wednesdays. Contact the Washougal Community Education and Recreation Office at 4855 Evergreen Way in Washougal or call 954-3040.

If you would like to use CH-S facilities, please make arrangements though Community Education at 954-3040 or on the Washougal School District Website.

#### **CONFERENCES**

Parent/Student/Teacher conferences are held October 24-28, 2022 and March 29-31, 2023. These days are early release for students. You will receive an invitation two-three weeks in advance of each conference. Parents will receive a report card at the end of each trimester.

## **HEAD LICE**

Cape Horn-Skye Elementary follows the CDC guidelines for head lice treatment.

Students with Live Lice:

CH-S Office Staff will notify the parent via phone that their student has head lice. The school nurse, or their designee, does head checks periodically, if a child is exhibiting symptoms of a lice infestation.

Parents may come pick up their student from school, if they choose. However, students with live head lice do not need to be sent home early from school; they can go home at the end of the day, be treated, and return to class after appropriate treatment has begun.

Information about head lice treatment can be found at: http://www.cdc.gov/parasites/lice/head/treatment.html

# **HOMEWORK POLICY**

Research on "effective schools" tells us that school and parents need a clear understanding of homework purposes and procedures.

# **Purpose of Homework**

- Homework is a link between home and school, giving parents an understanding of the school and the opportunity to give their children the individualized help that is often impossible in large classrooms.
- 2. To be worthwhile, homework must be directly related to class work.
- 3. Homework extends learning time beyond the classroom (for instance, students can finish work begun in class).
- 4. Homework allows students time to do preparation before a subject is studied in class (example: measuring a cup of water at home, freezing it and measuring level again, comparing volumes prior to studying liquids and solids in class).
- 5. Homework develops responsibility, self-discipline, and experience in following directions. This is effective only if students clearly know what they are supposed to be doing.
- 6. Homework allows additional practice of skills already mastered (a student practices their math facts for a faster rate of recall).
- 7. Homework gives students with different "learning styles" the opportunity to study in a different environment (for instance, a student may do a better job in a quiet place rather than in a room with many other people).

# **Amount of Homework Assigned**

No "hard rule" can be given to fit every case. Many students, by wisely using in-class time, have little homework, while some less-efficient classmates may have considerable homework.

Individual students work at different rates, also affecting the amount of work taken home (and the time needed to complete it).

If you have a concern regarding homework, please contact the teacher.

#### **IMMUNIZATION**

State law requires that each child is immunized against the following diseases: DPT/DT, TD, Polio, and Measles, Mumps and Rubella, Hepatitis B and chicken pox. For a complete immunization schedule please contact the school nurse. If your child is found to be missing any required immunizations we will contact you. If it is not corrected in the time allotted they will not be allowed to participate in school until they have proof of the required immunizations.

# <u>INSURANCE</u>

It is possible to purchase accident insurance through the school for a very nominal charge. Information is sent out during the first week of school. Other programs are available through the Healthy Options program, which will also link families to insurance and welfare-type programs that are available. Contact the school office for the phone number and name of the person to contact.

# **LOST AND FOUND**

The Lost and Found is located in the cafeteria. To minimize lost articles, please mark coats; hoodies, jackets and lunch boxes with your student's last name. This will also assist with the return of these items. If your child has lost something at school, please send him/her to the lost and found located in the cafeteria. At the end of each school year, unclaimed items are donated to a local charity.

# **MONEY**

Students should bring only the amount of money needed for the day. The purchase of milk, lunch, and breakfast on their meal account helps to eliminate problems with money. Teachers and other school personnel cannot be responsible for supervision or loss of money brought by a student.

# **MORNING ROUTINE**

We do not have supervision for students that arrive before 7:45 AM. If your child is buying breakfast, upon arrival at 7:45 AM, your student needs to go immediately to the cafeteria. Breakfast will be served from 7:45 AM to 7:55 AM in the cafeteria. Students must remain in the cafeteria to eat breakfast. **Breakfast will not be served beyond 8:00 AM.** Other morning responsibilities include depositing money to their meal account and/or turn in bus notes at the office before going to the classroom.

#### **PARTIES**

Classroom parties are at the discretion of the teacher. Due to food allergy sufferers, please obtain approval from your students' teacher before providing treats for the classroom. Children wishing to give out invitations to private after-school parties are encouraged to do so by mail in order to avoid hurting the feelings of those not invited.

## PICKING UP STUDENTS FROM SCHOOL

If you need to pick up your child during the day, you must come to the office to sign your child out. *Do not go to your child's classroom or to the playground. Teachers or playground assistants do not have the authority to dismiss your child from school.* If someone other than the parent or guardian is picking up a student, the school must have written permission signed by the parent or guardian. Except for Kindergarten and pre-school, students that are to be picked up at the end of the day need to go to the CH-S Gym. Kindergarten and pre-school parents will pick their child up from the classroom. Parents need to sign students out. We cannot allow children to walk into the parking lot by themselves, nor can we release children without a signature.

## **SEARCH AND SEIZURE**

Student desks and cubbyholes are provided from public funds for student use. If the school authorities have reasonable cause to believe items contained therein constitute a criminal or rule violation, searches of property for which the school has responsibility may be conducted.

#### **SICKNESS**

Students who are sick should stay home. If a student becomes ill during school, parents will be contacted and expected to pick up their child. It is important to have several working numbers on file for your child in event of illness. **You must have a way to have your child picked up in case it is needed.** If your child has vomited or has had a fever of 100 degrees or higher, it is recommended that he/she stay home for 24 hours after these symptoms have passed.

\*See "When to Keep Your Child Home from School" guidelines from our Nurse

# **STUDENT FEES AND CHARGES**

Fines or damage charges may be levied for lost and/or damaged library, classroom books and equipment. The student or his/her parents may appeal the imposition of a charge in a manner consistent with Washougal School District policy 3313. A student may make restitution or pay fees through a voluntary work program. Report cards may be held if fines are not paid.

# **TELEPHONE**

Please feel free to call any time you have a question. We're happy to assist you. Our number is (360) 954-3600.

#### **TRESPASSING**

Upon request, any persons, including students, must identify themselves to school authorities in the school building, on school property, or at school-sponsored events.

# **VISITORS (ALL Visitors must check in with the School Office)**

Parents are welcome to visit classrooms, but an appointment must be made at least 24 hours in advance. Parents wishing to schedule a conference or have specific concerns should call to make an appointment. Family members who wish to eat lunch with a student must notify the office in advance to purchase lunch.

Due to disruption, out of district students will not be allowed to visit CH-S on the non-attendance days of their school.

# STUDENT EXPECTATIONS

#### **STUDENT DRESS**

Students are reminded that their appearance affects the way others respond to them. Student dress shall not be regulated except when there is a reasonable concern, in accordance with the Washougal School School Board Policy and Procedure.

Board Procedure - The student and parent may determine the student's personal dress and grooming standards, provided that the student's dress and grooming does not:

- Lead school officials to reasonably believe that such dress or grooming will disrupt, interfere with, disturb, or detract from the school environment or activity and/or educational objectives;
- Create a health or other hazard to the student's safety or to the safety of others;
- Create an atmosphere in which a student, staff, or other person's well-being is hindered by undue pressure, behavior, intimidation, overt gesture or threat of violence; or
- Imply gang membership or affiliation by written communication, marks, drawing, painting, design or emblem upon any school or personal property or one's person

#### **Dress and Appearance Core Values**

In relation to student dress, Cape Horn-Skye's core values are the following:

- Students should be able to dress and style their hair for school in a manner that expresses their individuality.
- Students have the right to have their dignity and unique style maintained without discrimination.
- Students should not face unnecessary barriers to school attendance.

#### **Dress and Appearance**

The responsibility for the dress and grooming of a student rests primarily with the student and their parents or guardians, provided it respects the following guidelines based on respect and school safety. When choosing their attire, students and parents should consider the school an academic environment intended to prepare them for college and career readiness.

# Allowable Dress and Grooming:

- Students must wear clothing including both a shirt with pants or skirt, or the equivalent and shoes.
- Shirts and dresses must have fabric in the front, on the sides, and back.
- Clothing must cover lower undergarments
- Fabric covering all private parts must not be see through
- Hats and other headwear must allow the face to be visible and not interfere with the line of sight to any student or staff
- Clothing must be suitable for all scheduled classroom activities including physical education and recess

#### **Non-Allowable Dress and Grooming**

A student's dress must not lead school officials to reasonably believe that such dress or grooming will disrupt, interfere with, disturb, or detract from the school environment or activity and/or educational objectives.

#### Specifically:

- Clothing my not depict, advertise or advocate the use of alcohol, tobacco, controlled substances, or anything that is not age appropriate
- Clothing may not depict hate speech targeting groups based on race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, religious affiliation or any other group
- Creates a hazard to the student's safety or to the safety of others

# CAPE HORN-SKYE STUDENTS ARE ALWAYS EXPECTED DO THE FOLLOWING:

#### IN THE HALLWAY

- 1. Walk to and from areas with no talking.
- 2. Respect school property by not touching the walls or any items on the wall.
- 3. Keep hands and feet to self.

## ON THE PLAYGROUND

- 1. Keep hands and feet to self.
- 2. When the whistle is blown one long whistle, the students are to stop what they are doing ("FREEZE"), look at the playground supervisor, listen for any directives and follow the signal for each room that tells them to walk quietly to class.
- 3. Students will settle differences peacefully using "Stop/Think/Plan". (STP)
- 4. Students will show respect for others and follow directions given by staff.
- 5. Once outside, students will stay out during all outside recesses, unless they have a pass to go inside the building.

## **SPECIFIC EQUIPMENT RULES**

### ALWAYS TAKE TURNS AND SHARE EQUIPMENT

#### **SWINGS**

- 1. Swing in a straight line in a sitting position.
- 2. Jumping from a moving swing is unsafe and is not allowed. (No cherry drops!)
- 3. One turn on a swing consists of 50 back-and-forth swings.
- 4. PUSHERS: Push only as high as those swinging are comfortable, and only one person push at a time.

#### **PLAY STRUCTURES**

- 1. Wait outside the border for turns on the swings.
- 2. When walking near equipment, stay outside the border, especially near the swings, Comet Spinner, and Hurricane.
- 4. Hold on to the swing while on it.
- 5. Jumping onto the bridge off the equipment is unsafe and is not allowed.
- 6. The bridge is not to be rocked from side to side.
- 7. Slide sitting down, and face forward.

#### **TETHERBALL**

- 1. A game is won when one player has wrapped the rope as far as it can go in his/her own direction.
- 2. A match must consist of a "margin of victory" of at least 2 games.
- 3. One player serves and has complete control of the ball, choosing which direction.
- 4. A person immediately loses the game if he/she touches the pole.
- 5. Other violations include: stepping off sides, touching the rope, carrying or throwing, or double hitting. The ball is stopped and then returned to the place it was wrapped when the violation occurred.
- 5. If a simultaneous violation occurs, a pole drop is performed whereby both players Place one hand on the ball, hold it 3 feet from the pole and release it together. Once the ball hits the pole, either player can hit it.

#### OTHER EQUIPMENT

- 1. Wait for your turn, then slide sitting down facing forward one at a time.
- 2. Take turns on the monkey bars and proceed in the same direction. There should be no pushing or shoving in the crow's nest. No more than 5 people in the upper area at one time. Wait for your turn to slide down.
- 3. Take turns on the balance beam and proceed in the same direction.
- 4. Straddle the pipe slide and proceed down feet-first facing forward.

#### **COMET SPINNER**

- 1. Only 4 students on the spinner for each turn.
- 2. Hold onto the spinner tightly.
- 3. Each turn is one minute long.
- 4. No letting go while spinning.

5. Student must get back in line for another turn.

## **HURRICANE**

- 1. Only 4 students on the hurricane at a time.
- 2. Hold onto the equipment tightly.
- 3. No letting go while spinning.

#### IN THE CAFETERIA

- Walk carefully and quietly in line when entering and exiting
- Fill in tables as directed by the cafeteria supervisor
- Talk quietly to those sitting nearby
- Show best table manners by chewing with mouths closed and not talking while chewing food
- Trading lunches is not allowed
- Leave the table and floor clean
- Stay seated and wait quietly to be excused
- Keep hands on own tray and food
- Once seated, stay in the same seat unless given permission to move

#### IN THE GYMNASIUM

- Use bleachers for sitting only
- Use equipment as appropriate
- Keep food and drink out of the gym
- Respect the rights of others
- Follow directions when you hear the whistle

#### **DURING ASSEMBLIES**

- Enter/exit in an orderly manner
- Listen to, and follow directions
- Sit quietly when appropriate
- Remove hats for flag salute

# **AT DISMISSAL**

- Walk all the way to the bus
- Stay on the sidewalk or blacktop

#### IN THE RESTROOM

- Put all paper towels in the wastebasket.
- Flush toilets
- Wash hands before leaving

# **TOYS**

Toys are not allowed on the playground. If a toy is brought to school for sharing, it must remain in the student's backpack until permission is given to bring it out for sharing. Electronic games sometimes are allowed on the bus as determined by individual bus drivers. These are to remain in backpacks and not brought out during the school day. Doing so could result in confiscation. *The responsibility for personal equipment will be the student's.* 

# **CLOSED CAMPUS**

Cape Horn-Skye School operates under a "closed campus" policy as directed by the Washougal School Board. This means that students may not leave the school grounds without permission from the office. The Skamania County Sheriff's Department will be contacted if a student leaves the school grounds without permission.

# **LEAVING CAMPUS WITHOUT PERMISSION**

In the event a student leaves the campus without permission, the following steps will be taken:

- 1. An immediate physical search of the playground and building will take place.
- 2. Notification of the Sheriff's Department
- 3. Attempt to notify the parent/guardian directly by phone. If they are unavailable, notify the emergency number.
- 4. Searches will be under the direct control of the Sheriff's Department. Staff will assist as requested.

#### RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR STUDENTS RIDING SCHOOL BUSES

- 1. The driver is in full charge of the bus and students. The students must obey the driver promptly and willingly.
- 2. School and district rules/regulations apply on the school buses.
- 3. Students shall ride their regularly assigned bus at all times, unless the school authorities have granted permission.
- 4. Students in grades K-8 may get off at a place other than their own regular stop only by written permission from the office. Students in grades 9-12 may be let off at a place other than their own regular stop through pre-boarding mutual arrangement with the driver or by written permission from the office.
- 5. Each pupil may be assigned to a seat.
- 6. Students will:
  - a. Sit properly in their seats.
  - b. Refrain from throwing objects in/out of the bus.
  - c. Keep their hands to themselves.
  - d. Be courteous to their fellow passengers.
  - e. Use appropriate language.
  - f. Keep the bus clean of refuse.
  - g. Refrain from eating anything while riding.
- 7. No pupil shall at any time extend his/her head, hands, or arms out of the windows whether the school bus is in motion or standing still. Windows shall not be opened more than 6 inches at any time.
- 8. Students must see that they have nothing in their possession that may cause injury to another, such as sticks, breakable containers, any type of firearms, or straps or pins extending from their clothing. Also, any type of animal, with the exception of a seeing-eye dog, is not permitted on the bus without permission from the bus driver.
- 9. Each student must see that his/her books and personal belongings are kept out of the aisle. Special permission must be granted by school authorities to transport any large items.
- 10. No student will be allowed to talk to the driver more than is necessary.
- 11. No student shall sit in the driver's seat, nor shall any student be to the immediate left or right of the bus driver.
- 12. Students are to remain seated while the bus is in motion and are not to get on or off the bus until the bus has come to a full stop.
- 13. Students must leave the bus in an orderly manner. They must not cross the highway until given consent by the school bus driver. When boarding or leaving the bus, the students should be in view of the driver at all times.
- 14. Students must cross the highway only in front of the school bus and never behind it.
- 15. Students must not stand or play in the roadway while waiting for the bus. Students should leave home early enough to arrive at the bus stop before the bus is due.

- 16. Students at the bus loading area should exercise self-discipline. Students should refrain from pushing and shoving other students. Students in violation are subject to disciplinary action.
- 17. Students, who have to walk some distance along the highway to the bus-loading zone, where practical, must walk on the left-hand side facing on-coming traffic. This will also apply to pupils leaving the bus-loading zone in the evening.
- 18. Students shall not perform any act, which will obstruct the free passage of a school bus along its normal course.
- 19. In the event of an actual emergency, emergency exit procedures, as established by the emergency exit drills, will be followed.
- 20. The school district will hold the student or parent/guardian responsible for damage to school buses caused by the student. (Restitution)
- 21. Students may not use radios or stereo equipment while on the school bus unless the device is being used with headphones.
- 22. Students' misconduct on a bus will be sufficient reason to discontinue providing transportation to those students involved. (Policy #8123.P)

# **BUS REFERRAL PROCESS**

Riding the bus needs to be a safe experience for all ages from Kindergarten all the way to 12<sup>th</sup> Grade! Students who follow bus expectations are creating a safer environment for everyone on the bus and families can help support this by reinforcing the expectations — especially around remaining seated while the bus is in motion and keeping hands to self. The bus is a way to assist our families with transportation needs and it's another area where students are learning skills of social interaction and following directions.

#### **TEACHING BUS EXPECTATIONS**

- 1. Driver explains all six (6) general bus rules to the students during the first three weeks of schools and on a continuing basis as needed.
- 2. Driver provides positive reinforcement for following bus rules.
- 3. Driver will reassign student seating to support good behavior choices.

# **STEP 1: BUS CORRECTIVE BEHAVIOR STEPS**

- a) Verbal (to student) and/or written report by driver, copies to building administrator and transportation director. (Optional addition of b.)
- b) Seat assignment and notification to parents by driver (via phone, in person, or in writing). Inform students that further infraction(s) will result in a written referral.

## STEP 2: 1st ACTION REFERRAL

Inform student that further infraction(s) will result in loss of bus privileges.

Notification sent to:

- Parent
- Principal
- Bus Driver

Confer with administrator and student/parent notification. **Reteach of behavior expectations**. If behavior plan is needed, driver attendance is mandatory.

# STEP 3: 2<sup>rd</sup> ACTION REFERRAL

Inform student that further infraction(s) will result in loss of bus privileges.

Notification sent to:

- Parent
- Principal
- Bus Driver

Confer with administrator and student/parent notification. **Reteach of behavior expectations**. If behavior plan is needed, driver attendance is mandatory.

# STEP 4: 3<sup>rd</sup> ACTION REFERRAL

**Student receives a referral and a 2-day suspension off the bus**. Before the 6<sup>th</sup> day of resuming ridership, guardian and student must conference with the principal as a re-teaching opportunity regarding bus behavior and expectations.

# STEP 5: 4th ACTION REFERRAL

**Student receives a referral and a 5-day suspension off the bus.** Before the 11<sup>th</sup> day of resuming ridership, guardian and student must conference with the principal as a re-teaching opportunity regarding bus behavior and expectations.

# STEP 6: 5th ACTION REFERRAL

Student **loses bus privileges** for the remainder of the trimester/semester.

\*\*\* Serious misconduct will result in immediate removal of bus privileges (i.e. physical violence)

# CAPE HORN-SKYE DISCIPLINE

Discipline at Cape Horn-Skye is usually not a major problem. Repeated misbehavior is usually a symptom of a problem the student is having rather than a problem in itself.

Our goal is to help all students to achieve self-discipline. Limits are set that will help:

- A. Protect and respect rights of all.
- B. Provide for the safety of all.
- C. Insure that individuals will grow in positive ways academically, socially, behaviorally, and emotionally.

Consequences for not following school rules may include:

- Verbal warning
- Reteaching of expectations
- Loss of recess
- Problem-solving conference
- Apology
- Phone call to parents/guardian
- Suspension from the classroom
- Suspension from school

The Cape Horn-Skye Self Manager program has four progressive goals:

- 1. To put focus on positive behavior.
- 2. To recognize appropriate behavior.
- 3. To foster positive leadership and positive role models.
- 4. To encourage responsible behavior.

This program encourages and recognizes students who demonstrate the ability to manage their own behavior. Students will be taught the expectations below and expectations will be reviewed as necessary.

# 1. BE RESPONSIBLE AND PREPARED

- completes tasks
- manages materials appropriately
- has materials ready to use
- always tries to do their best at school

#### 2. BE SAFE

- keeps hands, feet and objects to self
- respects others' space and property
- follows reasonable directives on safety
- walks in the hall
- uses equipment, materials, and furniture safely
- stays in assigned areas

#### 3. BE RESPECTFUL

- respect others' space and property
- uses school-appropriate language
- is quiet when appropriate
- uses appropriate words and actions to express disagreement

- cares about the feelings of others
- leaves gum at home
- removes hat for the flag salute

#### 4. BE COOPERATIVE

- listens to others
- practices good sportsmanship
- respects others' opinions
- is honest

# 5. FOLLOW DIRECTIONS

- follows recess and classroom routines
- responds to whistle signals at recess
- responds in a timely manner to directives

Teachers will teach the above expectations and guidelines from the first day of school, as well as at the beginning of each trimester. Reminders throughout will also be appropriate.

#### Washougal School District DISCIPLINARY ACTION GUIDELINES

8-10-10

The level of consequence to be imposed will take into consideration the severity of the offense, the age and past disciplinary record, attendance, and academic history of the student. School officials may grant exceptions to the guidelines below in cases involving extenuating circumstances.

Pre-Referral Interventions	Class 1 Offense Class 2 Offense		Class 3 Offense	Class 4 Offense	
Examples: Give warning to student(s)  Contact parent or guardian  Behavior plan  Assign detention  Conduct parent/guardian  conference	Examples:  Dress code violation  Dress code violation  Inappropriate language with peers  Inappropriate physical contact  Out-of-class without permission  Skipping class or unexcused absence  On the bus  Out of seat while bus is moving  Eating or drinking  Throwing items  Loud, screaming	Examples:  Bullying Cheating Computer policy issues Defisnee/insubordination Forgery Inappropriate language to adult Lying Possession or use of over the counter drugs Offering to others: over-the-counter drugs	Examples:  Assault Fighting/encouraging others to fight Gang related activity Harassment, ongoing bullying, intimidation Forceful interference of district employee Knives, weapons, dangerous objects Other oriminal acts as defined by law Sexual harassment Theft Threat Possession/use of tobacco Vandalism	Examples:  Possession or use of controlled substances Possession of drug paraphernalia Possession or use of alcohol Offering or selling to others: drugs, lookalike drugs, alcohol or substances, or material claimed to be drugs or alcohol Possession of gun or look-alike gun on school premises	
1st Offense	Discipline	Discipline to Short Term Suspension	Short Term to Long Term Suspension	Long Term Suspension to Expulsion	
2 <sup>nd</sup> Offense	Discipline to Short Term Suspension	Discipline to Long Term Suspension	Short Term Suspension to Expulsion	0 41 <b>4</b> 9 0 4300 0	
Further Offenses	Short Term to Long Term Suspension	Long Term Suspension to Expulsion	Long Term Suspension to Expulsion		

- \* Discipline: any form of corrective action other than suspension or expulsion. Examples include: Warning, conference, referral, detention, Saturday
- Discipline: any form of corrective action other than suspension of expulsion. Examing contretuce, reterine, detection, standards school, loss of privileges, school service.

  Short Term Suspension: Denial of attendance for more than a period or subject up to and not exceeding ten consecutive days. Students in grades K-4 will not be suspended for more than 10 school days in a semester/trimester. Students in grades 5-12 will not be suspended for more than 15 school days during any single semester or 10 school days during any single trimester.

  Long Term Suspension: Denial of attendance for more than ten consecutive school days.

  Expulsion: Denial of attendance at any single subject or class or at any full schedule of subjects or classes for an indefinite period of time.

# DISTRICT POLICIES AND PROCEDURES



4855 Evergreen Way Washougal, WA 98671 Tel: 360.954.3000 Fax: 360.954.3099 www.washougal.k12.wa.us

# <u>Student/Parent Handbook and Policy/Procedure Signature Sheet</u> GENERAL INFORMATION AND REMINDERS:

Schools and districts use policies and procedures to define what they intend to do and the means by which they will carry out these objectives. Policies consist of high-level statements of intent about things we want to do or plan to avoid doing. Procedures are the detailed descriptions of the tasks and how the school/district will carry out the policy. Clear policies and procedures support effective decision making because they provide guidelines on what people can and cannot do, what decisions they can make and what activities are appropriate.

For schools, your child's safety and learning is very important. We have worked hard to develop policies and procedures that ensure safety and learning and that are efficient. We ask that you please help us with the following things during this school year so your child will be safe and free of interruptions to his or her learning.

The school handbook provides general information and reminders. Specific policy and procedure are adopted by the school district are in the last section of this handbook. This handbook and Policies/Procedures is located on each school's website. (Hard copies of the handbook and policies/procedures may be requested at your school office.) In the case of an inconsistency, district policies take precedent over school handbooks and procedures.

#### **Absences**

State law requires students to attend school regularly and to be punctual. The attendance record becomes part of the student's permanent file.

It is the parent's responsibility to call the school if your child is absent. We are required by law to send out a letter asking about the absence. Unexcused absences could result in a petition being filed with the truancy court. Please carefully review the district attendance policy in the policy section.

PLEASE SIGN AND RETURN TO THE SCHOOL THAT YOU HAVE RECEIVED AND REVIEWED THE SCHOOL HANDBOOK AND POLICIES/PROCEDURES

Student's Name			-		
Parent Signature					
would like to recei		the school hand	dbook which ind	cludes the district's	3
No	Yes				

#### **KNOW • NURTURE • CHALLENGE**

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# **Electronic Resources and Internet Safety – Policy 2022**

The Washougal Board of Directors recognizes that an effective public education system develops students who are globally aware, civically engaged, and capable of managing their lives and careers.

The board also believes that staff and students need to be proficient and safe users of information, media, and technology to succeed in a digital world.

#### **Electronic Resources**

The district will develop and use electronic resources as a powerful and compelling means for students to learn core subjects and applied skills in relevant and rigorous ways and for staff to educate them in such areas of need. It is the district's goal to provide students with rich and ample opportunities to use technology for important purposes in schools just as individuals in workplaces and other real-life settings use these tools. The district's technology will enable educators and students to communicate, learn, share, collaborate and create; to think and solve problems; to manage their work; and to take ownership of their lives.

The superintendent or designee will: 1) create strong electronic resources and develop related educational systems that support innovative teaching and learning; 2) provide appropriate staff development opportunities regarding this policy; and 3) develop procedures to support this policy. The superintendent or designee is authorized to develop procedures and acceptable use guidelines for staff and students as to use of district electronic resources, including those that access Internet and social media, and to regulate use of personal electronic resources on district property and related to district activities.

# **Internet Safety**

To help ensure student safety and citizenship with electronic resources, all students will be educated about Internet safety. This will include appropriate online behavior, including interacting with other individuals on social networking websites and in chat rooms, and cyberbullying awareness and response.

To promote Internet safety and appropriate online behavior of students and staff as they use electronic resources and access material from the Internet, the superintendent or designee is authorized to develop or adopt Internet safety procedures, acceptable use guideline, and, for students, related instructional materials for every grade level. The superintendent or designee in evaluating such procedures and instructional materials should take into account District electronic resources, community norms, privacy rights, responsible use, and issues of concern with student or staff use of electronic resources.

As a component of district Internet safety measures, all district-owned electronic resources, including computer networks and Wi-Fi, in all district facilities capable of accessing the Internet must use filtering software to prevent access to obscene, racist, hateful or violent material. However, given the ever-changing nature of the Internet, the district cannot guarantee that a student will never be able to access objectionable material.

Further, when students use the Internet from school facilities for educational purposes, district staff will make a reasonable effort to supervise student access and use of the Internet. If material is accessed that violates district policies, procedures or student guidelines for electronic

2021-22 Student Handbook Policies/Procedures, p. 1 resources or acceptable use, district staff may instruct the person to cease using that material and/or implement sanctions consistent with district policies, procedures, guidelines, or student codes of conduct.

# **Electronic Resources and Internet Safety – Procedure 2022**

# K-20 Network Acceptable Use Guidelines/Internet Safety Requirements

These procedures are written to support the Electronic Resources Policy of the board of directors and to promote positive and effective digital citizenship among students and staff. Digital citizenship includes the norms of appropriate, responsible, and healthy behavior related to current technology use. Successful, technologically-fluent digital citizens recognize and value the rights, responsibilities, and opportunities of living, learning, and working in an interconnected digital world. They cultivate and manage their digital identity and reputation, and are aware of the permanence of their actions in the digital world. Expectations for student and staff behavior online are no different from face-to-face interactions.

#### **Use of Personal Electronic Devices**

In accordance with all district policies and procedures, students and staff may use personal electronic devices (e.g. laptops, mobile devices and e-readers) to further the educational and research mission of the district. School staff will retain the final authority in deciding when and how students may use personal electronic devices on school grounds and during the school day. Absent a specific and articulated need (e.g. assistive technology), students do not have an absolute right to possess or use personal electronic devices at school.

#### Network

The district network includes wired and wireless devices and peripheral equipment, files and storage, e-mail and Internet content (blogs, websites, collaboration software, social networking sites, wikis, etc.). The district reserves the right to prioritize the use of, and access to, the network.

All use of the network must support education and research and be consistent with the mission of the district.

## Acceptable network use by district students and staff include:

- A. Creation of files, digital projects, videos, web pages and podcasts using network resources in support of education and research;
- B. Participation in blogs, wikis, bulletin boards, social networking sites and groups and the creation of content for podcasts, e-mail and webpages that support education and research;
- C. With parental permission, the online publication of original educational material, curriculum related materials and student work. Sources outside the classroom or school must be cited appropriately;

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- D. Staff use of the network for incidental personal use in accordance with all district policies and procedures; or
- E. Connection of personal electronic devices (wired or wireless), when authorized, including portable devices with network capabilities to the district network after checking with Technology Department staff to confirm that the device is equipped with up-to-date virus software, compatible network card, and is configured properly. Connection of any personal electronic device is subject to all procedures in this document and district policy.

# Unacceptable network use by district students and staff includes but is not limited to: A.

Personal gain, commercial solicitation and compensation of any kind;

- B. Actions that result in liability or cost incurred by the district;
- C. Downloading, installing and use of games, audio files, video files, games or other applications (including shareware or freeware) without permission or approval from Technology Department staff;
  - D. Support for or opposition to ballot measures, candidates and any other political activity;
  - E. Hacking, cracking, vandalizing, the introduction of malware, including viruses, worms, Trojan horses, time bombs and changes to hardware, software and monitoring tools;
  - F. Unauthorized access to other district computers, networks and information systems;
- G. Action constituting harassment, intimidation or bullying, including cyberbullying, hate mail, defamation, discriminatory jokes and remarks. This may also include the manufacture, distribution, or possession of inappropriate digital images;
- H. Information posted, sent or stored online that could endanger others (e.g., bomb construction, drug manufacturing);
- I. Accessing, uploading, downloading, storage and distribution of obscene, pornographic or sexually explicit material;
- J. Attaching unauthorized devices to the district network. Any such device will be confiscated and additional disciplinary action may be taken; or
- K. Any unlawful use of the district network, including but not limited to stalking, blackmail, violation of copyright laws, and fraud.

The district will not be responsible for any damages suffered by any user, including but not limited to, loss of data resulting from delays, non-deliveries, mis-deliveries or service interruptions caused by his/her own negligence or any other errors or omissions. The district will not be responsible for unauthorized financial obligations resulting from the use of, or access to, the district's computer network or the Internet.

## **Internet Safety**

Personal Information and Inappropriate Content:

2021-22 Student Handbook Policies/Procedures, p. 3

- A. Students and staff should not reveal personal information, including a home address and phone number on web sites, blogs, podcasts, videos, social networking sites, wikis, e mail or as content on any other electronic medium;
- B. Students and staff should not reveal personal information about another individual on any electronic medium without first obtaining permission;
- C. No student pictures or names can be published on any public class, school or district website unless the appropriate permission has been obtained according to district policy;
- D. If students encounter dangerous or inappropriate information or messages, they should notify the appropriate school authority; and

E. Students should be aware of the persistence of their digital information, including images and social media activity, which may remain on the Internet indefinitely.

# Filtering and Monitoring

Filtering software is used to block or filter access to visual depictions that are obscene and all child pornography in accordance with the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA). Other objectionable material could be filtered. The determination of what constitutes "other objectionable" material is a local decision.

- A. Filtering software is not 100 percent effective. While filters make it more difficult for objectionable material to be received or accessed, filters are not a solution in themselves. Every user must take responsibility for his/her use of the network and Internet and avoid objectionable sites;
- B. Any attempts to defeat or bypass the district's Internet filter or conceal Internet activity are prohibited (e.g., proxies, https, special ports, modifications to district browser settings and any other techniques designed to evade filtering or enable the publication of inappropriate content);
- C. E-mail inconsistent with the educational and research mission of the district will be considered SPAM and blocked from entering district e-mail boxes;
- D. The district will provide appropriate adult supervision of Internet use. The first line of defense in controlling access by minors to inappropriate material on the Internet is deliberate and consistent monitoring of student access to district devices;
- E. Staff members who supervise students, control electronic equipment or have occasion to observe student use of said equipment online, must make a reasonable effort to monitor the use of this equipment to assure that student use conforms to the mission and goals of the district;
- F. Staff must make a reasonable effort to become familiar with the Internet and to monitor, instruct and assist effectively;
- G. The district may monitor student use of the district network, including when accessed on students' personal electronic devices and devices provided by the district, such as laptops, netbooks, and tablets;
  - H. The district will provide a procedure for students and staff members to anonymously request access to internet websites blocked by the district's filtering software. The

2021-22 Student Handbook Policies/Procedures, p. 4 procedure will indicate a timeframe for a designated school official to respond to the request. The requirements of the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA) will be considered in evaluation of the request. The district will provide an appeal process for

requests that are denied.

# **Internet Safety Instruction**

All students will be educated about appropriate online behavior, including interacting with other individuals on social networking websites and in chat rooms, and cyberbullying awareness and response:

- A. Age appropriate materials will be made available for use across grade levels; and
- B. Training on online safety issues and materials implementation will be made available for administration, staff, and families.

# Copyright

Downloading, copying, duplicating, and distributing software, music, sound files, movies, images, or other copyrighted materials without the specific written permission of the copyright owner is generally prohibited. However, the duplication and distribution of materials for educational purposes is permitted when such duplication and distribution falls within the Fair Use Doctrine of the United States Copyright Law (Title 17, USC) and content is cited appropriately.

# Ownership of Work

All work completed by employees as part of their employment will be considered property of the district. The District will own any and all rights to such work including any and all derivative works, unless there is a written agreement to the contrary.

All work completed by students as part of the regular instructional program is owned by the student as soon as it is created, unless such work is created while the student is acting as an employee of the school system or unless such work has been paid for under a written agreement with the school system. If under an agreement with the district, the work will be considered the property of the district. Staff members must obtain a student's permission prior to distributing his/her work to parties outside the school.

# **Network Security and Privacy**

# **Network Security**

Passwords are the first level of security for a user account. System logins and accounts are to be used only by the authorized owner of the account for authorized district purposes. Students and staff are responsible for all activity on their account and must not share their account password.

The following procedures are designed to safeguard network user accounts: A.

Change passwords according to district policy;

B. Do not use another user's account;

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- C. Do not insert passwords into e-mail or other communications;
- D. If you write down your user account password, keep it in a secure location; E.

Do not store passwords in a file without encryption;

F. Do not use the "remember password" feature of Internet browsers; and G.

Lock the screen or log off if leaving the computer.

# **Grading and Progress Reports – Policy 2420**

The board believes that the cooperation of school and home is a vital ingredient in the growth and education of the student and recognizes the district's responsibility to keep parents informed of student welfare and progress in school.

The district will issue of grades and written or electronic progress reports, and provide opportunities

for parent conferences to serve as a basis for continuous evaluation of the student's performance and to help in determining changes that should be made to effect improvement. These written and verbal reports will be designed to provide information that will be helpful to the student, teacher, counselor and parent.

The district will comply with the marking/grading system incorporated into the statewide standardized high school transcript. Secondary students' grade points will be reported for each term, individually and cumulatively.

The superintendent will establish a system of reporting student progress and will require all staff members to comply with such a system as part of their teaching responsibility.

At the beginning of each term, each teacher will specify in writing the student learning goals or standards for his/her respective courses. If participation is used as the basis of mastery of a goal or standard, a student's grades may be adversely affected for failure to attend or participate, provided on that day there was a graded participation activity. If the teacher does not so advise students in writing, the teacher may not use attendance and participation in the grading process. Students who feel that attendance or tardiness factors have been unfairly applied, may appeal to the principal to determine a resolution.

A student's grade report may be withheld until such time the student pays for any school property that has been lost or willfully damaged. Upon payment for damages or the equivalency through voluntary work, the grade report will be released. The student or his/her parents may appeal the imposition of a charge for damages to the superintendent and board of directors.

# **Procedure 3122 - Excused and Unexcused Absences**

Students are expected to attend all assigned classes each day. School staff will keep a record of absence and tardiness, including a call log and/or a record of excuse statements submitted by a parent/guardian or, in certain cases, students, to document a student's excused absences.

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#### **Excused Absences**

The following are valid excuses for absences and tardiness. Assignments and/or activities not completed because of an excused absence or tardiness may be made up in the manner provided by the teacher.

Absence due to: Illness, health condition or medical appointment (including, but not limited to, medical, counseling, dental, optometry, pregnancy, and in-patient or out patient treatment for chemical dependency or mental health) for the student or person for whom the student is legally responsible; Family emergency including, but not limited to, a death or illness in the family; religious purposes; court, judicial proceeding court ordered activity, or serving on a jury; post-secondary, technical school or apprenticeship program visitation, or scholarship interview; State recognized search and rescue activities consistent with RCW 28A.225.055; directly related to the student's homeless or foster care/dependency status; absences related to deployment activities of a parent or legal guardian who is an active duty member consistent with RCW 28A.705.010; Absences due to suspensions, expulsions or emergency expulsions imposed pursuant to chapter 392-400 WAC if the student is not receiving educational services and is not enrolled in qualifying "course of study" activities as defined in WAC 392-121-107; Absences due to student safety concerns, including absences related to

threats, assaults, or bullying; Absences due to a student's migrant status; Absences related to the student's illness, health condition, or medical appointments due to COVID-19; Absences related to caring for a family member who has an illness, health condition, or medical appointment due to COVID-19; Absences related to the student's employment or other family obligations during regularly scheduled school hours that are temporarily necessary due to COVID-19 until other arrangements can be made, including placement in a more flexible education program; Absences due to the student's parent's work schedule or other obligations during regularly scheduled school hours, until other arrangements can be made; Absences due to the student's lack of necessary instructional tools, including internet broadband access or connectivity; and Other COVID-19 related circumstances as determined between school and parent or emancipated youth.

1. When possible, the parent/guardian is expected to notify the school office on the morning of the absence by phone, e-mail, or written note, and to provide the excuse for the absence. If no excuse is provided with the notification, or no notification is provided, the parent/guardian will submit an excuse via phone, e-mail or written note upon the student's return to school. Adult students (those over eighteen) and emancipated students (those over sixteen who have been emancipated by court action) will notify the school office of their absences with a note of explanation. Students fourteen years old or older who are absent from school due to testing or treatment for a sexually transmitted disease will notify the school of their absence with a note of explanation, which will be kept confidential. Students thirteen years and older may do the same for mental health, drug or alcohol treatment; and all students have that right for family planning and abortion.

A parent/guardian may request that a student be excused from attending school in observance of a religious holiday. In addition, a student, upon the request of his/her

2021-22 Student Handbook Policies/Procedures, p. 7 parent, may be excused for a portion of a school day to participate in religious instruction provided such is not conducted on school property. A student will be allowed one makeup day for each day of absence.

- 2. **Absence for parental-approved activities.** This category of absence will be counted as excused for purposes agreed to by the principal and the parent/guardian. An absence may not be approved if it causes a serious adverse effect on the student's educational progress. The student may not be able to achieve the objectives of the unit of instruction as a result of absence from class. In such a case, a parent or guardian-approved absence would have an adverse effect on the student's educational progress, including the grade for the course. A student, upon the request of his/her parent/guardian, may be excused for a portion of a school day to participate in religious instruction provided such is not conducted on school property or otherwise involves the school to any degree.
- 3. **Absence resulting from disciplinary actions or short-term suspension**. As required by law, students who are removed from a class or classes as a disciplinary measure or students who have been placed on short-term or long-term suspension will have the right to make up assignments or exams missed during the time they were denied entry to the classroom if the effect of the missed assignments will be a substantial lowering of the course grade.
- 4. Extended illness or health condition. If a student is confined to home or hospital for an

extended period, the school will arrange for the accomplishment of assignments at the place of confinement whenever practical. If the student is unable to do his/her schoolwork, or if there are major requirements of a particular course which cannot be accomplished outside of class the student may be required to take an incomplete or withdraw from the class without penalty.

5. Excused absence for chronic health condition. Students with a chronic health condition that interrupts regular attendance may qualify for placement in a limited attendance and participation program. The student and his/her parent will apply to the principal or counselor, and a limited program will be written following the advice and recommendations of the student's medical advisor. The recommended limited program will be approved by the principal. Staff will be informed of the student's needs, though the confidentiality of medical information will be respected at the parent's request.

# Required conference for elementary school students

If an elementary school student has **five or more excused absences in a single month** during the current school year or ten or more excused absences in the current school year, the district will schedule a conference with the student and their parent(s) at a reasonably convenient time. The conference is intended to identify barriers to the student's regular attendance and to identify supports and resources so the student may regularly attend school.

The conference must include at least one school district employee, preferably a nurse, counselor, social worker, teacher or community human service provider, and may occur on the same day as the scheduled parent-teacher conference, provided it takes place within thirty days of the

2021-22 Student Handbook Policies/Procedures, p. 8 absences. If the student has an Individualized Education Program or a Section 504 Plan, the team that created that program must reconvene. A conference is not required if prior notice of the excused absences was provided to the district or if a doctor's note has been provided and a plan is in place to ensure the student will not fall behind in their coursework.

**Tiered response system for student who are absent from remote learning** Students who are marked absent from remote learning will receive interventions and services consistent with the tiered response system for student absences implemented by the district pursuant to WAC 392-401A-045. Under the tiered response system, the district will:

- Monitor daily attendance data for all students who are absent from remote learning, whether excused or unexcused;
- Make multiple attempts to contact the families regarding student absences using multiple modalities and in the parent's home language;
- Provide daily notification of absences to parents;
- Provide outreach from the student's school to determine student needs, such as basic needs, connectivity and hardware, connection with health and social services as necessary;
- Provide differentiated supports to students that address the barriers to attendance and participation, including universal supports for all students and tiered interventions for students at-risk of and experiencing chronic absence; and
- When feasible and appropriate, transition students to full-time in-person learning or other program to accommodate the student's needs.

#### **Unexcused Absences**

An "unexcused absence" means that a student has failed to attend the majority of hours or periods in an average school day, has failed to comply with a more restrictive school district policy on absences, or has failed to comply with alternative learning experience program attendance requirements.

Unexcused absences occur when:

- 1. The parent, guardian, or adult student submits an excuse that does not meet the definition of an excused absence as defined above; or
- 2. The parent, guardian, or adult student fails to submit any type of excuse statement, whether by phone, e-mail or in writing, for an absence.

# Unexcused absences from remote learning.

Absences from remote learning must be marked as a "nontruancy remote learning absence" until October 4, 2020. Such absences shall not be marked as excused or unexcused. Beginning October 5, 2020, any absence from remote learning is unexcused unless it meets one of the criteria in WAC 392-401A-020.

**Each unexcused absence within any month of the current school year** will be followed by a letter or phone call to the parent informing them of the consequences of additional unexcused absences. The school will make reasonable efforts to provide this information in a language in which that parent is fluent. A student's grade will not be affected if no graded activity is missed during such an absence.

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After three unexcused absences within any month of the current school year, the school will hold a conference with the principal, student, and parent to analyze the causes of the student's absenteeism. If a regularly scheduled parent-teacher conference is scheduled to take place within thirty days of the third unexcused absence, the district may schedule the attendance conference on the same day. If the parent/guardian does not attend the scheduled conference, the school may hold the conference with the student and principal. However, the school will notify the parent of the steps to eliminate or reduce the student's absences.

At some point after the second and before the seventh unexcused absence, the district will take data-informed steps to eliminate or reduce the student's absences. In middle school and high school, these steps will include application of the Washington Assessment of the Risks and Needs of Students (WARNS) or other assessment by the district's designated employee.

For any student with an existing Individualized Education Program (IEP) or Section 504 Plan, these steps will include convening the student's IEP team or Section 504 team, including a behavior specialist or mental health specialist where appropriate, to consider the reasons for the student's absences. If necessary, and if the student's parent gives consent, the district will conduct a functional behavior assessment and will compete a detailed behavior plan to explore the function of the absence behavior.

For any student who does not have an IEP or Section 504 Plan, but who is reasonably believed to have a mental or physical disability or impairment, these steps will include informing the student's parent/guardian of the right to obtain an appropriate evaluation at no cost to the parent to determine whether the student has a disability or impairment and needs accommodations, special education

services, or related services. This includes students with suspected emotional or behavioral disabilities. If the school obtains consent to conduct an evaluation, time should be allowed for the evaluation to be completed, and if the student is found to be eligible for accommodations, special education services, or related services, a plan will be developed to address the student's needs.

The district will designate a staff member to apply the Washington Assessment of the Risks and Needs of Students (WARNS) and, where appropriate, provide the student with best practice or research-based interventions consistent with WARNS. As appropriate, the district will also consider:

- adjusting the student's course assignments;
- providing the student more individualized instruction;
- providing appropriate vocational courses or work experience;
- requiring the student to attend an alternative school or program;
- assisting the parent or student to obtain supplementary services; or
- referring the student to a community truancy board.

#### Transfers

In the case of a student who transfers from one district to another during the school year, the sending district will provide to the receiving district, together with a copy of the WARNS assessment and any interventions previously provided to the student, the most recent truancy information for that student. The information will include the online or written acknowledgment by the parent and student. The sending district will use the standard choice transfer form for

2021-22 Student Handbook Policies/Procedures, p. 10 releasing a student to a nonresident school district for the purposes of accessing an alternative learning experience program.

**Not later than a student's seventh unexcused absence in a month**, the district will: a. enter into an agreement with the student and parents/guardians that establishes school attendance requirements;

- b. refer the student to a community engagement board; or
- c. file a petition to juvenile court (see below).

#### i. Community Engagement Board

A "community engagement board" means a board established pursuant to a memorandum of understanding (MOU) between a juvenile court and the school district and composed of members of the local community in which the student attends school. The district will enter into an MOU with the juvenile court in Clark County to establish a community engagement board prior to the 2017-2018 school year.

The district will designate and identify to the juvenile court (and update as necessary) and to the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction a staff member to coordinate district efforts to address excessive absenteeism and truancy, including outreach and conferences, coordinating the MOU, establishing protocols and procedures with the court, coordinating trainings, sharing evidence-based and culturally appropriate promising practices. The district will also identify a person within each school to serve as a contact regarding excessive absenteeism and truancy and assisting in the recruitment of community engagement board members.

After the student's **seventh unexcused absence within any month during the current school year and not later than the fifteenth unexcused absence during the current school year,** if the district's attempts to substantially reduce a student's absences have not been successful and if the student is under the age of seventeen, the district will file a petition and supporting affidavit for a civil action in juvenile court.

# **Petition to juvenile court**

The petition will contain the following:

- 1. A statement that the student has unexcused absences in the current school year. (District Note: While petitions must be filed if the student has seven or more unexcused absences within any month, or ten or more unexcused absences in the current school year, a petition may be filed earlier. Unexcused absences accumulated in another school or school will be counted when preparing the petition);
- 2. An attestation that actions taken by the school district have not been successful in substantially reducing the student's absences from school;
- 3. A statement that court intervention and supervision are necessary to assist the school district to reduce the student's absences from school;
- 4. A statement that RCW 28A.225.010 has been violated by the parent, student or parent and student;
- 5. The student's name, date of birth, school, address, gender, race and ethnicity; and the names and addresses of the student's parents/guardians, whether the student and parent

2021-22 Student Handbook Policies/Procedures, p. 11 are fluent in English, whether there is an existing individualized education program (IEP) and the student's current academic status in school;

- 6. A list of all interventions that have been attempted, a copy of any previous truancy assessment completed by the student's current school district, the history of approved best practices intervention or research-based intervention(s) previously provided to the student by the district, and a copy of the most recent truancy information document provided to the parent.
- 7. Facts that support the above allegations.

Petitions may be served by certified mail, return receipt requested, but if such service is unsuccessful, personal service is required. At the district's choice, it may be represented by a person who is not an attorney at hearings related to truancy petitions.

If the allegations in the petition are established by a preponderance of the evidence, the court shall grant the petition and enter an order assuming jurisdiction to intervene for a period of time determined by the court, after considering the facts alleged in the petition and the circumstances of the student, to most likely cause the student to return to and remain in school while the student is subject to the court's jurisdiction.

If the court assumes jurisdiction, the school district will periodically report to the court any additional unexcused absences by the student, actions taken by the school district, and an update on the student's academic status in school at a schedule specified by the court. The first report must be received no later than three (3) months from the date that the court assumes jurisdiction.

All sanctions imposed for failure to comply with the attendance policies and procedures will be

implemented in conformance with state and district regulations regarding discipline or corrective action. (See WSSDA policy 3241, Student Discipline.)

# Rights and Responsibilities - Policy 3200

Each year, the superintendent will develop and make available to all students, their parents and staff, handbooks pertaining to student rights, conduct, corrective actions and discipline. Such statements will be developed with the participation of parents and the community. The school principal and staff will confer at least annually to develop and/or review student conduct standards and the uniform enforcement of those standards as related to the established student handbooks. They will also confer annually to establish criteria for determining when certificated employees must complete classes to improve classroom management skills.

All students who attend the district's schools will comply with the written policies, rules and regulations of the schools, will pursue the required course of studies, and will submit to the authority of staff of the schools, subject to such corrective action or discipline as the school officials will determine.

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# **Sexual Harassment of Students Prohibited – Policy 3205**

This district is committed to a positive and productive education free from discrimination, including sexual harassment. This commitment extends to all students involved in academic, educational, extracurricular, athletic, and other programs or activities of the school, whether that program or activity is in a school facility, on school transportation or at a class or school training held elsewhere.

# **Definitions**

For purposes of this policy, sexual harassment means unwelcome conduct or communication of a sexual nature. Sexual harassment can occur adult to student, student to student or can be carried out by a group of students or adults and will be investigated by the District even if the alleged harasser is not a part of the school staff or student body. The district prohibits sexual harassment of students by other students, employees or third parties involved in school district activities.

Under federal and state law, the term "sexual harassment" includes:

- acts of sexual violence;
- unwelcome sexual or gender-directed conduct or communication that interferes with an individual's educational performance or creates an intimidating, hostile, or offensive environment;
- unwelcome sexual advances;
- unwelcome requests for sexual favors;

- sexual demands when submission is a stated or implied condition of obtaining an educational benefit;
- sexual demands where submission or rejection is a factor in an academic, or other school related decision affecting an individual.

A "hostile environment" has been created for a student when sexual harassment is sufficiently serious to interfere with or limit the student's ability to participate in or benefit from the school's program. The more severe the conduct, the less need there is to demonstrate a repetitive series of incidents. In fact, a single or isolated incident of sexual harassment may create a hostile environment if the incident is sufficiently severe, violent, or egregious.

# **Investigation and Response**

If the district knows, or reasonably should know, that sexual harassment has created a hostile environment, it will promptly investigate to determine what occurred and take appropriate steps to resolve the situation. If an investigation reveals that sexual harassment has created a hostile environment, the district will take prompt and effective steps reasonably calculated to end the sexual harassment, eliminate the hostile environment, prevent its recurrence and as appropriate, remedy its effects. The district will take prompt, equitable and remedial action within its authority on reports, complaints and grievances alleging sexual harassment that come to the attention of the district, either formally or informally. The district will take these steps every time a complaint, alleging sexual harassment comes to the attention of the district, either formally or formally.

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Allegations of criminal misconduct will be reported to law enforcement and suspected child abuse will be reported to law enforcement or Child Protective Services. Regardless of whether the misconduct is reported to law enforcement, school staff will promptly investigate to determine what occurred and take appropriate steps to resolve the situation, to the extent that such investigation does not interfere with an ongoing criminal investigation. A criminal investigation does not relieve the district of its independent obligation to investigate and resolve sexual harassment.

Engaging in sexual harassment will result in appropriate discipline or other appropriate sanctions against offending students, staff or other third parties involved in school district activities. Anyone else who engages in sexual harassment on school property or at school activities will have their access to school property and activities restricted, as appropriate.

# **Retaliation and False Allegations**

Retaliation against any person who makes or is a witness in a sexual harassment complaint is prohibited and will result in appropriate discipline. The district will take appropriate actions to protect involved persons from retaliation.

It is a violation of this policy to knowingly report false allegations of sexual harassment. Persons found to knowingly report or corroborate false allegations will be subject to appropriate discipline.

# **Staff Responsibilities**

The superintendent will develop and implement formal and informal procedures for receiving, investigating and resolving complaints or reports of sexual harassment. The procedures will include

reasonable and prompt time lines and delineate staff responsibilities under this policy.

Any school employee who witnesses sexual harassment or receives a report, informal complaint, or written complaint about sexual harassment is responsible for informing the district Title IX or Civil Rights Compliance Coordinator. All staff are also responsible for directing complainants to the formal complaint process.

Reports of discrimination and discriminatory harassment will be referred to the district's Title IX/Civil Rights Compliance Coordinator. Reports of disability discrimination or harassment will be referred to the district's Section 504 Coordinator.

#### **Notice and Training**

The superintendent will develop procedures to provide age-appropriate information and education to district staff, students, parents and volunteers regarding this policy and the recognition and prevention of sexual harassment. At a minimum sexual harassment recognition and prevention and the elements of this policy will be included in staff, student and regular volunteer orientation. This policy and the procedure, which includes the complaint process, will be posted in each district building in a place available to staff, students, parents, volunteers and visitors. Information about the policy and procedure will be clearly stated and conspicuously

2021-22 Student Handbook Policies/Procedures, p. 14 posted throughout each school building, provided to each employee and reproduced in each student, staff, volunteer and parent handbook. Such notices will identify the District's Title IX coordinator and provide contact information, including the coordinator's email address.

# Prohibition of Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying – Policy 3207

The board is committed to a safe and civil educational environment for all students, employees, parents/legal guardians, volunteers and community members that is free from harassment, intimidation or bullying. As defined in legislation, "Harassment, intimidation or bullying" means any intentional electronic, written verbal, or physical act including but not limited to, one shown to be motivated by any characteristic in RCW 28A.640.010 and 28A.642.010 or other distinguishing characteristics, when an act:

- A. Physically harms a student or damages the student's property;
- B. Has the effect of substantially interfering with a student's education;
- C. Is so severe, persistent or pervasive that it creates an intimidating or threatening educational environment; or
- D. Has the effect of substantially disrupting the orderly operation of the school.

Nothing in this section requires the affected student to actually possess a characteristic that is a basis for the harassment, intimidation or bullying.

"Other distinguishing characteristics" can include but are not limited to physical appearance, clothing or other apparel, socioeconomic status and weight.

"Intentional acts" refers to the individual's choice to engage in the act rather than the ultimate impact of the action(s).

# Behaviors/Expressions

Harassment, intimidation or bullying can take many forms including, but not limited to, slurs, rumors, jokes, innuendoes, demeaning comments, drawings, cartoons, pranks, gestures, physical attacks, threats or other written, oral, physical or electronically transmitted messages or images.

This policy is not intended to prohibit expression of religious, philosophical, or political views, provided that the expression does not substantially disrupt the educational environment. Many behaviors that do not rise to the level of harassment, intimidation or bullying may still be prohibited by other district policies or building, classroom or program rules.

#### **Training**

This policy is a component of the district's responsibility to create and maintain a safe, civil, respectful and inclusive learning community and will be implemented in conjunction with comprehensive training of staff and volunteers.

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# Prevention

The district will provide students with strategies aimed at preventing harassment, intimidation and bullying. In its efforts to train students, the district will seek partnerships with families, law enforcement and other community agencies.

#### Interventions

Interventions are designed to remediate the impact on the targeted student(s) and others impacted by the violation, to change the behavior of the perpetrator, and to restore a positive school climate.

The district will consider the frequency of incidents, developmental age of the student, and severity of the conduct in determining intervention strategies. Interventions will range from counseling, correcting behavior and discipline, to law enforcement referrals.

# Students with Individual Education Plans or Section 504 Plans

If allegations are proven that a student with an Individual Education Plan (IEP) or Section 504 Plan has been the target of harassment, intimidation or bullying, or the aggressor of harassment, intimidation or bullying, the school will convene the student's IEP or Section 504 team to determine whether the incident had an impact on the student's ability to receive a free, appropriate public education (FAPE). The meeting will occur regardless of whether the harassment, intimidation or bullying incident was based on the student's disability. During the meeting, the team will evaluate issues such as the student's academic performance, behavioral issues, attendance, and participation in extracurricular activities. If a determination is made that the student is not receiving a FAPE as a result of the harassment, intimidation or bullying incident, or if the student is the aggressor of harassment, intimidation or bullying, the district will provide additional services and supports as deemed necessary by the IEP or Section 504 Team. These services may include counseling, monitoring and/or reevaluation or revision of the student's IEP or Section 504 plan, to ensure the student receives a FAPE.

#### Retaliation/False Allegations

Retaliation is prohibited and will result in appropriate discipline. It is a violation of this policy to

threaten or harm someone for reporting harassment, intimidation, or bullying.

It is also a violation of district policy to knowingly report false allegations of harassment, intimidation, and bullying. Students or employees will not be disciplined for making a report in good faith. However, persons found to knowingly report or corroborate false allegations will be subject to appropriate discipline.

# Compliance Officer

The superintendent will appoint a compliance officer as the primary district contact to receive copies of all formal and informal complaints and ensure policy implementation. The name and contact information for the compliance officer will be communicated throughout the district.

2021-22 Student Handbook Policies/Procedures, p. 16

The superintendent is authorized to direct the implementation of procedures addressing the elements of this policy.

# Procedure 3207 - Prohibition of Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying

#### A. Introduction

The Washougal School District strives to provide students with optimal conditions for learning by maintaining a school environment where everyone is treated with respect and no one is physically or emotionally harmed.

In order to ensure respect and prevent harm, it is a violation of district policy for a student to be harassed, intimidated, or bullied by others in the school community, at school sponsored events, or when such actions create a substantial disruption to the educational process. The school community includes all students, school employees, school board members, contractors, unpaid volunteers, families, patrons, and other visitors. Student(s) will not be harassed because of their race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, gender expression, gender identity, mental or physical disability, or other distinguishing characteristics.

Any school staff who observes, overhears, or otherwise witnesses harassment, intimidation, or bullying or to whom such actions have been reported must take prompt and appropriate action to stop the harassment, intimidation, or bullying, and to prevent its reoccurrence.

# B. **Definitions**

**Aggressor** means a student, staff member, or other member of the school community who engages in the harassment, intimidation, or bullying of a student.

**Harassment, intimidation, or bullying** means an intentional electronic, written, verbal, or physical act that:

- 1. Physically harms a student or damages the student's property;
- 2. Has the effect of substantially interfering with a student's education;

- 3. Is so severe, persistent, or pervasive that it creates an intimidating or threatening educational environment; or
  - 4. Has the effect of substantially disrupting the orderly operation of the school.

Conduct that is "substantially interfering with a student's education" will be determined by considering a targeted student's grades, attendance, demeanor, interaction with peers, participation in activities, and other indicators.

Conduct that may rise to the level of harassment, intimidation, or bullying may take many

2021-22 Student Handbook Policies/Procedures, p. 17 forms, including, but not limited to: slurs, rumors, jokes, innuendoes, demeaning comments, drawings, cartoons, pranks, ostracism, physical attacks or threats, gestures, or acts relating to an individual or group whether electronic, written, oral, or physically transmitted messages or images. There is no requirement that the targeted student actually possess the characteristic that is the basis for the harassment, intimidation, or bullying.

**Retaliation** occurs when an individual is intimidated, threatened, coerced, or discriminated against for reporting harassment, intimidation, or bullying, or participating in an investigation.

**Staff** includes, but is not limited to, educators, administrators, counselors, school nurses, cafeteria workers, custodians, bus drivers, athletic coaches, advisors to extracurricular activities, classified staff, substitute and temporary teachers, volunteers, or paraprofessionals (both employees and contractors).

**Targeted Student** means a student against whom harassment, intimidation, or bullying has allegedly been perpetrated.

#### C. Behaviors/Expressions

"Harassment," intimidation, and 'bullying' are separate but related behaviors. Each must be addressed appropriately. Although this procedure differentiates the three behaviors, this differentiation should not be considered part of the legal definition of these behaviors, Harassment refers to any malicious act, which causes harm to any person's physical well being. It can be discriminatory harassment, malicious harassment, or sexual harassment. Intimidation refers to implied or overt threats of physical violence. Bullying refers to unwanted aggressive behavior(s) by another youth or group of youths that involves an observed or perceived power imbalance and is repeated multiple times or is highly likely to be repeated. Bullying may inflict harm on the targeted youth including physical or educational harm. Bullying can also occur through technology and is called electronic bullying or cyberbullying

# D. Relationship to Other Laws

This procedure applies only to <u>RCW 28A.600.477 – Prohibition Harassment</u>, <u>Intimidation and Bullying</u>. There are other laws and procedures to address related issues such as sexual harassment or discrimination

At least four Washington laws may apply to harassment or discrimination: 1. <u>RCW</u> 28A.600.477 – <u>Prohibition Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying</u> 2. <u>RCW</u> 28A.640.020 – <u>Sexual Equality</u>

# 3. RCW 28A.642 – Prohibition of Discrimination in Public Schools

# 4. RCW 49.60.010 – The Law Against Discrimination

The district will ensure its compliance with all state laws regarding harassment, intimidation, or bullying. Nothing in this procedure prevents a student, parent/guardian, school or district from taking action to remediate harassment or discrimination based on a person's membership in a legally protected class under local, state, or federal law.

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#### E. Prevention

#### 1. Dissemination

In each school and on the district's website the district will prominently post information on reporting harassment, intimidation, or bullying; the name and contact information for making a report to a school administrator; and the name and contact information for the district compliance officer. The district's policy and procedure will be available in each school in a language that families can understand.

Annually, the superintendent will ensure that a statement summarizing the policy and procedure is provided in student, staff, volunteer, and parent handbooks, is available in school and district offices and/or hallways, or is posted on the district's website.

Additional distribution of the policy and procedure is subject to the requirements of chapter 392-405 WAC

# 2. Education

Annually students will receive age-appropriate information on the recognition and prevention of harassment, intimidation, or bullying at student orientation sessions and on other appropriate occasions. The information will include a copy of the Incident Reporting Form or a link to a web-based process.

# 3. Training

The district compliance officer will participate in at least one mandatory training opportunity offered by OSPI. Staff will receive annual training on the school district's policy and procedure, including at a minimum, staff roles and responsibilities, how to monitor common areas and the use of the district's Incident Reporting Form.

# 4. Prevention Strategies

The district will implement a range of prevention strategies including individual, classroom, school, and district-level approaches.

Whenever possible, the district will implement evidence-based prevention programs that are designed to increase social competency, improve school climate, and eliminate harassment, intimidation, and bullying in schools.

# F. Compliance Officer

The district compliance officer will:

- 1. Serve as the district's primary contact for harassment, intimidation, or bullying. If the allegations in a written report of harassment, intimidation, or bullying indicate a potential violation of Policy 3207, the district staff member who receives the report must promptly notify the district compliance officer.
- 2. Provide support and assistance to the principal or designee in resolving complaints;
- 3. Receive copies of all Incident Reporting Forms, discipline Referral Forms, and letters

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- 4. Communicate with the school district's designated civil rights compliance coordinator. If a written report of harassment, intimidation, or bullying indicates a potential violation of the district's nondiscrimination policy [Policy 3210], or if during the course of an investigation, the district becomes aware of a potential violation of the district's nondiscrimination policy, the compliance officer must promptly notify the district's civil rights compliance coordinator. At that time, the compliance officers must promptly notify the complainant that their complaint will proceed under both this policy / procedure and the nondiscrimination policy / procedure. The investigation and response timeline for the nondiscrimination procedure begin when the school district knows or should have known that a written report or investigation or Harassment, Intimidation, or Bullying involves a potential violation of the district's nondiscrimination policy;
- 5. Be familiar with the use of the student information system. The compliance officer may use this information to identify patterns of behavior and areas of concern;
- 6. Ensure implementation of the policy and procedure by overseeing the investigative processes, including ensuring that investigations are prompt, impartial, and thorough;
- 7. Assess the training needs of staff and students to ensure successful implementation throughout the district, and ensure staff receive annual fall training;
- 8. Provide the OSPI School Safety Center with notification of policy or procedure updates or changes on an annual basis; and
- 9. In cases where, despite school efforts, a targeted student experiences harassment, intimidation, or bullying that threatens the student's health and safety, the compliance officer will facilitate a meeting between district staff and the child's parents/guardians to develop a safety plan to protect the student. A sample student safety plan is available on the OSPI website:
  - www.k12.wa.us/SafetyCenter/default.aspx.

#### G. Staff Intervention

All staff members will intervene when witnessing or receiving reports of harassment, intimidation, or bullying. Minor incidents that staff are able to resolve immediately, or incidents that do not meet the definition of harassment, intimidation, or bullying, may require no further action under this procedure, other than tracking, to ensure they are not repeated.

# H. Filing an Incident Reporting Form

Incident Reporting Forms may be used by students, families, or staff to report incidents of harassment, intimidation or bullying. A sample form is provided on the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction's (OSPI) School Safety Center website: <a href="https://www.k12.wa.us/SafetyCenter/BullyingHarassment/default.aspx">www.k12.wa.us/SafetyCenter/BullyingHarassment/default.aspx</a>

Any student or students who believe they have been the target of unresolved, severe, or persistent harassment, intimidation, or bullying, or any other person in the school community who observes or receives notice that a student has or may have been the

target of unresolved, severe, or persistent harassment, intimidation, or bullying may report incidents verbally or in writing to any staff member.

# I. Addressing Harassment, Intimidation, or Bullying – Reports Step 1: Filing an Incident Reporting Form

In order to protect a targeted student from retaliation, a student need not reveal his identity on an Incident Reporting Form. The form may be filed anonymously, confidentially, or the student may choose to disclose his or her identity (non-confidential).

# Status of Reporter

# 1. Anonymous

Individuals may file a report without revealing their identity. No disciplinary action will be taken against an alleged aggressor based solely on an anonymous report. Schools may identify complaint boxes, use online reporting processes, or develop other methods for receiving anonymous, unsigned reports. Possible responses to an anonymous report include enhanced monitoring of specific locations at certain times of day or increased monitoring of specific students or staff. (Example: An unsigned Incident Reporting Form dropped on a teacher's desk led to the increased monitoring of the boys' locker room in 5th period.

#### 2. Confidential

Individuals may ask that their identities be kept secret from the accused and other students. Like anonymous reports, no disciplinary action will be taken against an alleged aggressor based solely on a confidential report. (Example: A student tells a playground supervisor about a classmate being bullied but asks that nobody know who reported the incident. The supervisor says, "I won't be able to punish the bullies unless you or someone else who saw it is willing to let me use their names, but I can start hanging out near the basketball court, if that would help.")

#### 3. Non-confidential

Individuals may agree to file a report non-confidentially. Complainants agreeing to make their complaint non-confidential will be informed that due process requirements may require that the district release all of the information that it has regarding the complaint to any individuals involved in the incident, but that even then, information will still be restricted to those with a need to know, both during and after the investigation. The district will, however, fully implement the anti-retaliation provision of this policy and procedure to protect complainants and witnesses.

# Step 2: Receiving an Incident Reporting Form

All staff are responsible for receiving oral and written reports. Whenever possible staff who initially receive an oral or written report of harassment, intimidation, or bullying will attempt to resolve the incident immediately. If the incident is resolved to the satisfaction of the parties involved, or if the incident does not meet the definition of harassment, intimidation, or bullying, no further action may be necessary under this procedure.

All reports of unresolved, severe, or persistent harassment, intimidation, or bullying will be recorded on a district Incident Reporting Form and submitted to the principal or designee, unless the principal or designee is the subject of the complaint.

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Step 3: Investigations of Unresolved, Severe, or Persistent Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying

All reports of unresolved, severe, or persistent harassment, intimidation, or bullying will be investigated with reasonable promptness. Any student may have a trusted adult with them throughout the report and investigation process.

- 1. Upon receipt of the Incident Reporting Form that alleges unresolved, severe, or persistent harassment, intimidation, or bullying, the school or district designee will begin the investigation. If there is potential for clear and immediate physical harm to the complainant, the district will immediately contact law enforcement and inform the parent/guardian.
- 2. During the course of the investigation, the district will take reasonable measures to ensure that no further incidents of harassment, intimidation, or bullying occur between the complainant and the alleged aggressor. If necessary, the district will implement a safety plan (<a href="https://www.klwa.us/student-success/health-safety/school-safety">https://www.klwa.us/student-success/health-safety/school-safety</a> center/safety-planning-toolkit) for the student(s) involved. The plan may include changing seating arrangements for the complainant and/or the alleged aggressor in the classroom, at lunch, or on the bus; identifying a staff member who will act as a safe person for the complainant; altering the alleged aggressor's schedule and access to the complainant, and other measures.

If, during the course of an investigation, the district employee conducting the investigation becomes aware of a potential violation of the district's nondiscrimination policy [Policy 3210], the investigator will promptly notify the district's civil rights compliance officer. Upon receipt of this information, the civil rights compliance officer must notify the complainant that their complaint will proceed under the discrimination complaint procedure in WAC 392-190-065 through WAC 392-190-075 as well as the HIB complaint procedure. The notice must be provided in a language that the complainant can understand. The investigation and response timeline for the discrimination complaint procedure will follow that set forth in WAC 392-190-065 and begins when the district knows or should have known that a written report of harassment, intimidation or bullying involves allegations of a violation of the district's nondiscrimination policy.

- 3. Within two (2) school days after receiving the Incident Reporting Form, the school designee will notify the families of the students involved that a complaint was received and direct the families to the district's policy and procedure on harassment, intimidation and bullying.
- 4. In rare cases, where after consultation with the student and appropriate staff (such as a psychologist, counselor, or social worker) the district has evidence that it would threaten the health and safety of the complainant or the alleged aggressor to involve his or her parent/guardian, the district may initially refrain from contacting the parent/guardian in its investigation of harassment, intimidation, or bullying. If professional school personnel suspect that a student is subject to abuse and neglect, they must follow district policy for reporting suspected cases to Child Protective Services.
- 5. The investigation will include, at a minimum:

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- a. An interview with the complainant;
- b. An interview with the alleged aggressor;
- c. A review of any previous complaints involving either the complainant or the alleged aggressor; and
- d. Interviews with other students or staff members who may have knowledge of the alleged incident.
- 6. The principal or designee may determine that other steps must be taken before the

investigation is complete.

- 7. The investigation will be completed as soon as practicable but generally no later than five (5) school days from the initial complaint or report. If more time is needed to complete an investigation, the district will provide the parent/guardian and/or the student with weekly updates.
- 8. No later than two (2) school days after the investigation has been completed and submitted to the compliance officer, the principal or designee will respond in writing or in person to the parent/guardian of the complainant and the alleged aggressor stating:
  - a. The results of the investigation;
  - b. Whether the allegations were found to be factual;
  - c. Whether there was a violation of policy; and
  - d. The process for the complainant to file an appeal if the complainant disagrees with the results.

Because of the legal requirement regarding the confidentiality of student records, the principal or designee may not be able to report specific information to the targeted student's parent/guardian about any disciplinary action taken unless it involves a directive that the targeted student must be aware of in order to report violations.

If a district chooses to contact the parent/guardian by letter, the letter will be mailed to the parent/guardian of the complainant and alleged aggressor by United States Postal Service with return receipt requested unless it is determined, after consultation with the student and appropriate staff (psychologist, counselor, social worker) that it could endanger the complainant or the alleged aggressor to involve his or her family. If professional school personnel suspect that a student is subject to abuse or neglect, as mandatory reporters they must follow district policy for reporting suspected cases to Child Protective Services.

If the incident cannot be resolved at the school level, the principal or designee will request assistance from the HIB compliance officer.

# **Step 4: Corrective Measures for the Aggressor**

After completion of the investigation, the school or district designee will institute any corrective measures necessary. Corrective measures will be instituted as quickly as possible, but in no event more than five (5) school days after contact has been made to the families or guardians regarding the outcome of the investigation. Corrective measures that involve student discipline will be implemented according to <u>district policy 3241</u> Student Discipline. If the accused aggressor is appealing the imposition of discipline, the district may be prevented by due process considerations or a lawful order from imposing

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the discipline until the appeal process is concluded.

If in an investigation a principal or principal's designee found that a student knowingly made a false allegation of harassment, intimidation or bullying, that student may be subject to corrective measures, including discipline.

# **Step 5: Targeted Student's Right to Appeal**

1. If the complainant or parent/guardian is dissatisfied with the results of the investigation, they may appeal to the superintendent or his or her designee by filing a written notice of appeal within five (5) school days of receiving the written decision. The superintendent or his or

- her designee will review the investigative report and issue a written decision on the merits of the appeal within five (5) school days of receiving the notice of appeal.
- 2. If the targeted student remains dissatisfied after the initial appeal to the superintendent, the student may appeal to the school board by filing a written notice of appeal with the secretary of the school board on or before the fifth (5) school day following the date upon which the complainant received the superintendent's written decision.
- 3. An appeal before the school board or disciplinary appeal council must be heard on or before the tenth (10th) school day following the filing of the written notice of appeal to the school board. The school board or disciplinary appeal council will review the record and render a written decision on the merits of the appeal on or before the fifth (5th) school day following the termination of the hearing, and will provide a copy to all parties involved. The board or council's decision will be the final district decision.

# **Step 6: Discipline/Corrective Action**

The district will take prompt and equitable corrective measures within its authority on findings of harassment, intimidation or bullying. Depending on the severity of the conduct, corrective measures may include counseling, education, discipline, and/or referral to law enforcement.

Corrective measures for a student who commits an act of harassment, intimidation, or bullying will be varied and graded according to the nature of the behavior, the developmental age of the student, or the student's history of problem behaviors and performance. Corrective measures that involve student discipline will be implemented according to <u>district policy 3241</u> Student Discipline.

If the conduct was of a public nature or involved groups of students or bystanders, the district should strongly consider schoolwide training or other activities to address the incident.

If staff have been found to be in violation of this policy and procedure, school districts may impose employment disciplinary action, up to and including termination. If a certificated educator is found to have committed a violation of <a href="WAC 181-87">WAC 181-87</a>, commonly called the Code of Conduct for Professional Educators, OSPI's Office of Professional Practices may propose disciplinary action on a certificate, up to and including revocation. Contractor violations of this policy may include the loss of contracts.

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#### **Step 7: Support for the Targeted Student**

Persons found to have been subjected to harassment, intimidation or bullying will have appropriate district support services made available to them, and the adverse impact of the harassment on the student will be addressed and remedied as appropriate.

# J. Immunity/Retaliation

No school employee, student, or volunteer may engage in reprisal or retaliation against a targeted student, witness, or other person who brings forward information about an alleged act of harassment, intimidation or bullying. Retaliation is prohibited and will result in appropriate discipline.

#### **K. Other Resources**

Students and families should use the district's complaint and appeal procedures as a first

response to allegations of harassment, intimidation, or bullying. However, nothing in this procedure prevents a student, parent/guardian, school, or district from taking action to remediate discrimination or harassment based on a person's membership in a legally protected class under local, state or federal law. A harassment, intimidation, or bullying complaint may also be reported to the following state or federal agencies:

• OSPI Equity and Civil Rights Office (for discrimination complaints)

360.725.6162

Email: equity@k12.wa.us

https://www.k12.wa.us/policy-funding/equity-and-civil-rights

• Washington State Human Rights Commission

800.233.3247

www.hum.wa.gov/index.html

• Office for Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Education, Region IX

206.607.1600

Email: OCR.Seattle@ed.gov

www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/index.html

• Department of Justice Community Relations Service

877.292.3804

www.justice.gov/crt/

• Office of the Education Ombuds

866.297-2597

Email: OEOinfo@gov.wa.gov

http://oeo.wa.gov/

• OSPI Safety Center

360.725-6044

https://www.k12.wa.us/student-success/health-safety/school-safety-center

#### L. Other District Policies and Procedures

Nothing in this policy or procedure is intended to prohibit discipline or remedial action for inappropriate behaviors that do not rise to the level of harassment, intimidation or bullying as defined in this policy but which are, or may be, prohibited by other district or school rules.

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# **Procedure 3210 - Nondiscrimination**

Anyone may file a complaint against the district alleging that the district has violated anti discrimination laws. This complaint procedure is designed to assure that the resolution of real or alleged violations are directed toward a just solution that is satisfactory to the complainant, the administration and the board of directors. This grievance procedure will apply to the general conditions of the nondiscrimination policy (Policy 3210) and more particularly to policies dealing with co-curricular program (Policy 2150), service animals in schools (Policy 2030) and curriculum development and instructional materials (Policy 2020). As used in this procedure:

- A. **Grievance** means a complaint which has been filed by a complainant relating to alleged violations of any state or federal anti-discrimination laws.
- B. **Complaint** means a written charge alleging specific acts, conditions or circumstances, which are in violation of the anti-discrimination laws.

The time period for filing a complaint is one year from the date of the occurrence that is the subject matter of the complaint. However, a complaint filing deadline may not be imposed if the complainant was prevented from filing due to: 1) Specific misrepresentations by the district that it had resolved the problem forming the basis of the complaint; or 2) Withholding of information that the district was required to provide under WAC 392-190-065 or WAC 392-190-005. Complaints may be submitted by mail, fax, e-mail or hand-delivery to any district, school or to the district compliance officer responsible for investigating discrimination complaints. Any district employee who receives a complaint that meets these criteria will promptly notify the compliance officer.

C. **Respondent** means the person alleged to be responsible or who may be responsible for the violation alleged in the complaint.

The primary purpose of this procedure is to secure an equitable solution to a justifiable complaint. To this end, specific steps will be taken. The district is prohibited by law from intimidating, threatening, coercing or discriminating against any individual for the purpose of interfering with their right to file a grievance under this policy and procedure and from retaliating against an individual for filing such a grievance.

#### A. Informal Process for Resolution

Anyone with an allegation of discrimination may request an informal meeting with the compliance officer or designated employee to resolve their concerns. Such a meeting will be at the option of the complainant. If unable to resolve the issue at this meeting, the complainant may submit a written complaint to the compliance officer. During the course of the informal process, the district must notify complainant of their right to file a formal complaint.

#### **B. Formal Process for Resolution**

# **Level One: Complaint to District**

The complaint must set forth the specific acts, conditions or circumstances alleged to be in violation, and the remedy or relief being requested. The staff member receiving the complaint will put the concerns down in writing and will secure the signature of the complainant. Upon receipt of a complaint, the compliance officer will provide the complainant a copy of this procedure. The compliance officer will investigate the allegations within 30 calendar days. The school district and complainant may agree to

2021-22 Student Handbook Policies/Procedures, p. 26 resolve the complaint in lieu of an investigation. The officer shall provide the superintendent with a full written report of the complaint and the results of the investigation.

The superintendent or designee will respond to the complainant with a written decision as expeditiously as possible, but in no event later than 30 calendar days following receipt of the written complaint, unless otherwise agreed to by the complainant or if exceptional circumstances related to the complaint require an extension of the time limit. In the event an extension is needed, the district will notify the complainant in writing of the reason for the extension and the anticipated response date at the time the district responds to the complainant, the district must send a copy of the response to the office of the superintendent of public instruction.

The decision of the superintendent or designee will include: 1) a summary of the results of the investigation; 2) whether the district has failed to comply with anti-discrimination laws; 3) if non-compliance is found, corrective measures the district deems necessary to correct it;

and 4) notice of the complainant's right to appeal to the school board and the necessary filing information. The superintendent's or designee's response will be provided in a language the complainant can understand and may require language assistance for complainants with limited English proficiency in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

Any corrective measures deemed necessary shall be instituted as expeditiously as possible, but in no event later than 30 calendar days following the superintendent's mailing of a written response to the complaining party unless otherwise agreed to by the complainant.

# **Level Two – Appeal to the Board of Directors**

If a complainant disagrees with the superintendent's or designee's written decision, the complainant may appeal the decision to the district board of directors by filing a written notice of appeal with the secretary of the board within ten (10) calendar days following the date upon which the complainant received the response.

The board shall schedule a hearing to commence by the twentieth (20th) calendar day following the filing of the written notice of appeal, unless otherwise agreed to by the complainant and the superintendent or for good cause. Both parties shall be allowed to present such witnesses and testimony as the board deems relevant and material. Unless otherwise agreed to by the complainant, the board will render a written decision within thirty (30) calendar days following the filing of the notice of appeal to the board and provide the complainant with a copy of the decision. The decision of the board will be provided in a language the complainant can understand, which may require language assistance for complainants with limited English proficiency in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act. The decision will include notice of the complainant's right to appeal to the Superintendent of Public Instruction and will identify where and to whom the appeal must be filed. The district will send a copy of the appeal decision to the office of the superintendent of public instruction.

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**Level Three - Complaint to the Superintendent of Public Instruction** If a complainant disagrees with the decision of the board of directors, or if the district fails to comply with this procedure, the complainant may file a complaint with the superintendent of public instruction.

- 1. A complaint must be received by the Superintendent of Public Instruction on or before the twentieth (20) calendar day following the date upon which the complainant received written notice of the board of directors' decision, unless the Superintendent of Public Instruction grants an extension for good cause Complaints may be submitted by mail, fax, electronic mail, or hand delivery.
- 2. A complaint must be in writing and include: 1) A description of the specific acts, conditions or circumstances alleged to violate applicable anti-discrimination laws as related to the content of the written complaint investigated by the district; 2) The name and contact information, including address, of the complainant; 3) The name and address of the district subject to the complaint; 4) A copy of the district's complaint and appeal decision, unless the district has failed to comply with this procedure and no complaint or appeal decision has been provided; and 5) A proposed resolution of the complaint or relief requested. If the allegations regard a specific student, the complaint

- must also include the name and address of the student, or in the case of a homeless child or youth, contact information.
- 3. Upon receipt of a complaint, the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction may initiate an investigation, which may include conducting an independent on-site review. OSPI may also investigate additional issues related to the complaint that were not included in the initial complaint or appeal to the superintendent or board. Following the investigation, OSPI will make an independent determination as to whether the district has failed to comply with RCW 28A.642.010 or Chapter 392-190, WAC and will issue a written decision to the complainant and the district that addresses each allegation in the complaint and any other noncompliance issues it has identified. The written decision will include corrective actions deemed necessary to correct noncompliance and documentation the district must provide to demonstrate that corrective action has been completed.

All corrective actions must be completed within the timelines established by OSPI in the written decision unless OSPI grants an extension. If timely compliance is not achieved, OSPI may take action including but not limited to referring the district to appropriate state or federal agencies empowered to order compliance.

A complaint may be resolved at any time when, before the completion of the investigation, the district voluntarily agrees to resolve the complaint. OSPI may provide technical assistance and dispute resolution methods to resolve a complaint.

# **Level Four - Administrative Hearing**

A complainant or school district that desires to appeal the written decision of the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction may file a written notice of appeal

2021-22 Student Handbook Policies/Procedures, p. 28 with OSPI within thirty (30) calendar days following the date of receipt of that office's written decision. OSPI will conduct a formal administrative hearing in conformance with the Administrative Procedures Act, Chapter 34.05, RCW.

#### C. Mediation

At any time during the discrimination complaint procedure set forth in WAC 392-190-065 through 392-190-075, a district may, at its own expense, offer mediation. The complainant and the district may agree to extend the discrimination complaint process deadlines in order to pursue mediation.

The purpose of mediation is to provide both the complainant and the district an opportunity to resolve disputes and reach a mutually acceptable agreement through the use of an impartial mediator. Mediation must be voluntary and requires the mutual agreement of both parties. It may be terminated by either party at any time during the mediation process. It may not be sued to deny or delay a complainant's right to utilize the complaint procedures.

Mediation must be conducted by a qualified and impartial mediator who may not:

1) Be an employee of any school district, public charter school, or other public or private agency that is providing education related services to a student who is the subject of the complaint being mediated; or 2) Have a personal or professional conflict of interest. A mediator is not considered an employee of the district or charter school or other public or

private agency solely because he or she serves as a mediator.

If the parties reach agreement through mediation, they may execute a legally binding agreement that sets forth the resolution and states that all discussions that occurred during the course of mediation will remain confidential and may not be used as evidence in any subsequent complaint, due process hearing or civil proceeding. The agreement must be signed by the complainant and a district representative who has authority to bind the district.

# D. Preservation of Records

The files containing copies of all correspondence relative to each complaint communicated to the district and the disposition, including any corrective measures instituted by the district, will be retained in the office of the compliance officer for a period of six years.

# **Transgender Students - Policy 3211**

The board believes in fostering an educational environment that is safe and free of discrimination for all students, regardless of sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression. To that end, the board recognizes the importance of an inclusive approach toward transgender students with regard to official records, confidential health and education information, communication, restroom and locker room accessibility, sports and physical education, dress codes and other school activities, in order to provide these students with an equal opportunity for learning and achievement. This policy and its procedure will support that effort by facilitating

2021-22 Student Handbook Policies/Procedures, p. 29 district compliance with local, state and federal laws concerning harassment, intimidation, bullying and discrimination.

# **Procedure 3211 - Transgender Students**

The principal or building administrator is encouraged to request a meeting with a transgender student and their parent/guardian upon the student's enrollment in the district or in response to a currently enrolled student's change of gender expression or identity. The goals of the meeting are to:

- Develop understanding of that student's individual needs with respect to their gender expression or identity, including any accommodations that the student is requesting or that the district will provide according to Policy 3211 and this procedure and under state and federal law; and
- Develop a shared understanding of the student's day-to-day routine within the school so as to foster a relationship and help alleviate any apprehensions the student may have with regard to their attendance at school.

The school may not require the student to attend a meeting as a condition of providing them with the protections to which they are entitled under Policy 3211, this procedure and state and federal law regarding gender expression or identity.

#### **Definitions/Terms**

- **Gender Expression** is how a person expresses their gender, often through behavior, emotional expression, mannerisms, dress, grooming, interests, and activities.
- Gender Identity refers to one's deeply felt internal sense of being female, or male, or both, or neither, regardless of their gender assigned at birth.
- Gender Nonconforming describes a person whose gender expression differs from stereotypical expectations about how they should look or act based on the gender they were assigned at birth. This includes people who identify outside traditional gender categories or identify as both genders, or as gender neutral.
- **Biological Sex/Sex** refers to a person's internal and external anatomy, chromosomes, and hormones.
- **Transgender** is a general term often used to describe a person whose gender identity and/or expression is different from that traditionally associated with the person's gender assigned at birth.
- **Transitioning** refers to the process in which a person goes from living and identifying as one gender to living and identifying as another.

#### Official Records

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The District is required to maintain a permanent student record which includes the student's legal name and the student's gender. The District will change a student's official records to reflect a change in legal name upon receipt of:

1. Documentation that the student's legal name or gender has been changed pursuant to a court order or through amendment of state or federally-issued identification; or 2. A written, signed statement explaining that the student has exercised a common-law name change and has changed their name for all intents and purposes and that the change has not been made for fraudulent reasons.

Schools may change a student's official gender designation upon parent or student request pursuant to the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction's (OSPI's) process found at http://www.k12.wa.us/cedars/CEDARSDataFormQA.aspx.

To the extent that the District is not legally required to use a student's legal name and biological sex on school records or documents, the District should use the name and gender by which the student identifies. In situations where school employees are required by law to use or report a student's legal name or gender, such as for standardized testing, school staff should adopt practices to avoid the inadvertent disclosure of the student's transgender or gender nonconforming status.

#### **Confidential Health or Educational Information**

Information about a student's gender status, legal name, or gender assigned at birth may constitute

confidential medical or educational information. Disclosing this information to other students, their parents, or other third parties may violate privacy laws, such as the federal Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) (20 U.S.C. §1232; 34 C.F.R. Part 99). Therefore, to ensure the safety and well-being of the student, school employees should not disclose a student's transgender or gender nonconforming status to others, including the student's parents and/or other school personnel, unless the school is (1) legally required to do so or (2) the student has authorized such disclosure.

#### **Communication and Use of Names and Pronouns**

An appropriate school employee will privately ask known transgender or gender nonconforming students how they would like to be addressed in class, in correspondence to the home, and at conferences with the student's parent/guardian. That information will be included in the electronic student record system along with the student's legal name in order to inform teachers and staff of the name and pronoun by which to address the student. When appropriate or necessary, this information will be communicated directly with staff to facilitate the use of proper names and pronouns. A student is not required to change their official records or obtain a court-ordered name and/or gender change as a prerequisite to being addressed by the name and pronoun that corresponds to their gender identity.

When communicating with transgender or gender nonconforming students regarding particular issues such as conduct, discipline, grades, attendance or health, school employees will focus on the conduct or particular issues rather than making assumptions regarding the student's actual or perceived gender identity. When communicating with parents of transgender or gender nonconforming students, school employees will refrain from the use of gender pronouns and

2021-22 Student Handbook Policies/Procedures, p. 31 refer to the student by name whenever practicable. The district will not condone the intentional and persistent refusal to respect a student's gender identity, or inappropriate release of information regarding a student's transgender status.

# **Restroom Accessibility**

Students will be allowed to use the restroom that corresponds to the gender identity they assert at school. No student will be required to use a restroom that conflicts with his or her gender identity. If any student is uncomfortable with using a school restroom for any reason the administrator will work with the student and the parent/guardian, when appropriate, to develop a plan that will work for the student.

# **Locker Room Accessibility**

Use of locker rooms by transgender or gender nonconforming students will be assessed on a case-by-case basis, with the goal of maximizing transgender or gender nonconforming student social integration, providing an equal opportunity to participate in physical education classes and athletic opportunities and ensuring the student's safety. In most cases, the district should provide the student access to the locker room that corresponds to the gender identity they assert at school. Reasonable alternatives to locker room conditions include, but are not limited to:

- Use of a private area (e.g., nearby restroom stall with a door, an area separated by a curtain, an office in the locker room, or a nearby health office restroom);
- A separate changing schedule (i.e., utilizing the locker room before or after the other students.

Any alternative to locker room conditions will be provided in a manner that allows the student to keep his or her transgender or gender nonconforming status private. No student, however, will be required to use a locker room that conflicts with his or her gender identity.

# **Sports and Physical Education Classes**

The District will provide all students, including transgender students, the opportunity to participate in physical education and athletic programs/opportunities in a manner that is consistent with their gender identity.

A student may seek review of his or her eligibility for participation in interscholastic athletics by working through the Gender Identity Participation procedure set forth by the Washington Interscholastic Activities Association (WIAA).

#### **Dress Codes**

The District will allow students to dress in a manner that is consistent with their gender identity and/or gender expression within the constraints of the dress codes adopted at their school site and within the constraints of the District guidelines for dress as they relate to health and safety issues (e.g., prohibitions on wearing gang-related apparel). School dress codes will be gender-neutral and will not restrict a student's clothing choices on the basis of gender.

# **Other School Activities**

2021-22 Student Handbook Policies/Procedures, p. 32

In any school activity or other circumstance involving separation by gender (i.e., class discussions, field trips), students will be permitted to participate in accordance with the gender identity they assert at school. Teachers and other school employees will make every effort to separate students based on factors other than gender where practicable.

# **Training and Professional Development**

When possible, the District will conduct staff training and ongoing professional development in an effort to build the skills of all staff members to prevent, identify and respond to harassment and discrimination. The content of such professional development should include, but not be limited to:

- Terms and concepts related to gender identity, gender expression, and gender diversity in children and adolescents;
- Appropriate strategies for communicating with students and parents about issues related to gender identity and gender expression, while protecting student privacy;
- Strategies for preventing and intervening in incidents of harassment and discrimination, including cyber-bullying;
- District and staff responsibilities under applicable laws and district policies regarding harassment, discrimination, and gender identity and expression issues.

#### **Discrimination and Harassment Complaints**

Discrimination and harassment on the basis of sex, sexual orientation, or gender identity or expression are prohibited within the district. It is the responsibility of each school, the District and all

staff to ensure that all students, including transgender and gender non-conforming students, have a safe school environment. The scope of this responsibility includes ensuring that any incident of discrimination or harassment is given immediate attention and/or reported to the district's Civil Rights Compliance Coordinator.

Complaints alleging discrimination or harassment based on a person's actual or perceived gender identity or expression are to be taken seriously and handled in the same manner as other discrimination and/or harassment complaints. This includes investigating the incident and taking age and developmentally-appropriate corrective action. Anyone may file a complaint alleging a violation of this policy using the complaint process outlined in the district's Nondiscrimination Procedure 3210P.

# Freedom of Expression – Procedure 3220

Students will enjoy the privilege of free verbal and written expression providing such expression does not disrupt the operation of the school. The principal will have the authority to monitor student verbal and written expression. Students who violate the standards for verbal and written expression will be subject to corrective action or punishment.

For purposes of verbal and written expression, the following guidelines are in effect:

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- A. Distribution of written materials or presentation of an oral speech in an assembly or classroom setting may be restricted:
  - 1. Where there is evidence which reasonably supports a forecast that the expression is likely to cause material and substantial disruption of, or interference with, school activities, which disruption or interference cannot be prevented by reasonably available, less restrictive means; or,
  - 2. Where such expression unduly impinges upon the rights of others.
    - a. In order for a student publication or speech to be disruptive, there must exist specific facts upon which it would be reasonable to forecast that a clear and present likelihood of an immediate, substantial disruption to normal school activity would occur if the material were published and distributed. Disruption includes, but is not necessarily limited to: student riots: destruction of property; widespread shouting, or boisterous conduct; or substantial student participation in a school boycott, sit-in, stand-in, walk-out or other related form of activity.
- B. Distribution of written material or presentation of an oral speech which are construed to be unsuitable for minors will not be permitted. Rules for determining unsuitability for minors should be consistent with those as applied to instructional materials.
- C. Libelous material or speech may be prohibited. Libelous material will be defined to include defamatory falsehoods about public figures or governmental officials. In order to be libelous, the defamatory falsehood must be made with actual malice; that is, with knowledge that it is false, or with reckless disregard of whether it was false or not.
- D. Material may be considered profane when the language does not meet the standards of

professional journalism as evidenced by the daily newspapers commonly distributed in the district. Sanctions may be imposed on a student when he/she engages in offensively "lewd and indecent speech."

- E. Publications may not "invade the privacy" of individuals. Such occurrences may include: exploitation of one's personality; publications of one's private affairs with which the public has no legitimate concern; or, wrongful intrusion into one's private activities in a manner that can cause mental suffering, shame, or humiliation to a reasonable person of ordinary sensibilities.
- F. Publications or oral speeches which criticize school officials or advocate violation of school rules may be prohibited when there is evidence which supports a forecast that substantial disruption of school may develop.
- G. Publications or oral speeches which advocate racial, religious, or ethnic prejudice or discrimination or seriously disparage particular racial, religious, or ethnic groups are prohibited.

#### Student Publications

The student publications instructor or advisor will have the primary responsibility for supervising student publications and to see that provisions incorporated into the policy and procedures are met. The principal may request to review any copy prior to its publication. Such copy will be

2021-22 Student Handbook Policies/Procedures, p. 34 returned to the student editors within 24 hours after it has been submitted for review. Any dispute that cannot be resolved at the building level will be submitted to the superintendent for further consideration. When appropriate, the superintendent will seek legal counsel. If the complaint cannot be resolved at that level, the board, upon request, will consider the complaint at its next regular meeting.

While the district believes that students should be encouraged to exercise good judgment in the content of the student publication program, such expressive writing must be in keeping with the school's instructional mission and values. Material must be free of content that: runs counter to the instructional program; invades the privacy of individuals; demeans or otherwise damages individuals or groups; supports the violation of school rules or, is inappropriate for the maturity level of the students. Such publication activities must also teach respect for the sensitivity of others and standards of civility as well as the elements of responsible journalism. Distribution of Materials

Students' constitutional rights of freedom of speech or expression provide for the opportunity to distribute written materials on school premises. However, distribution of materials by students will not cause disruption of or interference with school activities. Systematic distribution of materials may not occur during instructional time, unless other similar non-instructional activities are permitted. Students will be subject to corrective action or punishment, including suspension or expulsion, depending on the nature of the disruption or interference resulting from distribution of materials.

# **Student Dress - Procedure 3224**

The student and parent may determine the student's personal dress and grooming standards, provided that the student's dress and grooming does not:

A. Lead school officials to reasonably believe that such dress or grooming will disrupt, interfere with, disturb, or detract from the school environment or activity and/or

educational objectives;

B. Create a health or other hazard to the student's safety or to the safety of others; C. Create an atmosphere in which a student, staff, or other person's well-being is hindered by undue pressure, behavior, intimidation, overt gesture or threat of violence; or D. Imply gang membership or affiliation by written communication, marks, drawing, painting, design or emblem upon any school or personal property or one's person.

The principal, in connection with the sponsor, coach, or other person in charge of an extracurricular activity, may regulate the dress and grooming of students who participate in the activity if the principal reasonably believes that the student's dress or grooming: A. Creates a hazard to the student's safety or to the safety of others; or

B. Will prevent, interfere with or adversely affect the purpose, direction, or effort required for the activity to achieve its goals.

If the student's dress or grooming is objectionable under these provisions, the principal will request that the student make appropriate corrections. If the student refuses, the principal will

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notify the parent, if reasonably possible, and request that the parent make the necessary correction. If both the student and parent refuse, the principal will take appropriate disciplinary action. Students may be suspended, if circumstances so warrant. Students who violate provisions of the dress code relating to extracurricular activities may be removed or excluded from the extracurricular activity for such period as the principal may determine. All students will be accorded due process safeguards before any corrective action may be taken.

Students identified as being gang involved, influenced or affiliated will be provided assistance and/or programs which discourage gang involvement or affiliation, enhance self-esteem, encourage interest and participation in school or other positive activities and promote membership in authorized school organizations.

# **Student Privacy and Searches – Procedure 3230**

# Searches of Students and Their Property

A student is subject to search by district staff if reasonable grounds exist to suspect that evidence of a violation of the law or school rules will be uncovered. School staff will report a student's suspicious activity to the principal prior to initiating a search, except in emergency situations. A search is required when there are reasonable grounds to suspect a student has a firearm on school grounds, transportation or at school events.

# A. Establishing reasonable grounds.

The following review of the basis for the search should occur before conducting a search: 1. Identify: 1) the student's suspicious conduct, behavior, or activity; 2) the source of the information; and 3) the reliability of the source of such information.

- 2. If suspicion could be confirmed, would such conduct be a violation of the law or school rules?
- 3. Is the student likely to possess or have concealed any item, material, or substance which is itself prohibited or which would be evidence of a violation of the law or a school rule?

# B. Conducting the search.

If the principal, or his or her designee, determines that reasonable grounds exist to search a student's clothing, personal effects, desk, locker, assigned storage area, or automobile, the search will be conducted as follows:

- 1. If evidence of criminal activity is suspected to be present, and prosecution by civil authorities will be recommended if confirmed by the search, consult law enforcement officials regarding the appropriateness of a search by a law enforcement officer.
- 2. If evidence of violation of a school rule is suspected, and if confirmed by the search will be handled solely as a student discipline action, proceed to search by asking the student to remove all items from pockets, purses, handbags, backpacks, gym bags, etc.
- 3. If the student refuses to cooperate in a personal search, the student should be held until the student's parent or guardian is available to consent to the search. If a

2021-22 Student Handbook Policies/Procedures, p. 36 parent or guardian cannot be reached in a reasonable time, the principal may conduct the search without the student's consent.

#### Locker Searches

Lockers, desks, and storage areas are the property of the school district. When assigned a locker, desk, or storage area, a student will be responsible for its proper care. A student may be subject to a fine for any willful damage to school property. Students are encouraged to keep their assigned lockers closed and locked.

A student's locker desk or storage area may be searched by district staff if reasonable grounds exist to suspect that evidence of a violation of the law or school rules will be uncovered. School staff will report a student's suspicious activity to the principal prior to initiating a search, except in emergency situations when the risk of harm to students or staff demands immediate action.

Building principals should refer to these procedures for conducting searches of students and their property for guidance in establishing whether a search is reasonable under the circumstances.

Principals may search all lockers, desks, or storage areas without prior notice given to students and without reasonable suspicion that the search will yield evidence of any particular student's violation of the law or school rules.

Administrative inspections, or health and welfare inspections, may be conducted at any time for the purpose of locating misplaced library books, textbooks, or other school property or to ensure that all lockers, desks, or storage areas are being kept clean and free from potential health or safety hazards. Periodic inspections of lockers will reinforce the district's ownership of lockers and the minimal expectation of privacy students have in the contents of their lockers.

During a search of all student lockers, if the school official conducting the search discovers any container within the locker which may conceal contraband, the container may be searched according to district procedures governing searches of students and their property. A "container" for the purpose of this policy may include, but is not limited to: an article of clothing, a handbag, purse, backpack, gym bag or any other item in which contraband material may be concealed.

# Parent and Student Rights in Administration of Surveys, Analysis or Evaluation – Procedure 3232

#### Right to Inspect

Parents, upon request, will have the opportunity to inspect the following:

- A. Surveys created by a third party before the survey is administered or distributed by a school to students;
- B. Instructional material used as part of the educational curriculum;
- C. Any survey document used to collect information from students.

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#### **Notice**

At the beginning of each school year, the district will provide parents and adult or emancipated minor students written notice of the district's continued use of Policy 3232 and this procedure. The notice will include the specific or approximate dates of any student survey, analysis, or evaluation scheduled during the school year.

# Opt-Out

The notice will also offer parents and adult or emancipated minor students the opportunity to opt their children or themselves out of participating in the following activities:

- A. Any survey that reveals information described in Policy 3232;
- B. Activities involving collection, disclosure, or use of personal information obtained from students for marketing or selling to others; or
- **C.** Any non-emergency, invasive physical examination or screening required as a condition of attendance, administered by the school, and not necessary to protect the immediate health and safety of a student.

# Student Discipline - Policy 3241

"Discipline" means any action taken by the school district in response to behavioral violations. Discipline is not necessarily punitive, but can take positive and supportive forms. Data show that a supportive response to behavioral violation is more effective and increases equitable educational opportunities. The purposes of this policy and accompanying procedure include:

- Engaging with families and the community and striving to understand and be responsive to cultural context
- Supporting students in meeting behavioral expectations, including providing for early involvement of parents
- Administering discipline in ways that respond to the needs and strengths of students and keep students in the classroom to the maximum extent possible
- Providing educational services that students need during suspension and expulsion •

Facilitating collaboration between school personnel, students, and parents, and thereby supporting successful reentry into the classroom following a suspension or expulsion • Ensuring fairness, equity, and due process in the administration of discipline • Providing every student with the opportunity to achieve personal and academic success • Providing a safe environment for all students and for district employees

The Superintendent shall establish and make available rules of student conduct, designed to provide students with a safe, healthy, and educationally sound environment. Students are expected to be aware of the district's rules of student conduct, including behavior standards that respect the rights, person, and property of others. Students and staff are expected to work together to develop a positive climate for learning.

# Minimizing exclusion, engaging with families, and supporting students

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Unless a student's presence poses an immediate and continuing danger to others or an immediate and continuing threat to the educational process, staff members must first attempt one or more forms of other forms of discipline to support students in meeting behavioral expectations before imposing classroom exclusion, short-term suspension, or in-school suspension. Before imposing a long-term suspension or expulsion, the district must first consider other forms of discipline.

These other forms of discipline may involve the use of best practices and strategies included in the state menu for behavior developed under RCW 28A.165.035. The accompanying procedure will identify a list of other forms of discipline for staff use. However, staff members are not restricted to that list and may use any other form of discipline compliant with WAC 392-400-025(9).

School personnel must make every reasonable attempt to involve parents and students to resolve behavioral violations. The district must ensure that associated notices, hearings, conferences, meetings, plans, proceedings, agreements, petitions, and decisions are in a language the student and parents understand; this may require language assistance. Language assistance includes oral and written communication and further includes assistance to understand written communication, even if parents cannot read any language. The district's use of suspension and expulsion will have a real and substantial relationship to the lawful maintenance and operation of the school district, including but not limited to, the preservation of the health and safety of students and employees and the preservation of an educational process that is conducive to learning.

As described in the procedures, the district will offer educational services to students during suspension or expulsion. When the district administers a long-term suspension or expulsion, the district will timely hold a reengagement meeting and collaborate with parents and students to develop a reengagement plan that is tailored to the student's individual circumstances, in order to return the student to school successfully. Additionally, any student who has been suspended or expelled may apply for readmission at any time.

#### Staff authority

District staff members are responsible for supervising students during the school day, during school activities, whether on or off campus, and on the school bus. Staff members will seek early involvement of parents in efforts to support students in meeting behavioral expectations. The Superintendent has general authority to administer discipline, including all exclusionary discipline.

The Superintendent will identify other staff members to whom the Superintendent has designated disciplinary authority. After attempting at least one other form of discipline, teachers have statutory authority to impose classroom exclusion for behaviors that disrupt the educational process.

Ensuring fairness, providing notice, and an opportunity for a hearing When administering discipline, the district will observe all of the student's constitutional rights. The district will notify parents as soon as reasonably possible about classroom exclusion and will attempt to notify parents before administering any suspension or expulsion. Parent notice of the opportunity to participate in an initial hearing regarding a suspension or expulsion will be afforded as per WAC 392-400-450. The district will provide parents with written notice, consistent with WAC 392-400-455, of a suspension or expulsion no later than one school

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business day following the initial hearing. As stated above, language assistance includes oral and written communication and further includes assistance to understand written communication, even if parents cannot read any language. The district has established procedures for review and appeal of suspensions, expulsions, and emergency expulsions, consistent with WAC 392-400-430 through 392-400-530.

The district has also established procedures to address grievances of parents or students related to other forms of discipline, classroom exclusion, and exclusion from transportation or extra curricular activity. The grievance procedures include an opportunity for the student to share his or her perspective and explanation regarding the behavioral violation.

# **Development and review**

Accurate and complete reporting of all disciplinary actions, including the behavioral violations that led to them, is essential for effective review of this policy; therefore, the district will ensure such reporting.

The district will periodically collect and review data on disciplinary actions taken against students in each school. The data will be disaggregated into subgroups as required by RCW 28A.300.042, including students who qualify for special education or Section 504. The data review will include classroom exclusion, in-school and short-term suspensions, and long-term suspensions and expulsions. The purpose of the data review is to determine if disproportionality exists; if disproportionality is found the district will take action to ensure that it is not the result of discrimination and may update this policy and procedure to improve fairness and equity regarding discipline.

# Distribution of policies and procedures

The school district will make its discipline policies and procedures available to families and the community. The district will annually provide its discipline policies and procedures to all district personnel, students, and parents, which may require language assistance for students and parents with limited-English proficiency under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. The school district will ensure district employees and contractors are knowledgeable of the discipline policies and procedures.

# **Procedure 3241 - Student Discipline**

#### **Definitions**

For purposes of all disciplinary policies and procedures, the following definitions will apply:

- "Behavioral violation" means a student's behavior that violates the district's discipline policies.
- "Classroom exclusion" means the exclusion of a student from a classroom or instructional or activity area for behavioral violations, subject to the requirements of WAC 392-400-330 and 392-400-335. Classroom exclusion does not include action that results in missed instruction for a brief duration when:

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- (a) a teacher or other school personnel attempts other forms of discipline to support the student in meeting behavioral expectations; and
- (b) the student remains under the supervision of the teacher or other school personnel during such brief duration.
- "Culturally responsive" has the same meaning as "cultural competency" in RCW 28A.410.270, which states "cultural competency" includes knowledge of student cultural histories and contexts, as well as family norms and values in different cultures; knowledge and skills in accessing community resources and community and parent outreach; and skills in adapting instruction to students' experiences and identifying cultural contexts for individual students.
- "Discipline" means any action taken by a school district in response to behavioral violations.
- "Disruption of the educational process" means the interruption of classwork, the creation of disorder, or the invasion of the rights of a student or group of students. "Emergency expulsion" means the removal of a student from school because the student's statements or behavior pose an immediate and continuing danger to other students or school personnel, or an immediate and continuing threat of material and substantial disruption of the educational process, subject to the requirements in WAC 392-400-510 through 392-400-530
- "Expulsion" means a denial of admission to the student's current school placement in response to a behavioral violation, subject to the requirements in WAC 392-400-430 through 392-400-480
- "Length of an academic term" means the total number of school days in a single trimester or semester, as defined by the board of directors.
- "Other forms of discipline" means actions used in response to problem behaviors and behavioral violations, other than classroom exclusion, suspension, expulsion, or emergency expulsion, which may involve the use of best practices and strategies included in the state menu for behavior developed under RCW 28A.165.035.
- "Parent" has the same meaning as in WAC 392-172A-01125, and means (a) a biological or adoptive parent of a child; (b) a foster parent; (c) a guardian generally authorized to act as the child's parent, or authorized to make educational decisions for the student, but not the state, if the student is a ward of the state; (d) an individual acting in the place of a biological or adoptive parent, including a grandparent, stepparent, or other relative with whom the student lives, or an individual who is legally responsible for the student's welfare; or a surrogate parent who has been appointed in accordance with WAC 392-172A.05130. If the biological or

adoptive parent is attempting to act as the parent and more than one party meets the qualifications to act as a parent, the biological or adoptive parent must be presumed to be the parent unless he or she does not have legal authority to make educational decisions for the student. If a judicial decree or order identifies a specific person or persons to act as the "parent" of a child or to make educational decision on behalf of a child, then that person or persons shall be determined to be the parent for purposes of this policy and procedure.

• "School board" means the governing board of directors of the local school district. • "School business day" means any calendar day except Saturdays, Sundays, and any federal and school holidays upon which the office of the Superintendent is open to the

2021-22 Student Handbook Policies/Procedures, p. 41 public for business. A school business day concludes or terminates upon the closure of the Superintendent's office for the calendar day.

- "School day" means any day or partial day that students are in attendance at school for instructional purposes.
- "Suspension" means the denial of attendance in response to a behavioral violation from any subject or class, or from any full schedule of subjects or classes, but not including classroom exclusions, expulsions, or emergency expulsions. Suspension may also include denial of admission to or entry upon, real and personal property that is owned, leased, rented, or controlled by the district.
  - In-school suspension means a suspension in which a student is excluded from the student's regular educational setting but remains in the student's current school placement for up to ten consecutive school days, subject to the requirements in WAC 392-400-430 through 392-400-475.
  - Short-term suspension means a suspension in which a student is excluded from school for up to ten consecutive school days, subject to the requirements in WAC 392-400-430 through 392-400-475.
  - Long-term suspension means a suspension in which a student is excluded from school for more than ten consecutive school days, subject to the requirements in WAC 392-400-430 through 392-400-475.

# **Engaging with Families & Language Assistance**

The district must provide for early involvement of parents in efforts to support students in meeting behavioral expectations. Additionally, the district must make every reasonable attempt to involve the student and parent in the resolution of behavioral violations.

The district must ensure that it provides all communications [oral and written] required in connection with this policy and procedure in a language the student and parent(s) understand. These discipline related communications include notices, hearings, conferences, meeting, plans, proceedings, agreements, petitions, and decisions. This effort may require language assistance for students and parents with limited-English proficiency under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. For parents who are unable to read any language, the district will provide written material orally.

# **Supporting Students with Other Forms of Discipline**

Unless a student's on-going behavior poses an immediate and continuing danger to others, or a student's on-going behavior poses an immediate and continuing threat to the educational process, staff members must first attempt one or more forms of other forms of discipline to support students in meeting behavioral expectations before imposing classroom exclusion, short-term suspension, or in-school suspension. Before imposing a long-term suspension or expulsion, the district must first consider other forms of discipline.

The types of behaviors for which the staff members may use other forms of discipline include any violation of the rules of conduct, as developed annually by the Superintendent.

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These other forms of discipline may involve the use of best practices and strategies included in the state menu for behavior available online at: <a href="https://www.k12.wa.us/student-success/support">https://www.k12.wa.us/student-success/support</a> programs/learning-assistance-program-lap/menus-best-practices-strategies/behavior-menu-best practices-strategies.

The district has identified the following for use as other forms of discipline:

- · Behavior monitoring
- Social skills instruction
- De-escalation
- Restorative Practices

Staff members are not restricted to the above list and may use any other form of discipline compliant with WAC 392-400-025(9).

Additionally, staff may use after-school detention as another form of discipline for not more than 30 minutes on any given day. Before assigning after-school detention, the staff member will inform the student of the specific behavior prompting the detention and provide the student with an opportunity to explain or justify the behavior. At least one professional staff member will directly supervise students in after-school detention.

Administering other forms of discipline cannot result in the denial or delay of the student's nutritionally adequate meal or prevent a student from accomplishing a specific academic grade, subject, or graduation requirements.

Students and parents may challenge the administration of other forms of discipline, including the imposition of after-school detention using the grievance process below.

# Staff Authority and Exclusionary Discipline

District staff members are responsible for supervising students immediately before and after the school day; during the school day; during school activities (whether on or off campus); on school grounds

before or after school hours when a school group or school activity is using school grounds; off school grounds, if the actions of the student materially or substantially affect or interferes with the educational process; and on the school bus.

Staff members will seek early involvement of parents in efforts to support students in meeting behavioral expectations. The Superintendent has general authority to administer discipline, including all exclusionary discipline. The Superintendent designates disciplinary authority to impose short-term suspensions, long-term suspensions, expulsions, and emergency expulsions to school principals, associate principals, and deans of students.

# Rules of Conduct Applicable to Other Forms of Discipline, Classroom Exclusions, In School Suspensions and Short-Term Suspensions

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Behavior which may result in other forms of discipline, classroom exclusions, in-school suspensions or short-term suspensions include:

- Being intoxicated or under the influence of controlled substance, alcohol or marijuana at school or while present at school activities;
- Bomb scares or false fire alarms that cause a disruption to the school program; •

Cheating or disclosure of exams;

- Classroom disruption or other disruption to the educational process;
- · Commission of any crime on school grounds or during school activities; ·

Defiance;

- Dress code violations that the student refuses to correct (see student dress policy/procedure 3224);
- Fighting: Fighting and instigating, promoting, or escalating a fight, as well as failure to disperse. Engaging in any form of fighting where physical blows are exchanged, regardless of who initiated the fight. This prohibition includes hitting, slapping, pulling hair, biting, kicking, choking, and scratching or any other acts in which a student intentionally inflicts or attempts to inflict injury on another;
- Gang-related activity;
- Harassment/intimidation/bullying;
- Intentional deprivation of student and staff use of school facilities;
- Intentional endangerment to self, other students, or staff, including endangering on a school bus:
- Intentional injury to another;
- Intentionally defacing or destroying the property of another;
- Intentionally obstructing the entrance or exit of any school building or room in order to deprive others of passing through;
- Possession, use, sale, or delivery of illegal or controlled chemical substances; •

Preventing students from attending class or school activities;

- Refusal to cease prohibited behavior;
- Refusal to leave an area when repeatedly instructed to do so by school personnel; Sexual

misconduct that could constitute sexual assault or harassment on school grounds, at school activities, or on school provided transportation;

- Substantially and intentionally interfering with any class or activity;
- Threats of violence to other students or staff; or
- Use or possession of weapons prohibited by state law and Policy;
- Any misconduct for which a long-term suspension or expulsion may be imposed, including but not limited to any behavior that adversely impacts the health or safety of other students or educational staff.

#### Classroom exclusions

After attempting at least one other form of discipline, as set forth above, school Principals, associate principals, deans of students. as well as teachers, have statutory authority to impose classroom exclusion. Classroom exclusion means the exclusion of a student from the classroom or instructional activity area based on a behavioral violation that disrupts the educational process.

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The types of behaviors for which the staff members may exclude include any violation of the rules of conduct, as developed annually by the Superintendent.

Classroom exclusion may be for all or any portion of the balance of the school day. Classroom exclusion does not encompass removing a student from school, including sending a student home early or telling a parent to keep a student at home, based on a behavioral violation. Removing a student from school constitutes a suspension, expulsion, or emergency expulsion and must include the notification and due process as stated in the section below.

Classroom exclusion cannot result in the denial or delay of the student's nutritionally adequate meal or prevent a student from accomplishing a specific academic grade, subject, or graduation requirements.

The school will provide the student an opportunity to make up any assignments and tests missed during a classroom exclusion. The district will not administer any form of discipline, including classroom exclusions, in a manner that would result in the denial or delay of a nutritionally adequate meal to a student or prevent a student from accomplishing a specific academic grade, subject, or graduation requirements.

Following the classroom exclusion of a student, the teacher (or other school personnel as identified) must report the classroom exclusion, including the behavioral violation that led to the classroom exclusion, to the principal or the principal's designee as soon as reasonably possible. The principal or designee must report all classroom exclusions, including the behavioral violation that led to it to the Superintendent or designee. Reporting of the behavioral violation that led to the classroom exclusion as "other" is insufficient.

Unless the principal or designee decide to provide the notice to the student's parent, the teacher must notify the student's parents regarding the classroom exclusion as soon as reasonably possible. As noted above, the district must ensure that this notification is in a language and form (i.e. oral or

written) the parents understand.

When the teacher or other authorized school personnel administers a classroom exclusion because the student's statements or behavior pose an immediate and continuing danger to other students or school personnel, or an immediate and continuing threat of material and substantial disruption of the educational process:

- The teacher or other school personnel must immediately notify the principal or the principal's designee; and
- The principal or the principal's designee must meet with the student as soon as reasonably possible and administer appropriate discipline.

The district will address student and parent grievances regarding classroom exclusion through the grievance procedures.

### Grievance process for other forms of discipline and classroom exclusion

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Any parent/guardian or student who is aggrieved by the imposition of other forms of discipline and/or classroom exclusion has the right to an informal conference with the principal or the principal's designee for the purpose of resolving the grievance. At that informal conference, the student will be provided with an opportunity to share his or her perspective and explanation regarding the behavior violation.

Discipline that may be grieved under this section includes other forms of discipline, including after-school detention; classroom exclusion; removal or suspension from athletic activity or participation; and removal or suspension from school-provided transportation.

## Suspension and expulsion – general conditions and limitations

The district's use of suspension and expulsion will have a real and substantial relationship to the lawful maintenance and operation of the school district, including but not limited to, the preservation of the health and safety of students and employees and the preservation of an educational process that is conducive to learning. The district will not expel, suspend, or discipline in any manner for a student's performance of or failure to perform any act not related to the orderly operation of the school or school-sponsored activities or any other aspect of preserving the educational process. The district will not administer any form of discipline in a manner that would prevent a student from accomplishing a specific academic grade, subject, or graduation requirements.

Additionally, the Superintendent or designee must consider the student's individual circumstances and the nature and circumstances of the violation before administering any suspension or expulsion.

The board recognizes that when a student's behavior is subject to disciplinary action, review by a panel of the student's peers may positively influence the student's behavior. The board has discretion to authorize the establishment of one or more student disciplinary boards, which may also include

teachers, administrators, parents, or any combination thereof. The student disciplinary board may recommend to the appropriate school authority other forms of discipline that might benefit the student's behavior and may also provide input on whether exclusionary discipline is needed. The school authority has discretion to set aside or modify the student disciplinary board's recommendation.

The principal or designee at each school must report all suspensions and expulsions, including the behavioral violation that led to the suspension or expulsion, to the Superintendent or designee within twenty-four (24) hours after the administration. Reporting the behavioral violation that led to the suspension or expulsion as "other" is insufficient.

An expulsion or suspension of a student may not be for an indefinite period and must have an end date.

After suspending or expelling a student, the district will make reasonable efforts to return the student to the student's regular educational setting as soon as possible. Additionally, the district must allow the student to petition for readmission at any time. The district will not administer

2021-22 Student Handbook Policies/Procedures, p. 46 any form of discipline in a manner that prevents a student from completing subject, grade-level, or graduation requirements.

When administering a suspension or expulsion, the district may deny a student admission to, or entry upon, real and personal property that the district owns, leases, rents, or controls. The district must provide an opportunity for students to receive educational services during a suspension or expulsion (see below). The district will not suspend or expel a student from school for absences or tardiness.

If during a suspension or expulsion the district enrolls a student in another program or course of study, the district may not preclude the student from returning to the student's regular educational setting following the end of the suspension or expulsion, unless one of the following applies:

The Superintendent or designee grants a petition to extend a student's expulsion under WAC 392-400-480; the change of setting is to protect victims under WAC 392-400-810; or other law precludes the student from returning to his or her regular educational setting.

In accordance with RCW 28A.600.420, a school district must expel a student for no less than one year if the district has determined that the student has carried or possessed a firearm on school premises, school-provided transportation, or areas of facilities while being used exclusively by public schools. The Superintendent may modify the expulsion on a case-by-case basis.

A school district may also suspend or expel a student for up to one year if the student acts with malice (as defined under RCW 9A.04.110) and displays an instrument that appears to be a firearm on school premises, school-provided transportation, or areas of facilities while being used exclusively by public schools. These provisions do not apply to students while engaged in a district authorized military education; a district authorized firearms convention or safety course; or district authorized rifle competition.

### In-school suspension and short-term suspension

The Superintendent designates school principals, associate principals, and deans of students with the

authority to impose in-school and short-term suspension. Before administering an in-school or short-term suspension, staff members must have first attempted one or more other forms of discipline to support the student in meeting behavioral expectations and considered the student's individual circumstances. The district will not administer in-school suspension that would result in the denial or delay of the student's nutritionally adequate meal.

Unless otherwise required by law, the district is not required to impose in-school or short-term suspensions and instead, strives to keep students in school, learning in a safe and appropriate environment. However, there are circumstances when the district may determine that in-school or short-term suspension is appropriate. In accordance with the other parameters of this policy, these circumstances may include the following types of student behaviors:

Behavior which may result in an in-school or short-term suspension include:

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- Being intoxicated or under the influence of controlled substance, alcohol or marijuana at school or while present at school activities;
- Bomb scares or false fire alarms that cause a disruption to the school program; Cheating or disclosure of exams;
- Commission of any crime on school grounds or during school activities; Fighting: Fighting and instigating, promoting, or escalating a fight, as well as failure to disperse. Engaging in any form of fighting where physical blows are exchanged, regardless of who initiated the fight. This prohibition includes hitting, slapping, pulling hair, biting, kicking, choking, and scratching or any other acts in which a student intentionally inflicts or attempts to inflict injury on another;
- Gang-related activity;
- Harassment/intimidation/bullying;
- Intentional deprivation of student and staff use of school facilities;
- Intentional endangerment to self, other students, or staff, including endangering on a school bus;
- Intentional injury to another;
- Intentionally defacing or destroying the property of another;
- Intentionally obstructing the entrance or exit of any school building or room in order to deprive others of passing through;
- Possession, use, sale, or delivery of illegal or controlled chemical substances;
   Preventing students from attending class or school activities;
- Refusal to cease prohibited behavior;
- Refusal to leave an area when repeatedly instructed to do so by school personnel; Sexual misconduct that could constitute sexual assault or harassment on school grounds, at school activities, or on school provided transportation;
- Substantially and intentionally interfering with or disrupting any class or activity; Behavior that adversely impacts the health or safety of other students or educational staff; Threats of violence to other students or staff; or
- Use or possession of weapons prohibited by state law and Policy 4210.

### Initial hearing

Before administering any in-school or short-term suspension, the district will attempt to notify the student's parent(s) as soon as reasonably possible regarding the behavioral violation. Additionally, the principal or designee must conduct an informal initial hearing with the student to hear the student's perspective. The principal or designee must provide the student an opportunity to contact his or her parent(s) regarding the initial hearing. The district must hold the initial hearing in a language the parent and student understand.

At the initial hearing, the principal or designee will provide the student:

- Notice of the student's violation of this policy;
- An explanation of the evidence regarding the behavioral violation;
- An explanation of the discipline that may be administered; and
- An opportunity for the student to share his or her perspective and provide explanation regarding the behavioral violation.

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#### Notice

Following the initial hearing, the principal or designee must inform the student of the disciplinary decision regarding the behavioral violation, including the date when any suspension or expulsion will begin and end.

No later than one (1) school business day following the initial hearing with the student, the district will provide written notice of the suspension or expulsion to the student and parents in person, by mail, or by email in a language and form the student and parents will understand. The written notice must include:

- A description of the student's behavior and how the behavior violated this policy; The duration and conditions of the suspension or expulsion, including the dates on which the suspension or expulsion will begin and end;
- The other forms of discipline that the district considered or attempted, and an explanation of the district's decision to administer the suspension or expulsion;
- The opportunity to receive educational services during the suspension or expulsion; The right of the student and parent(s) to an informal conference with the principal or designee; and
  - The right of the student and parent(s) to appeal the in-school or short-term suspension.

For students in kindergarten through fourth grade, the district will not administer in-school or short-term suspension for more than ten (10) cumulative school days during any academic term. For students in grades five through twelve, the district will not administer in-school or short-term suspension for more than fifteen (15) cumulative school days during any single semester, or more than ten (10) cumulative school days during any single trimester. Additionally, the district will not administer a short-term or in-school suspension beyond the school year in which the behavioral violation occurred.

The district will not administer in-school or short-term suspensions in a manner that would result in the denial or delay of a nutritionally adequate meal to a student.

When administering an in-school suspension, school personnel must ensure they are physically in the same location as the student to provide direct supervision during the duration of the in school suspension. Additionally, school personnel must ensure they are accessible to offer support to keep the student current with assignments and course work for all of the student's regular subjects or classes.

### Long-term suspensions and expulsions

Before administering a long-term suspension or an expulsion, district personnel must consider other forms of discipline to support the student in meeting behavioral expectations. The district must also consider the other general conditions and limitations listed above.

Unless otherwise required by law, the district is not required to impose long-term suspension or expulsion and may impose long-term suspension or expulsion only for specify misconduct. In general, the district strives to keep students in school, learning in a safe and appropriate

2021-22 Student Handbook Policies/Procedures, p. 49 environment. However, in accordance with the other parameters of this policy there are circumstances when the district may determine that long-term suspension or expulsion is appropriate for student behaviors listed in RCW 28A.600.015 (6)(a) through (d), which include:

- Having a firearm on school property or school transportation in violation of RCW 28A.600.420;
- Any of the following offenses listed in RCW 13.04.155, including:
  - o any violent offense as defined in RCW 9.94A.030, including
  - any felony that Washington law defines as a class A felony or an attempt, criminal conspiracy, or solicitation to commit a class A felony;
  - o manslaughter;
  - o indecent liberties committed by forcible compulsion;
  - kidnapping;
  - o arson;
  - o assault in the second degree;
  - o assault of a child in the second degree;
  - o robbery;
  - o drive-by shooting; and
  - vehicular homicide or vehicular assault caused by driving a vehicle while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or any drug, or by operating a vehicle in a reckless manner.
- Any sex offense as defined in RCW 9.94A.030, which includes any felony violation of chapter 9A.44 RCW (other than failure to registered as a sex offender in violation of 9A.44.132), including rape, rape of a child, child molestation, sexual misconduct with a minor, indecent

liberties, voyeurism, and any felony conviction or adjudication with a sexual motivation finding;

- Inhaling toxic fumes in violation of chapter 9.47A RCW;
- Any controlled substance violation of chapter 69.50 RCW;
- Any liquor violation of RCW 66.44.270;
- Any weapons violation of chapter 9.41 RCW, including having a dangerous weapon at school in violation of RCW 9.41.280;
- Any violation of chapter 9A.36 RCW, including assault, malicious harassment, drive-by shooting, reckless endangerment, promoting a suicide attempt, coercion, assault of a child, custodial assault, and failing to summon assistance for an injured victim of a crime in need of assistance;
- Any violation of chapter 9A.40 RCW, including kidnapping, unlawful imprisonment, custodial interference, luring, and human trafficking;

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- Any violation of chapter 9A.46 RCW, including harassment, stalking, and criminal gang intimidation; or
- Any violation of chapter 9A.48 RCW, including arson, reckless burning, malicious mischief, and criminal street gang tagging and graffiti.

The district may also determine that a long-term suspension or expulsion is appropriate when a student commits one of the following behaviors two times in a three-year period:

- Criminal gang intimidation in violation of RCW 9A.46.120:
  - Gang activity on school grounds in violation of RCW 28A.600.455;
- Willfully disobeying school administrative personnel in violation of RCW 28A.635.020; or
  - Defacing or injuring school property in violation of RCW 28A.635.060.

Additionally, any student behavior that adversely impacts the health or safety of other students or educational staff may result in a long-term suspension or expulsion.

In addition to being a behavior specified in RCW 28A.600.015, before imposing long-term suspension or expulsion, district personnel must also determine that if the student returned to school before completing a long-term suspension or expulsion the student would pose an

imminent danger to students, school personnel, or pose an imminent threat of material and substantial disruption to the educational process. As stated above, the district will work to develop definitions and consensus on what constitutes such an imminent threat to reduce the effect of implicit or unconscious bias.

### **Behavior agreements**

The district authorizes staff to enter into behavior agreements with students and parents in response to behavioral violations, including agreements to reduce the length of a suspension conditioned on the participation in treatment services, agreements in lieu of suspension or expulsion, or agreements holding a suspension or expulsion in abeyance. Behavior agreements will also describe district actions planned to support behavior changes by the students. The district will provide any behavior agreement in a language and form the student and parents understand.

A behavior agreement does not waive a student's opportunity to participate in a reengagement meeting or to receive educational services. The duration of a behavior agreement must not exceed the length of an academic term. A behavior agreement does not preclude the district from administering discipline for behavioral violations that occur after the district enters into an agreement with the student and parents.

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### **Initial hearing**

Before administering any suspension or expulsion, the district will attempt to notify the student's parent(s) as soon as reasonably possible regarding the behavioral violation. Additionally, the principal or designee must conduct an informal initial hearing with the student to hear the student's perspective. The principal or designee must make a reasonable attempt to contact the student's parents and provide an opportunity for the parents to participate in the initial hearing in person or by telephone. The district must hold the initial hearing in a language the parent and student understand. At the initial hearing, the principal or designee will provide the student:

- Notice of the student's violation of this policy;
- An explanation of the evidence regarding the behavioral violation;
- An explanation of the discipline that may be administered; and
- An opportunity for the student to share his or her perspective and provide explanation regarding the behavioral violation.

Following the initial hearing, the principal or designee must inform the student of the disciplinary decision regarding the behavioral violation, including the date when any suspension or expulsion will begin and end.

#### Notice

No later than one (1) school business day following the initial hearing with the student, the district will provide written notice of the suspension or expulsion to the student and parents in person, by mail, or by email. If the parent cannot read any language, the district will provide language assistance. The written notice must include:

• A description of the student's behavior and how the behavior violated this policy; • The duration

and conditions of the suspension or expulsion, including the dates on which the suspension or expulsion will begin and end;

- The other forms of discipline that the district considered or attempted, and an explanation of the district's decision to administer the suspension or expulsion;
- The opportunity to receive educational services during the suspension or expulsion; The right of the student and parent(s) to an informal conference with the principal or designee;
- The right of the student and parent(s) to appeal the suspension or expulsion; and For any long-term suspension or expulsion, the opportunity for the student and parents to participate in a reengagement meeting.

Other than for the firearm exception under WAC 392-400-820, the district will not impose a long-term suspension or an expulsion for any student in kindergarten through fourth grade.

If a long-term suspension or expulsion may exceed ten (10) days, the district will consider whether the student is currently eligible or might be deemed eligible for special education services. If so, the principal will notify relevant special education staff of the suspension or expulsion so that the district can ensure it follows its special education discipline procedures as well as its general education discipline procedures.

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# Divergence between long-term suspension and expulsion

A long-term suspension may not exceed the length of an academic term. The district may not administer a long-term suspension beyond the school year in which the behavioral violation occurred.

An expulsion may not exceed the length of an academic term, unless the Superintendent grants a petition to extend the expulsion under WAC 392-400-480. The district is not prohibited from administrating an expulsion beyond the school year in which the behavioral violation occurred.

### **Emergency Expulsions**

The district may immediately remove a student from the student's current school placement, subject to the following requirements:

The district must have sufficient cause to believe that the student's statements or observable behaviors pose:

 $\cdot$  An immediate and continuing danger to other students or school personnel; or  $\cdot$  An immediate and continuing threat of material and substantial disruption of the educational process.

The district may not impose an emergency expulsion solely for investigating student conduct.

For purposes of determining sufficient cause for an emergency expulsion, the phrase "immediate and continuing threat of material and substantial disruption of the educational process" means:

• The student's behavior results in an extreme disruption of the educational process that creates a substantial barrier to learning for other students across the school day; and • School personnel have exhausted reasonable attempts at administering other forms of discipline to support the student in meeting behavioral expectations.

An emergency expulsion may not exceed ten consecutive school days. An emergency expulsion must end or be converted to another form of discipline within ten (10) school days from its start.

After an emergency expulsion, the district must attempt to notify the student's parents, as soon as reasonably possible, regarding the reason the district believes the student's statements or behaviors pose an immediate and continuing danger to other students or school personnel, or an immediate and continuing threat of material and substantial disruption of the education process.

### **Notice**

Within twenty-four (24) hours after an emergency expulsion, the district will provide written notice to the student and parents in person, by mail, or by email. The written notice must include:

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- The reason the student's statements or behaviors pose an immediate and continuing danger to students or school personnel, or poses an immediate and continuing threat of material and substantial disruption of the educational process;
- The duration and conditions of the emergency expulsion, including the date on which the emergency expulsion will begin and end;
- $\cdot$  The opportunity to receive educational services during the emergency expulsion;  $\cdot$  The right of the student and parent(s) to an informal conference with the principal or designee; and
- The right of the student and parent(s) to appeal the emergency expulsion, including where and to whom the appeal must be requested.

If the district converts an emergency expulsion to a suspension or expulsion, the district must:

- Apply any days that the student was emergency expelled before the conversion to the total length of the suspension or expulsion; and
- Provide the student and parents with notice and due process rights under WAC 392-400- 455 through 392-400-480 appropriate to the new disciplinary action.

All emergency expulsions, including the reason the student's statements or behaviors pose an immediate and continuing danger to other students or school personnel, must be reported to the Superintendent or designee within twenty-four (24) hours after the start of the emergency expulsion.

### Appeal, Reconsideration, and Petition

# Optional conference with principal

If a student or the parent(s) disagree with the district's decision to suspend, expel, or emergency expel the student, the student or parent(s) may request an informal conference with the principal or designee to resolve the disagreement. The parent or student may request an informal conference orally or in writing.

The principal or designee must hold the conference within three (3) school business days after receiving the request, unless otherwise agreed to by the student and parent(s).

During the informal conference, the student and parent(s) will have the opportunity to share the student's perspective and explanation regarding the events that led to the behavioral violation. The student and parent will also have the opportunity to confer with the principal or designee and school personnel involved in the incident that led to the suspension or expulsion. Further, the student and parent will have the opportunity to discuss other forms of discipline that the district could administer.

An informal conference will not limit the right of the student or parent(s) to appeal the suspension or expulsion, participate in a reengagement meeting, or petition for readmission. Appeals

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### Requesting appeal

The appeal provisions for in-school and short-term suspension differ from those for long-term suspension and expulsion. The appeal provisions for long-term suspension or expulsion and emergency expulsion have similarities but the timelines differ.

A student or the parent(s) may appeal a suspension, expulsion, or emergency expulsion to the Superintendent or designee orally or in writing. For suspension or expulsion, the request to appeal must be within five (5) school business days from when the district provided the student and parent with written notice. For emergency expulsion, the request to appeal must be within three (3) school business days from when the district provided the student and parent with written notice.

When an appeal for long-term suspension or expulsion is pending, the district may continue to administer the long-term suspension or expulsion during the appeal process, subject to the following requirements:

- The suspension or expulsion is for no more than ten (10) consecutive school days from the initial hearing or until the appeal is decided, whichever is earlier;
- The district will apply any days of suspension or expulsion occurring before the appeal is decided to the term of the student's suspension or expulsion and may not extend the term of the student's suspension or expulsion; and
- If the student returns to school before the appeal is decided, the district will provide the student an opportunity to make up assignments and tests missed during the suspension or expulsion upon the student's return.

### In-school and short-term suspension appeal

For short-term and in-school suspensions, the Superintendent or designee will provide the student

and parents the opportunity to share the student's perspective and explanation regarding the behavioral violation orally or in writing.

The Superintendent or designee must deliver a written appeal decision to the student and parent(s) in person, by mail, or by email within two (2) school business days after receiving the appeal. The written decision must include:

- The decision to affirm, reverse, or modify the suspension;
- The duration and conditions of the suspension, including the beginning and ending dates; The educational services the district will offer to the student during the suspension; and Notice of the student and parent(s)' right to request review and reconsideration of the appeal decision, including where and to whom to make such a request.

### Long-term suspension or expulsion and emergency expulsion appeal

For long-term suspension or expulsion and emergency expulsions, the Superintendent or designee will provide the student and parent(s) written notice in person, by mail, or by email, within one (1) school business day after receiving the appeal request, unless the parties agree to a different timeline. Written notice will include:

• The time, date, and location of the appeal hearing;

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- The name(s) of the official(s) presiding over the appeal;
- The right of the student and parent(s) to inspect the student's education records; The right of the student and parent(s) to inspect any documentary or physical evidence and a list of any witnesses that will be introduced at the hearing;
- The rights of the student and parent(s) to be represented by legal counsel; question witnesses; share the student's perspective and explanation; and introduce relevant documentary, physical, or testimonial evidence; and
- Whether the district will offer a reengagement meeting before the appeal hearing.

For long-term suspension or expulsion, the student, parent(s) and district may agree to hold a reengagement meeting and develop a reengagement plan before the appeal hearing. The student, parent(s), and district may mutually agree to postpone the appeal hearing while participating in the reengagement process.

# **Hearings**

A hearing to appeal a long-term suspension or expulsion or emergency expulsion is a quasi judicial process exempt from the Open Public Meetings Act (OPMA). To protect the privacy of student(s) and others involved, the district will hold hearing without public notice and without public access unless the student(s) and/or the parent(s) or their counsel requests an open hearing. Regardless of whether the hearing is open or closed, the district will make reasonable efforts to comply with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) concerning confidentiality of student education records.

When students are charged with violating the same rule and have acted in concert and the facts are essentially the same for all students, a single hearing may be conducted for them if the hearing officer believes that the following conditions exist:

- · A single hearing will not likely result in confusion; and
- No student will have his/her interest substantially prejudiced by a group hearing.

If the official presiding over the hearing finds that a student's interests will be substantially prejudiced by a group hearing, the presiding official may order a separate hearing for that student. The parent and student have the right to petition for an individual hearing. For long-term suspension or expulsion, the district will hold an appeal hearing within three (3) school business days after the Superintendent or designee received the appeal request, unless otherwise agreed to by the student and parent(s).

For emergency expulsion, the district will hold an appeal hearing within two (2) school business days after the Superintendent or designee received the appeal request, unless the student and parent(s) agree to another time.

The school board may designate a discipline appeal council to hear and decide any appeals in this policy and procedure or to review and reconsider a district's appeal decisions. A discipline appeal council must consist of at least three persons appointed by the school board for fixed terms. All members of a discipline appeal council must be knowledgeable about the rules in Chapter 392-400 WAC and this policy and procedure. The school board may also designate the

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Superintendent or a hearing officer to hear and decide appeals. The presiding official(s) may not have been involved in the student's behavioral violation or the decision to suspend or expel the student.

Upon request, the student and parent(s) or their legal representative may inspect any documentary or physical evidence and list of any witnesses that the district will introduce at the appeal hearing. The district must make the information available as soon as reasonably possible, but no later than the end of the school business day before the appeal hearing. The district may also request to inspect any documentary or physical evidence and list of any witnesses that the student and parent(s) intend to introduce at the appeal hearing. The student and parent(s) must make this information available as soon as reasonably possible, but no later than the end of the school business day before the appeal hearing.

Upon request, the student and parent(s) may review the student's education records. The district will make the records available as soon as reasonably possible, but no later than the end of the school business day before the appeal hearing.

If a witness for the district cannot or does not appear at the appeal hearing, the presiding official(s) may excuse the witness' nonappearance if the district establishes that:

- The district made a reasonable effort to produce the witness; and
  - The witness' failure to appear is excused by fear of reprisal or another compelling reason.

The district will record the appeal hearing by manual, electronic, or other type of recording device and upon request of the student or parent(s) provide them a copy of the recording.

For long-term suspension or expulsion, the presiding official(s) must base the decision solely on the

evidence presented at the hearing. The presiding official(s) will provide a written decision to the student and parent(s) in person, by mail, or by email within three (3) school business days after the appeal hearing. The written decision must include:

- The findings of fact;
- A determination whether (i) the student's behavior violated this policy; (ii) the behavioral violation reasonably warrants the suspension or expulsion and the length of the suspension or expulsion; and (iii) the suspension or expulsion is affirmed, reversed, or modified;
- The duration and conditions of suspension or expulsion, including the beginning and ending dates;
- Notice of the right of the student and parent(s) to request a review and reconsideration of the appeal decision. The notice will include where and to whom to make such a request; and
- Notice of the opportunity for a reengagement meeting and contact information for the person who will schedule it.

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For emergency expulsion, the district will provide a written decision to the student and parent(s) in person, by mail, or by email within one (1) school business day after the appeal hearing. The written decision must include:

- The findings of fact;
  - A determination whether the student's statements or behaviors continue to pose (i) an immediate and continuing danger to students or school personnel; or (ii) an immediate and continuing threat of material and substantial disruption of the educational process;
- Whether the district will end the emergency expulsion or convert the emergency expulsion to a suspension or expulsion. If the district converts the emergency expulsion to a suspension or expulsion, the district will provide the student and parent(s) notice and due process consistent with the disciplinary action to which the emergency expulsion was converted; and
- Notice of the right of the student and parent(s) to request a review and reconsideration of the appeal decision. The notice will include where and to whom to make such a request.

### **Reconsideration of appeal**

The student or parents may request the school board or discipline appeal council, if established by the school board, review and reconsider the district's appeal decision for long-term suspensions or expulsions and emergency expulsions. This request may be either oral or in writing.

For long-term suspension or expulsion, the student or parent(s) may request a review within ten (10) school business days from when the district provided the student and parent(s) with the written appeal decision.

For emergency expulsion, the student or parent(s) may request a review within five (5) school business days from when the district provided the student and parent(s) with the written appeal

- In reviewing the district's decision, the school board or discipline appeal council, if established, must consider (i) all documentary and physical evidence from the appeal hearing related to the behavioral violation; (ii) any records from the appeal hearing; (iii) relevant state law; and (iv) this policy adopted.
- The school board (or discipline appeal council) may request to meet with the student and parent(s), the principal, witnesses, and/or school personnel to hear further arguments and gather additional information.
- The decision of the school board (or discipline appeal council) will be made only by board or discipline council members who were not involved in (i) the behavioral violation; (ii) the decision to suspend or expel the student; or (iii) the appeal decision. If the discipline appeal council presided over the appeal hearing, the school board will conduct the review and reconsideration.

For long-term suspension or expulsion, the school board (or discipline appeal council) will provide a written decision to the student and parent(s) in person, by mail, or by email within ten

2021-22 Student Handbook Policies/Procedures, p. 58 (10) school business days after receiving the request for review and reconsideration. The written decision must identify:

- Whether the school board (or discipline appeal council) affirms, reverses, or modifies the suspension or expulsion;
- The duration and conditions of the suspension or expulsion, including the beginning and ending dates of the suspension or expulsion; and
- For long-term suspensions or expulsions, notice of the opportunity to participate in a reengagement meeting.

For emergency expulsion, the school board (or discipline appeal council) will provide a written decision to the student and parent(s) in person, by mail, or by email within five (5) school business days after receiving the request for review and reconsideration. The written decision must identify:

- Whether the school board [or discipline appeal council] affirms or reverses the school district's decision that the student's statements or behaviors posed (i) an immediate and continuing danger to students or school personnel; or (ii) an immediate and continuing threat of material and substantial disruption of the educational process.
- If the emergency expulsion has not yet ended or been converted, whether the district will end the emergency expulsion or convert the emergency expulsion to a suspension or expulsion. If the district converts the emergency expulsion to a suspension or expulsion, the district will provide the student and parent(s) notice and due process under WAC 392- 400-455 through 392-400-480 consistent with the disciplinary action to which the emergency expulsion was converted.

### Petition to extend an expulsion

When risk to public health or safety warrants extending a student's expulsion, the principal or designee may petition the Superintendent or designee for authorization to exceed the academic term limitation on an expulsion. The petition must inform the Superintendent or designee of:

- The behavioral violation that resulted in the expulsion and the public health or safety concerns:
- The student's academic, attendance, and discipline history;
- Any nonacademic supports and behavioral services the student was offered or received during the expulsion;
- The student's academic progress during the expulsion and the educational services available to the student during the expulsion;
- The proposed extended length of the expulsion; and
- The student's reengagement plan.

The principal or designee may petition to extend an expulsion only after the development of a reengagement plan under WAC 392-400-710 and before the end of the expulsion. For violations of WAC 392-400-820 involving a firearm on school premises, school-provided transportation, or

2021-22 Student Handbook Policies/Procedures, p. 59 areas of facilities while being used exclusively by public schools, the principal or designee may petition to extend an expulsion at any time.

### Notice

The district will provide written notice of a petition to the student and parent(s) in person, by mail, or by email within one (1) school business day from the date the Superintendent or designee received the petition. The written notice must include:

- A copy of the petition;
- The right of the student and parent(s) to an informal conference with the Superintendent or designee to be held within five (5) school business days from the date the district provided written notice to the student and parent(s); and
- The right of the student and parent(s) to respond to the petition orally or in writing to the Superintendent or designee within five (5) school business days from the date the district provided the written notice.

The Superintendent or designee may grant the petition only if there is substantial evidence that, if the student were to return to the student's previous school of placement after the length of an academic term, the student would pose a risk to public health or safety. The Superintendent or designee must deliver a written decision to the principal, the student, and the student's parent(s) in person, by mail, or by email within ten (10) school business days after receiving the petition.

If the Superintendent or designee does not grant the petition, the written decision must identify the date when the expulsion will end.

If the Superintendent or designee grants the petition, the written decision must include:

- The date on which the extended expulsion will end;
- The reason that, if the student were to return before the initial expulsion end date, the student would pose a risk to public health or safety; and
- Notice of the right of the student and parent(s) to request a review and reconsideration. The notice will include where and to whom to make such a request.

# Review and Reconsideration of extension of expulsion

The student or parent(s) may request that the school board (or discipline appeal council, if established by the board) review and reconsider the decision to extend the student's expulsion. The student or parents may request the review orally or in writing within ten (10) school business days from the date the Superintendent or designee provides the written decision.

The school board (or discipline appeal council) may request to meet with the student or parent(s) or the principal to hear further arguments and gather additional information.

The decision of the school board (or discipline appeal council) may be made only board or discipline appeal council members who were not involved in the behavioral violation, the decision to expel the student, or the appeal decision.

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The school board (or discipline appeal council) will provide a written decision to the student and parent(s) in person, by mail, or by email within ten (10) school business days after receiving the request for review and reconsideration. The written decision must identify:

- Whether the school board or discipline appeal council affirms, reverses, or modifies the decision to extend the student's expulsion; and
- The date when the extended expulsion will end.

Any extension of an expulsion may not exceed the length of an academic term.

The district will annually report the number of petitions approved and denied to the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction.

#### **Educational Services**

The district will offer educational services to enable a student who is suspended or expulsed to:

- Continue to participate in the general education curriculum;
- Meet the educational standards established within the district; and
- Complete subject, grade-level, and graduation requirements.

When providing a student the opportunity to receive educational services during exclusionary discipline, the school must consider:

• Meaningful input from the student, parents, and the student's teachers; • Whether the student's

regular educational services include English language development services, special education, accommodations and related services under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, or supplemental services designed to support the student's academic achievement; and

• Access to any necessary technology, transportation, or resources the student needs to participate fully in the educational services.

After considering the factors and input described above, the district will determine a student's educational services on a case-by-case basis. The types of educational services the district will consider include one-on-one tutoring (when available), alternative classrooms, and online learning tutoring. Any educational services in an alternative setting should be comparable, equitable, and appropriate to the regular educational services a student would have received in the absence of exclusionary discipline.

As soon as reasonably possible after administering a suspension or expulsion, the district will provide written notice to the student and parents about the educational services the district will provide. The notice will include a description of the educational services and the name and contact information of the school personnel who can offer support to keep the student current with assignments and course work.

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For students subject to suspension or emergency expulsion up to five (5) days, a school must provide at least the following:

- Course work, including any assigned homework, from all of the student's regular subjects or classes;
- Access to school personnel who can offer support to keep the student current with assignments and course work for all of the student's regular subjects or classes; and An opportunity for the student to make up any assignments and tests missed during the period of suspension or emergency expulsion.

For students subject to suspension or emergency expulsion for six (6) to ten (10) consecutive school days, a school must provide at least the following:

- Course work, including any assigned homework, from all of the student's regular subjects or classes;
- An opportunity for the student to make up any assignments and tests missed during the period of suspension or emergency expulsion; and
- Access to school personnel who can offer support to keep the student current with assignments and course work for all of the student's regular subjects or classes. School personnel will make a reasonable attempt to contact the student or parents within three (3) school business days following the start of the suspension or emergency expulsion and periodically thereafter until the suspension or emergency expulsion ends to:
  - Coordinate the delivery and grading of course work between the student and the student's teacher(s) at a frequency that would allow the student to keep current with

assignments and course work for all of the student's regular subjects or classes; and o Communicate with the student, parents, and the student's teacher(s) about the student's academic progress.

For students subject to expulsion or suspension for more than ten (10) consecutive school days, a school will make provisions for educational services in accordance with the "Course of Study" provisions of WAC 392-121-107.

#### Readmission

## Readmission application process

The readmission process is different from and does not replace the appeal process. Students who have been suspended or expelled may make a written request for readmission to the district at any time. If a student desires to be readmitted at the school from which he/she has been suspended/expelled, the student will submit a written application to the principal, who will recommend admission or non-admission. If a student wishes admission to another school, he/she will submit the written application to the Superintendent. The application will include:

• The reasons the student wants to return and why the request should be considered; • Any evidence that supports the request; and

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• A supporting statement from the parent or others who may have assisted the student.

The Superintendent will advise the student and parent of the decision within seven (7) school days of the receipt of such application.

### Reengagement

### **Reengagement Meeting**

The reengagement process is distinct from a written request for readmission. The reengagement meeting is also distinct from the appeal process, including an appeal hearing, and does not replace an appeal hearing. The district must convene a reengagement meeting for students with a long-term suspension or expulsion.

Before convening a reengagement meeting, the district will communicate with the student and parent(s) to schedule the meeting time and location. The purpose of the reengagement meeting is to discuss with the student and his or her parent(s)/guardian(s) a plan to reengage the student.

The reengagement meeting must occur:

• Within twenty (20) calendar days of the start of the student's long-term suspension or expulsion, but no later than five (5) calendar days before the student's return to school; or • As soon as reasonably possible, if the student or parents request a prompt reengagement meeting.

### Reengagement plan

The district will collaborate with the student and parents to develop a culturally-sensitive and culturally-responsive reengagement plan tailored to the student's individual circumstances to support the student in successfully returning to school. In developing a reengagement plan, the district must consider:

- The nature and circumstances of the incident that led to the student's suspension or expulsion;
- As appropriate, students' cultural histories and contexts, family cultural norms and values, community resources, and community and parent outreach;
- Shortening the length of time that the student is suspended or expelled; Providing academic and nonacademic supports that aid in the student's academic success and keep the student engaged an on track to graduate; and
- Supporting the student parents, or school personnel in taking action to remedy the circumstances that resulted in the suspension or expulsion and preventing similar circumstances from recurring.

The district must document the reengagement plan and provide a copy of the plan to the student and parents. The district must ensure that both the reengagement meeting and the reengagement plan are in a language the student and parents understand.

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# **Exceptions for protecting victims**

The district may preclude a student from returning to the student's regular educational setting following the end date of a suspension or expulsion to protect victims of certain offenses as follows:

- A student committing an offense under RCW 28A.600.460(2), when the activity is directed toward the teacher, shall not be assigned to that teacher's classroom for the duration of the student's attendance at that school or any other school where the teacher is assigned; or
  - A student who commits an offense under RCW 28A.600.460(3), when directed toward another student, may be removed from the classroom of the victim for the duration of the student's attendance at that school or any other school where the victim is enrolled.

# Closed Campus - Policy 3242

Students will remain on school grounds from time of arrival until close of school unless officially excused.

Some high school students may be permitted to leave campus during their scheduled lunch break and are required to return on time to attend the next regularly scheduled class. Students who fail to return to school following the lunch break will be found tardy or with an unexcused absence and may lose the privilege of leaving campus during lunch. Students must provide their own transportation and are not permitted to transport another student unless written consent has been provided by the parent or guardian of all students including the student driver.

# Students and Telecommunication Devices - Procedure 3245

### Definitions:

- A. **Sexting** means sending, forwarding, displaying, retaining, storing or posting sexually explicit, lewd, indecent or pornographic photographs, images or messages by or on a cell phone, computer or other electronic means during school hours or school activities on or off campus; while on school district property, during any recess, lunch or leave periods on or off school district property; or beyond the hours of school operation if the behavior detrimentally affects the personal safety or well-being of school-related individuals, the governance, climate or efficient operation of the school; or the educational process or experience.
- B. **Disrupting the Learning Environment** means any intentional gesture, any intentional electronic communication or any intentional written, verbal or physical act or statement initiated, occurring, transmitted or received by a student at school that a reasonable person under the circumstance should know will have the effect of:

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- 1. Insulting, mocking or demeaning a student or group of students causing substantial disruption in, or substantial interference with, the orderly operation of the school; or
  - 2. Creating an intimidating, threatening, hostile or abusive educational environment for a student or group of students through substantially severe, persistent or pervasive behavior.
- C. **Third parties** include, but are not limited to, coaches, school volunteers, parents or guardians, school visitors, service contractors or others engaged in district business or activities that are not directly subject to District control at inter-district and intra district athletic competitions or other school events.

### Reporting Violations:

Any student, employee, parent or guardian or third party who has knowledge of conduct in violation of this policy or any student who feels he/she has been a victim of sexting, menacing, retaliation or reprisal in violation of this policy will immediately report the concerns to: A. The building principal or his/her designee;

- B. A teacher who will be responsible for notifying the building principal or designee immediately if the matter cannot be adequately addressed by the teacher, or warrants administrative intervention:
- C. A counselor, who is responsible for notifying the building principal or designee immediately if the matter cannot be addressed by the counselor or is sufficiently serious to warrant administrative intervention; or
- D. The superintendent of schools or designee.

### Investigating:

The principal or designee will be responsible for timely investigating a complaint made under this policy. The investigation, witness statements and evidence will be documented along with the outcome of the investigation.

In the course of the investigation, administrative staff will not send, receive or unnecessarily view or transmit sexting photographs or any other inappropriate images on either the district's or their personal electronic devices. The examination or viewing of the evidence/information will be limited to the extent necessary to determine that misconduct occurred.

### Parent or Guardian Notification:

Parents or guardians of all students identified in the report will be notified of the investigation and informed of their students' involvement in the incident.

### Discipline:

Students whose behavior violates this policy will be subject to discipline up to and including expulsion. Law enforcement will also be notified when conduct may violate criminal laws.

In addition to discipline, the district will assist students and/or parents or guardians to resolve concerns and issues prior to the use of the formal criminal complaint process. These interventions may include consultation, counseling, education, mediation and/or other opportunities for problem-solving.

In imposing discipline the administrator will take into consideration the context of the events, all relevant circumstances, and the parties' prior behavior, the nature of the behavior and its

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potential harm and the emotional and/or physical harm resulting from the reported party's actions. Exceptional misconduct penalties may be imposed, if in the opinion of the administration it is warranted.

# **Sexting Offenses**

#### First offense:

- A. Parents or guardians will be notified;
- B. The district will file an information report with the police by phone or in writing; C. The student's phone or electronic device will be confiscated, searched and returned only to a parent or guardian;
- D. The student will receive a short-term, out-of-school suspension or an in-school suspension; and
- E. The district may impose appropriate interventions.

### Second offense:

- A. Parents or guardians will be notified;
- B. Police will be notified;
- C. The student's phone or electronic device will be confiscated, searched and returned only to a parent or guardian;
- D. The student will receive a long-term suspension; and
- E. The student will be ineligible to participate in extracurricular activities.

### Third offense:

- A. Parents or guardians will be notified;
- B. Police will be notified;
- C. The student's phone or electronic device will be confiscated, searched and returned only to a parent or guardian;
- D. The student will be expelled; and
- E. The student will be ineligible to participate in extracurricular activities.

# Medication at School – Procedure 3416

Each school principal will authorize two staff members to administer prescribed or non prescribed medication. These designated staff members will receive RN delegation prior to the opening of school each year.

For purposes of this procedure, "medication" means oral medication, topical medication, eye drops, eardrops and nasal spray. This definition DOES NOT include over-the-counter topical sunscreen products regulated by the US Food and Drug Administration (see Sunscreen section below). Oral medications are administered by mouth either by swallowing or by inhaling and may include administration by mask if the mask covers the mouth or mouth and nose.

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Medication may be dispensed to students on a scheduled basis upon written authorization from a parent with a written request by a licensed health professional prescribing within the scope of their prescriptive authority. If the medication is to be administered more than fifteen consecutive days the written request must be accompanied by written instructions from a licensed health professional. Requests will be valid for not more than the current school year. The prescribed or non-prescribed medication must be properly labeled and be contained in the original container. The dispenser of prescribed or non-prescribed oral medication will:

- A. Collect the medication directly from the parent (students should not transport medication to school), collect an authorization form properly signed by the parent and by the prescribing health professional and collect instructions from the prescribing health professional if the oral medication is to be administered for more than fifteen consecutive days;
- B. Store the prescription or non-prescribed oral medication (not more than a twenty (20) day supply) in a locked, substantially constructed cabinet or in a locked medication cart; C. Maintain a daily record which indicates that the prescribed or non-prescribed medication was dispensed.
- D. Provide for supervision by a physician or registered nurse.

A copy of this policy will be provided to the parent upon request for administration of medication in the schools.

Prescribed and over-the-counter oral or topical medications, eye drops or ear drops may be administered by a registered nurse, a licensed practical nurse or an authorized staff member.

Nasal sprays containing legend (prescription) drugs or controlled substances will only be administered by a school nurse or, if a school nurse is not present on school premises, an authorized school employee; or a parent-designated adult with training as required by RCW 28A.210.260.

No prescribed medication will be administered by injection by staff except when a student is susceptible to a predetermined, life-endangering situation. The parent will submit a written statement which grants a staff member the authority to act according to the specific written orders and supporting directions provided by licensed health professional prescribing within his or her prescriptive authority (e.g., medication administered to counteract a reaction to an insect sting). Such medication will be administered by staff trained by the supervising registered nurse to administer such an injection.

Written orders for emergency medication, signed and dated, from the licensed health professional prescribing within his or her prescriptive authority will:

- A. State that the student suffers from an allergy which may result in an anaphylactic reaction;
  - B. Identify the drug, the mode of administration, the dose. Epinephrine administered by inhalation, rather than injection, may be a treatment option. This decision must be made by the licensed health professional prescribing within his or her prescriptive authority;

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- C. Indicate when the injection will be administered based on anticipated symptoms or time lapse from exposure to the allergen;
- D. Recommend follow-up after administration, which may include care of the stinger, need for a tourniquet, administration of additional medications, transport to hospital; and
- E. Specify when to report to the health professional prescribing within his or her prescriptive authority and any record keeping recommendations.

If a health professional and a student's parent request that a student be permitted to carry his/or her own medication and/or be permitted to self-administer the medication, the principal may grant permission after consulting with the school nurse. The process for requesting and providing instructions will be the same as established for oral medications. The principal and nurse will take into account the age, maturity and capability of the student; the nature of the medication; the circumstances under which the student will or may have to self-administer the medication and other issues relevant in the specific case before authorizing a student to carry and/or self administer medication at school. Except in the case of multi-dose devices (like asthma inhalers), students will only carry one day's supply of medication at a time. Violations of any conditions placed on the student permitted to carry and/or self-administer his or her own medication may result in termination of that permission, as well as the imposition of discipline when appropriate.

### Sunscreen

Over-the-counter topical sunscreen products may be possessed and used by students, parents, and school staff, without a written prescription or note from a licensed health care provider, if the following conditions are met:

- A. The product is regulated by the US Food and Drug Administration as an over-the counter sunscreen product; and
- B. If possessed by a student, the product is provided to the student by their parent or guardian.

Students who possess over-the-counter topical sunscreen products that meet the above criteria may carry up to 8 ounces at a time, preferably with the container in a plastic bag.

Violations of any conditions placed on the student permitted to carry and/or self-administer his or her own sunscreen products may result in confiscation and termination of that permission, as well as the imposition of discipline when appropriate.

School staff may assist students in application of sunscreen products in certain circumstances and in the presence of another staff member. The appropriate staff member will take into account the age, maturity, and capability of the student, the need for the application of the sunscreen, and other issues relevant in the specific case, before assisting students in application of sunscreen products at school or during school-sponsored events. However, staff members are not required to assist students in applying sunscreen.

The District may provide education to students regarding sun safety guidelines.

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# Parent-Designated Adult Care of Students with Epilepsy

Parents of students with epilepsy may designate an adult to provide care for their student consistent with the student's individual health care plan. At parent request, school district employees may volunteer to be a parent-designated adult under this policy, but they will not be required to participate. Parent-designated adults who are school employees will file a voluntary, written, current and unexpired letter of intent stating their willingness to be a parent-designated adult. Parent-designated adults who are school employees are required to receive training in caring for students with epilepsy from the school nurse. Parent-designated adults will receive additional training from a parent-selected health care professional or expert in epileptic care to provide the care (including medication administration) requested by the parent.

Parent-designated adults who are not school employees are required to show evidence of comparable training, and meet school district requirements for volunteers. Parent-designated adults will receive additional training from a parent-selected health care professional or expert in epileptic care to provide the care requested by the parent. The district is not responsible for the supervision of procedures authorized by the parents and carried out by the parent-designated adult.

# Student Fees, Fines, Charges - Procedure 3520

Student fee schedules for individual buildings must be submitted to the superintendent for approval on an annual basis. Each building will submit an annual report which includes a report indicating the fees collected by each department. In establishing fees for classes, the following guidelines will be used:

- A. Class registration literature will describe fees for each class or activity and the process for obtaining a waiver or fee reduction;
- B. A fee may be collected for any program in which the resultant product is in excess of minimum requirements and, at the student's option, becomes the personal property of the student. Fees may not exceed the cost of the materials. A student must be able to obtain the highest grade offered for the course without being required to purchase extra materials;
- C. A fee may be collected for personal physical education and athletic equipment, apparel and towels or towel service. However, any student may provide his/her own if it meets reasonable requirements and standards relating to health and safety;
- D. A reasonable fee, not to exceed the actual annual maintenance cost, for the use of musical instruments and uniforms owned or rented by the district may be collected;
- E. Students may be required to furnish personal or consumable items including pencils, paper, erasers and notebooks;

F. Security deposits for the return of materials or equipment may be collected. Provisions will be made to return the deposit when the student returns the item at the conclusion of the school term; and

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G. A fee may be collected for a unit of instruction where the activity necessitates the use of facilities not available on the school premises, and participation in the course is optional on the part of the student. A waiver or fee reduction need not be offered for such activities.

### Fees may be levied for:

A. Field trips required as part of a basic educational program or course, providing that no student is prevented from participation because of financial hardship.

### Fees will not be levied for:

- A. Textbooks (non-consumable) that are designated as basic instructional material for a course of study; or
  - B. Instructional costs for necessary staff employed in any course or educational program.

Fee waivers and reductions will be granted to students whose families would have difficulty paying by reason of their low income. For students and families participating in the national school lunch program, the school breakfast program, or both, the USDA Child Nutrition Program guidelines will be used to determine qualification for a fee waiver or reduction. The District will annually distribute and collect information and an eligibility for free or reduced-price meals in compliance with chapter 28A.235 RCW, Policy 6700, and Procedure 6700-P.

If a student has not paid for five or more previous meals, the school shall follow the procedures and requirements contained in Policy 6700 and Procedure 6700-P.

Free and reduced lunch eligibility will be recognized by the school district through the qualifying year and the first thirty operating days of the following year. A student who qualifies for a fee waiver or reduction will remain eligible through September of the following school year. For fees due at the start of the school year, the family's waiver or reduction status from the previous school year can be used. This status will be reviewed no later than November 1 of the current school year to determine if the fee reduction or waiver is still valid. If not, the district will communicate to the family the fee amount owed.

Fines or damage charges may be levied for lost textbooks, library books or equipment. In the event the student does not make proper restitution, grades, transcripts and/or diplomas will be withheld. A student may make restitution through a voluntary work program. If a student has transferred to another school that has requested the student's records without paying an outstanding fine or fee, only records pertaining to the student's academic performance, special placement, immunization history and discipline actions will be sent to the enrolling school. This information will be communicated to the enrolling district within two school days and the confirming records will be sent as soon as possible. The official transcript will not be sent until the outstanding fee or fine is discharged. The enrolling school will be notified that the official transcript is being withheld due to an unpaid fee or fine.

A charge for lost or damaged materials or equipment may be appealed to the superintendent. The

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students and their parents, in writing, regarding the nature of the damages, how restitution may be made, and how a student or his/her parents may request a hearing. When damages are \$100 or less, a parent and/or student has a right to appeal the imposition of a fine in a manner similar to that specified for a short-term suspension. When damages exceed \$100, the parent and/or student may request a hearing in the manner provided for in a long-term suspension.

All fees will be deposited with the business office on a regular basis. The respective departments and schools will be credited by the amount of their deposit.

# Regulation of Dangerous Weapons on School Premises – Procedure 4210

It is a violation of district policy and state law for any person to carry a firearm or dangerous weapon on school premises, school-provided transportation or areas of other facilities being used exclusively for school activities unless specifically authorized by state law. Carrying a dangerous weapon onto school premises, school-provided transportation, or areas of other facilities being used exclusively for school activities in violation of RCW 9.41.280 is a criminal offense.

The superintendent is directed to see that all school facilities post "Gun-Free Zone" signs, and that all violations of this policy and RCW 9.41.280 are reported annually to the Superintendent of Public Instruction.

# **Dangerous Weapons**

The term "dangerous weapons" under state law includes:

- Any firearm;
- Any device commonly known as "nun-chu-ka sticks," consisting of two or more length of wood, metal, plastic, or similar substance connected with wire, rope, or other means;
- Any device, commonly known as "throwing stars," which are multi-pointed, metal objects designed to embed upon impact from any aspect;
- Any air gun, including any air pistol or air rifle, designed to propel a BB, pellet, or other projectile by the discharge of compressed air, carbon dioxide, or other gas;
- Any portable device manufactured to function as a weapon and which is commonly known as a stun gun, including a projectile stun gun which projects wired probes that are attached to the device that emit an electrical charge designed to administer to a person or an animal an electric shock, charge, or impulse;
- Any device, object, or instrument which is used or intended to be used as a weapon with the intent to injure a person by an electric shock, charge, or impulse;

- The following instruments:
  - Any dirk or dagger;
  - Any knife with a blade longer than three inches;

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- Any knife with a blade which is automatically released by a spring mechanism or other mechanical device;
- Any knife having a blade which opens, or falls or is ejected into position by the force of gravity, or by outward, downward, or centrifugal thrust or movement; and
- Any razor with an unguarded blade;
- Any slung shot, sandbag, or sandclub;
- Metal knuckles;
- A sling shot;
- Any metal pipe or bar used or intended to be used as a club;
- Any explosive;
- Any weapon containing poisonous or injurious gas;
  - Any implement or instrument which has the capacity to inflict death and from the manner in which it is used, is likely to produce or may easily and readily produce death.

In addition, the District considers the following weapons in violation of this policy:

- Any knife or razor not listed above, except for instruments authorized or provided for specific school activities;
- Any object other than those listed above which is used in a manner to intimidate, threaten, or injure another person and is capable of easily and readily producing such injury.

### **Reporting Dangerous Weapons**

An appropriate school authority will promptly notify the student's parents or guardians and the appropriate law enforcement agency of known or suspected violations of this policy. Students who violate this policy will be subject to discipline. Students who have possessed a firearm on any school premises, school-provided transportation, or school-sponsored activities at any facility shall be expelled for not less than one year pursuant to RCW 28A.600.420. The superintendent may modify the one-year expulsion for a firearm on a case-by-case basis.

The district may also suspend or expel a student for up to one year if the student acts with malice (as defined under RCW 9A.04.110) and displays a device that appears to be a firearm.

No expulsion under RCW 28A.600.420 prevents the district from continuing to provide educational services in an alternative educational setting in compliance with RCW 28A.600.015. Any alternative setting should be comparable, equitable, and appropriate to the regular education services a student would have received without the exclusionary discipline. Example alternative settings include one-on-one tutoring and online learning.

# **Exceptions to State Law and this Policy**

The following persons may carry firearms into school buildings, as necessary:

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- A. Persons engaged in military, law enforcement, or school district security activities;
- B. Persons involved in a school authorized convention, showing, demonstration, lecture or firearm safety course; and
- C. Any federal, state or local law enforcement officer.

The following persons over eighteen years of age and not enrolled as students may have firearms in their possession on school property outside of school buildings:

- A. Persons with concealed weapons permits issued pursuant to RCW 9.41.070 who are picking up or dropping off students; and
- B. Persons conducting legitimate business at the school and in lawful possession of a firearm or dangerous weapon if the weapon is secured within an attended vehicle, is unloaded and secured in a vehicle, or is concealed from view in a locked, unattended vehicle.

# **Personal Protection Spray**

Persons over eighteen years of age, and persons between fourteen and eighteen years of age with written parental or guardian permission, may possess personal protection spray devices on school property. A copy of the written parental or guardian permission to possess personal protection spray devices on school property must be turned in to the building principal. No one under eighteen years of age may deliver such devices. No one eighteen years or older may deliver a spray device to anyone under fourteen, or to anyone between fourteen and eighteen who does not have parental permission.

Personal protection spray devices may not be used other than in self-defense as defined by state law. Possession, transmission or use of personal protection spray devices under any other circumstances is a violation of district policy.

# Use of Tobacco and Nicotine Substances Products and Delivery Devices – Policy 4215

The board of directors recognizes that to protect students from exposure to the addictive substance of nicotine, employees and officers of the school district, and all members of the community, have an obligation as role models to refrain from use of tobacco products and delivery devices on school property at all times. Tobacco products and delivery devices include, but are not limited to, cigarettes, cigars, snuff, smoking tobacco, smokeless tobacco, nicotine, electronic smoking/vapor devices, "vapor pens," non-prescribed inhalers, nicotine delivery devices or chemicals that are not FDA-approved to help people quit using tobacco, devices that produce the same flavor or physical effect of nicotine substances and any other smoking equipment, device, material or innovation.

Any use of such products and delivery devices by staff, students, visitors and community members will be prohibited on school district property. Possession by, or distribution of tobacco products to minors is prohibited. This will include all district buildings, grounds and district owned vehicles.

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The use of Federal Drug Administration (FDA) approved nicotine replacement therapy in the form of a nicotine patch, gum or lozenge is permitted. However, students and employees must follow applicable policies regarding use of medication at school.

Notices advising students, district employees and community members of this policy will be posted in appropriate locations in all district buildings and at other district facilities as determined by the superintendent and will be included in the employee and student handbooks. Employees and students are subject to discipline for violations of this policy, and school district employees are responsible for the enforcement of the policy.

# **Complaints Concerning Staff or Programs – Procedure 4220**

Most complaints can be resolved by informal discussions between community members and the staff member. Should the matter not be resolved, the principal will attempt to resolve the issue through a conference with the community member and the staff member.

- A. The following procedures apply to the processing of a complaint which cannot be resolved in the manner described above;
- B. If the problem is not satisfactorily resolved at the building level, the community member should file a written complaint with the superintendent or designee, which describes the problem, and a suggested solution. The superintendent should send copies to the principal and staff member;
- C. The principal and staff member will respond to the superintendent or designee in writing or in person; and
- D. The superintendent or designee will then attempt to resolve the matter through a conference with the citizen, staff member, and principal.

If the matter is still not resolved, the superintendent will present the issue to the board. If the complaint is against a staff member, the board may discuss the complaint. The staff member may request that the board discuss the issue in an open meeting.

The board will attempt to make a final resolution of the matter. Any formal actions by the board must take place in an open meeting. If such action may adversely affect the contract status of the staff member, the board will give written notice to the staff member of his/her rights to a hearing.

# Notification of Threats of Violence or Harm - Procedure 4314

Staff, students, volunteers, and others involved in school activities have the responsibility to report any threats of violence or harm to designated school officials. Based on the significance and credibility of the threat, it will be reported to law enforcement. Staff will involve in-district multi-disciplinary professionals in evaluating the threat and the needs of the person making the threat. Consultation with or referrals to community-based professionals and services are

encouraged where appropriate.

Under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, the district may only release student records with parent or adult student permission or in a health or safety emergency. For that reason, the district will identify students who have made threats of violence or harm when notifying the subjects of the threats, under the following conditions:

- A. The parent or adult student has given permission to disclose the student's identity or other information to the subject of the student's threat;
- B. The identity of the student and the details of the threat are being disclosed to relevant district staff who have been determined to have legitimate educational interest in the information:
- C. The identity of the student or the details of the threat are being released because the release of the information is necessary to protect the health or safety of the student or other individuals. In making this determination, school officials will use their best judgment, and may take into account the "totality of the circumstances" pertaining to the safety or health of a student or other individuals; or
- D. The district is responding to a court order or subpoena. The district must make a reasonable effort to notify the parents of the student or adult student of the subpoena in advance of complying, so that the family can seek protective action, unless the court order or subpoena expressly forbids such notification.

Relevant information about the threat that does not improperly identify a student will be provided to the subject of the threat, and the subject will be advised that if law enforcement has been involved in the matter, the law enforcement agency may have more information that can be shared with the subject.

To promote the safety of all concerned, the principal will determine if classroom teachers, school staff, school security, and others working with the student(s) involved in the threat circumstance, should be notified. Subject to the confidentiality provisions cited above, principals will consider all available information when determining the extent of information to be shared, including prior disciplinary records, official juvenile court records, and documented history of violence of the person who made the threat.

Suspension or other removal from the school environment can create the risk of triggering either an immediate or a delayed violent response unless such actions are coupled with containment and support. When considering the appropriate response to a student's threat of violence or harm, the student's individual circumstances will be taken into account. Emergency expulsion may be considered if the district has sufficient cause to believe that the student's presence poses an immediate and continuing danger to other students or school personnel or an immediate and continuing threat of material and substantial disruption of the educational process.

Discipline against district staff for making threats of violence or harm will be consistent with district policy and procedure regarding staff discipline, and any relevant collective bargaining requirements.

The Washougal School District does not discriminate in any programs or activities on the basis of sex, race, creed, religion, color, national origin, age, veteran or military status, sexual orientation, gender expression, gender identity, disability, or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following employees have been designated to handle questions and complaints of alleged discrimination: Civil Rights Coordinator: Aaron Hansen, 4855 Evergreen Way, Washougal WA 98671, (360) 954-3050; Section 504 Coordinator: Connor McCroskey, 4855 Evergreen Way, Washougal WA 98671, (360) 954-3020.