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OBJECTIVES FOR EQUAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS

This series of the board policy manual is devoted to the board's goals and objectives for assisting the students of the school district in obtaining an education. Each student will have an opportunity to obtain an education in compliance with the policies in this series.

It is the goal of the board to develop a healthy social, intellectual, emotional, and physical self-concept in the students enrolled in the school district. Each student attending school will have the opportunity to use it and its education program and services as a means for self-improvement and individual growth. In so doing, the students are expected to conduct themselves in a manner that assures each student the same opportunity.

The board supports the delivery of the education program and services to students free of discrimination on the basis of race, color, sex, marital status, national origin, creed, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity or disability. This concept of equal educational opportunity serves as a guide for the board and employees in making decisions relating to school district facilities, employment, selection of educational materials, equipment, curriculum, and regulations affecting students.

In the delivery of the education program, students will treat the employees with respect and students will receive the same in return. Employees have the best interests of the students in mind and will assist them in school-related or personal matters if they are able to do so. Students should feel free to discuss problems, whether school-related or personal, with the guidance counselor or other employees.

Board policies, rules and regulations affect students while they are on school district property or on property within the jurisdiction of the school district; while on school owned and/or operated school or chartered vehicles; while attending or engaged in school activities; and while away from school grounds if misconduct will directly affect the good order, efficient management and welfare of the school district.

Board policy refers to the term "parents" in many of the policies. The term parents for purposes of this policy manual will mean the legal parents, the legal guardian or custodian of a student. Students who have reached the age of majority or are otherwise considered an adult by law.

Inquiries by students regarding compliance with equal educational opportunity and affirmative action laws and policies, including but not limited to complaints of discrimination, are directed to the Affirmative Action Coordinator by writing to the Affirmative Action Coordinator, Rock Valley Community School District, Rock Valley, Iowa 51247; or by telephoning 712-476-2701.

Inquiries by students regarding compliance with equal educational opportunity and affirmative action laws and policies, including but not limited to complaints of discrimination, may also be directed in writing to the Director of the Region VII office of Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Education 8930 Ward Parkway, Suite 2037, Kansas City, MO. 64114 (816) 268-0550, <http://www.state.ia.us/government/crc/index.html> or Iowa Dept. of Education, Grimes State Office Bldg., Des Moines, IA. (515) 281-5294. This inquiry or complaint to the federal or state office may be done instead of, or in addition to, an inquiry or complaint at the local level.

Further information and copies of the procedures for filing a complaint are available in the school district's central administrative office and the administrative office in each attendance center.

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RESIDENT STUDENTS

Children who are residents of the school district community will attend the school district without paying tuition.

The residence of a student means the place, abode, or dwelling of the student. Generally, the legal dwelling of minors is the same as their parents. However, a student may establish a dwelling with someone other than the parents and attend public school in the school district without paying tuition if the primary purpose for residing in the school district is not for the purpose of obtaining a free public education. Further, students who have reached the age of majority and who are still eligible to attend an Iowa secondary school may declare their residence independent of the residence of the parents.

Each case involving the bona fide residence of a student will be decided upon its individual merits by the superintendent.

Legal Reference: Lakota Cons. Ind. School v. Buffalo Center-Rake Comm. School, 334 N.W.2d 704 (Iowa 1983).
 Mt. Hope School Dist. v. Hendrickson, 197 N.W. 47 (Iowa 1924).
 Oshel v. Creston Comm. School Dist., DPI Admin. Doc. 570 (1981).
 33 D.P.I. Dec. Rule 80 (1984).
 Iowa Code §§ 257.6; 282.2, .6, .7; 285.4 (2013).
 1956 Op. Att'y Gen. 185.
 1946 Op. Att'y Gen. 197.
 1938 Op. Att'y Gen. 69.
 1930 Op. Att'y Gen. 147.

Cross Reference: 100 School District Instructional Organization
 501 Student Attendance

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NONRESIDENT STUDENTS

Students who are eligible to attend an Iowa public school but who are not legal residents of the school district may be admitted into the school district at the discretion of the superintendent upon application and payment of tuition. The tuition rate is the current per-pupil cost of the school district as computed by the board secretary and as authorized by the Iowa Department of Education.

Resident students whose families move from the school district after the start of a semester and who wish to complete the semester in the school district may be permitted to attend without the payment of tuition at the discretion of the superintendent and approval of the board. Students who plan to open enroll to the nonresident district may complete the school year without approval of the superintendent or board. These students, other than students in grades eleven and twelve, must have the recommendation of the principal.

Students in grades eleven or twelve who are no longer residents of the school district, but were residents in the preceding school year, may continue to attend school until they graduate without the payment of tuition. These students may be required to identify an adult, who resides in the school district, identified for purposes of administration.

Nonresident students who are eligible to attend an Iowa public school and who have evidence they will become legal residents of the school district prior to the first day of October may be allowed to attend without the payment of tuition.

Legal Reference: Lakota Cons. Ind. School v. Buffalo Center-Rake Comm. School, 334 N.W.2d 704 (Iowa 1983).
Mt. Hope School Dist. v. Hendrickson, 197 N.W. 47 (Iowa 1924).
Oshel v. Creston Comm. School Dist., DPI Admin. Doc. 570 (1981).
Iowa Code §§ 257.6; 282.1, .2, .6, .7, .24 (2013).

Cross Reference: 501 Student Attendance

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COMPULSORY ATTENDANCE

Parents within the school district who have children over age six and under age sixteen by September 15, in proper physical and mental condition to attend school, will have the children attend the school district at the attendance center designated by the board. Students will attend school the number of days school is in session in accordance with the school calendar. Students of compulsory attendance age will attend school a minimum of 1080 hours. Students not attending the minimum days must be exempted by this policy as listed below or, referred to the county attorney. Exceptions to this policy include children who:

- have completed the requirements for graduation in an accredited school or have obtained a high school equivalency diploma;
- are attending religious services or receiving religious instruction;
- are attending an approved or probationally approved private college preparatory school;
- are attending an accredited nonpublic school; or,
- are receiving competent private instruction.

It is the responsibility of the parent of a child to provide evidence of the child's mental and physical inability to attend school or of the child's qualifications for one of the exceptions listed above.

The superintendent or designee will investigate the cause for a student's truancy. If the superintendent or designee is unable to secure the truant student's attendance, the superintendent or designee should discuss the next step with the school board. If after school board action, the student is still truant, the superintendent or designee will refer the matter over to the county attorney.

The school will participate in mediation if requested by the county attorney. The superintendent will represent the school district in mediation. The school district will monitor the student's compliance with the mediation agreement and will report violations of the mediation agreement to the county attorney.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 259A; 279.10-.11; ch. 299; 299A (2013).
441 I.A.C. 41.25(8).
1978 Op. Att'y. Gen. 379.

Cross Reference: 501 Student Attendance
601.1 School Calendar
604.1 Competent Private Instruction

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ENTRANCE - ADMISSIONS

Children in the school district community will be allowed to enroll in the school district's regular education program beginning at age five. The child must be age five on or prior to September 15 to participate in the school district's kindergarten program. The child must be age six on or prior to September 15 to begin the first grade of the education program.

The board will require evidence of age and residency in the form of a birth certificate or other evidence before the student may enroll in the school district's education program. It is within the discretion of the superintendent to determine what is satisfactory evidence for proof of age.

Prior to enrollment, the child must provide the administration with their health and immunization certificate. Failure to provide this information within the time period set by the superintendent is reason for suspension, expulsion or denying admission to the student.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 139A.8; 282.1, .3, .6 (2013).
1980 Op. Att'y Gen. 258.

Cross Reference: 501 Student Attendance
507.1 Student Health and Immunization Certificates

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ATTENDANCE CENTER ASSIGNMENT

The board will have complete discretion to determine the boundaries for each attendance center, to assign students to the attendance centers, and to assign students to the classrooms within the attendance center.

It is the responsibility of the superintendent to make a recommendation to the board annually regarding the assigned attendance center for each student. In making the recommendation, the superintendent will consider the geographical layout of the school district, the condition and location of the school district facilities, the location of student population, possible transportation difficulties, financial condition of the school district and other factors deemed relevant by the superintendent or the board.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 279.11; 282.7-.8 (2013).

Cross Reference: 501 Student Attendance

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STUDENT TRANSFERS IN

Students who transfer into the school district must meet the immunization and age requirements set out for students who initially enroll in the school district.

The school district will request the student's cumulative records from the previous school district. If the student cannot offer proof of grade level, the superintendent will make the grade level determination. The superintendent may require testing or other information to determine the grade level.

The superintendent will determine the amount of credits to be transferred. If the student has not previously attended an accredited school, it is within the superintendent's discretion to accept or reject credits or grades.

The board may deny admission if the student is not willing to provide the board with the necessary information.

Legal Reference: 20 U.S.C. § 1232g (2012).
Iowa Code §§ 139A.8; 282.1, .3, .4; 299A (2013).

Cross Reference: 501 Student Attendance
505.3 Student Honors and Awards
507 Student Health and Well-Being
604.1 Competent Private Instruction

Approved 2/17

Reviewed 1/17

Revised 1/17

STUDENT TRANSFERS OUT OR WITHDRAWALS

If the student's parents wish to withdraw or transfer the student from school prior to completing and graduating from the education program, they should notify the superintendent in writing as soon as possible of the decision to withdraw or transfer the student from the education program. The student or parent should present this written notice at the office and receive instructions regarding the return of textbooks, library books, locker equipment, hot lunch tickets, etc.

The notice should state the student's final day of attendance. If the student is not enrolling in another school district, the school district will maintain the student's records in the same manner as the records of students who have graduated from the school district.

If the parents wish to have the student's cumulative record sent to the new school district, the parents must notify the superintendent in writing. This notice will include the name of the school district and the person at the new school district to whom the student's cumulative records should be sent. If the new school district requests the student's cumulative records, the school district will forward the cumulative records and notify the parents the records have been sent. The notice will inform the parents of their right to review the records sent.

If the student is of compulsory education age and not transferring to another public school district or an accredited nonpublic school, the parents will notify the superintendent that the student is receiving competent private instruction and file the necessary competent private instruction reports.

Legal Reference: 20 U.S.C. § 1232g (2012).
Iowa Code §§ 274.1; 299.1-.1A (2013).

Cross Reference: 501 Student Attendance
506 Education Records
604.1 Competent Private Instruction

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STUDENT ATTENDANCE RECORDS

As part of the school district's records, the daily attendance of each student is recorded and maintained on file with the permanent records of the board secretary.

It is the responsibility of the principals to ensure that such reports are filed with the board secretary, the custodian of school records.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 294.4; 299 (2013).
281 I.A.C. 12.3(4).

Cross Reference: 501 Student Attendance
506 Education Records

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STUDENT ABSENCES - EXCUSED

Regular attendance by students is essential for students to obtain the maximum opportunities from the education program. Parents and students alike are encouraged to ensure an absence from school is a necessary absence. Students will attend school unless excused by the principal of their attendance center.

Student absences approved by the principal are excused absences. Excused absences will count as days in attendance for purposes of the truancy law. These absences include, but are not limited to, illness, family emergencies, recognized religious observances, appointments that cannot be scheduled outside the school day and school-sponsored or approved activities. Students whose absences are approved will make up the work missed and receive full credit for the missed school work. It is the responsibility of the student to initiate a procedure with the student's teacher to complete the work missed.

If a student knows in advance that he/she will be missing (i.e.: family related activities, state tournaments) he/she will be expected to bring notification from home and complete the work before leaving. Students who fail to follow this policy will be subject to making up all time missed plus complete all make-up work. Students whose absences are approved shall make up the work missed and receive full credit for the missed school work, provided the proper procedures have been followed. It shall be the responsibilities of the student to initiate a procedure with the student's teacher to complete the work missed.

Students who wish to participate in school-sponsored activities must attend school the last half-day of the activity unless permission has been given by the principal for the student to be absent.

It is the responsibility of the parent to notify the student's attendance center as soon as the parent knows the student will not be attending school on that day. The principal may request evidence or written verification of the student's reason for absence.

It is the responsibility of the superintendent, in conjunction with the principal, to develop administrative regulations regarding this policy.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 294.4; 299 (2013).
281 I.A.C. 12.3(4).

Cross Reference: 501 Student Attendance
503 Student Discipline
504 Student Activities
506 Education Records

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TRUANCY - UNEXCUSED ABSENCES

Regular attendance by the students at school is essential for students to obtain the maximum opportunities from the education program. Parents and students alike are encouraged to ensure an absence from school is a necessary absence. Students will attend school unless excused by the principal of their attendance center.

Truancy is the failure to attend school for the minimum number of days established in the school calendar by the board. Truancy is the act of being absent without a reasonable excuse. Truancy will not be tolerated by the board.

Students are subject to disciplinary action for truancy including suspension and expulsion. It is within the discretion of the principal to determine, in light of the circumstances, whether a student may make up work missed because of truancy. Students receiving special education services will not be assigned to supervised study hall or in-school suspension unless the goals and objectives of the student's Individualized Education Program are capable of being met.

It is the responsibility of the superintendent, in conjunction with the principal, to develop administrative regulations regarding this policy. The administrative regulations will indicate the disciplinary action to be taken for truancy. This may include referring the truancy to the county attorney's office.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 294.4; 299 (2013).
281 I.A.C. 12.3(4).

Cross Reference: 206.3 Secretary
410.3 Truancy Officer
501 Student Attendance
503 Student Discipline
504 Student Activities
506 Education Records

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STUDENT RELEASE DURING SCHOOL HOURS

Students will be allowed to leave the school district facilities during school hours only with prior authorization from their parents, unless the parent appears personally at the student's attendance center to arrange for the release of the student during school hours, or with the permission of the principal.

Approved reasons for release of a student during the school day will include, but not be limited to, illness, family emergencies, medical appointments, religious instruction, classes outside the student's attendance center, employment for which the student has been issued a work permit and other reasons determined appropriate by the principal.

Students in grade 12 may be allowed to leave the school district facilities during the second semester with school board approval of open campus. Students who violate school rules related to this privilege may have this privilege suspended.

It is the responsibility of the superintendent, in conjunction with the principal, to develop administrative regulations regarding this policy.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code § 294.4 (2013).
281 I.A.C. 12.3(4).

Cross Reference: 501 Student Attendance
503 Student Discipline
504 Student Activities
506 Education Records

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STUDENTS OF LEGAL AGE

Students who have attained legal age may continue the education program without payment of tuition as long as they are eligible to attend an Iowa public school and are residents of the school district.

Parents will be allowed to access and view the student's records without written permission from the student if the student is still a dependent for tax purposes. In most cases, with the discretion of the principal or the superintendent, the student will be able to make decisions and sign documents rather than requiring parental permission or signature.

Legal Reference: 20 U.S.C. § 1232g (2012).
Iowa Code §§ 22; 282.2, .6, .7; 285.4; 599.1; 622.10 (2013).
281 I.A.C. 12.3(6).

Cross Reference: 501 Student Attendance
506 Education Records

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OPEN ENROLLMENT TRANSFERS - PROCEDURES AS A SENDING DISTRICT

The school district may participate in open enrollment as a sending district. As a sending district, the board will allow resident students who meet the requirements to open enroll to another public school district pending the recommendation of the superintendent.

Parents requesting open enrollment out of the school district for their student will notify the sending and receiving school district no later than March 1 in the school year preceding the first year desired for open enrollment. The notice is made on forms provided by the Department of Education. The forms are available at the central administration office.

Parents of children who will begin kindergarten in the school district are exempt from the open enrollment March 1 deadline. Parents of children who will begin kindergarten will file in the same manner set forth above by September 1. Parents who have good cause as defined by law for failing to meet the March 1 deadline may make an open enrollment request by September 1 unless another deadline applies.

The receiving district will approve open enrollment requests according to the timelines established by law. The parents may withdraw the open enrollment request prior to the start of the school year. The receiving district's superintendent will notify the parents and sending school district by mail within five days of the school district's action to approve or deny the open enrollment request.

The board may approve a student's request to allow the receiving district to enter the school district for the purposes of transportation.

An open enrollment request out of the school district from parents of a special education student is reviewed on a case-by-case basis. The determining factor for approval of such an open enrollment request will be whether the special education program available in the receiving school district is appropriate for the student's needs. The area education agency director of special education serving the receiving district will determine whether the program is appropriate. The special education student will remain in the school district until the final determination is made.

It is the responsibility of the superintendent to maintain open enrollment request applications and notice forms. It will also be the responsibility of the superintendent to develop appropriate office procedures and administrative regulations necessary for open enrollment requests.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 139A.8; 274.1; 279.11; 282.1, .3, .8, .18; 299.1 (2013).
281 I.A.C. 17.
1990 Op. Att'y Gen. 75.

Cross Reference: 501 Student Attendance
506 Education Records

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OPEN ENROLLMENT TRANSFERS - PROCEDURES AS A RECEIVING DISTRICT

The school district will participate in open enrollment as a receiving district. As a receiving district, the board will allow nonresident students, who meet the legal requirements, to open enroll into the school district. The board will have complete discretion to determine the attendance center of the students attending the school district under open enrollment.

The superintendent will approve timely filed applications, incoming kindergarten applications, and good cause application. The superintendent will notify the sending school district and parents of the school district's action to approve or deny the open enrollment request.

Open enrollment requests into the school district will not be approved if insufficient classroom space exists. Open enrollment requests into the school district will also not be approved for students who have been suspended or expelled by the administration or the board of the school district the student is or was attending until the student has been reinstated into the school district from which the student was suspended or expelled. Once the student is reinstated, the student's open enrollment request will be considered in the same manner as other open enrollment requests provided the required timelines are met.

Open enrollment requests into the school district that, if denied, would result in students from the same nuclear family being enrolled in different school districts, will be given highest priority. The board, in its discretion, may waive the insufficient classroom space reason for denial for students of the same nuclear family to prevent the division of a nuclear family between two school districts. Other open enrollment requests into the school district are considered in the order received by the school district with the first open enrollment request given a higher priority than the second open enrollment request and so forth.

Generally, students in grades nine through twelve open enrolling into the school district will not be eligible for participation in interscholastic athletics, at the varsity level, during the first ninety days of open enrollment into the school district. The district will abide by IHSAA guidelines/rules relative to this issue.

Parents are responsible for providing transportation to and from the receiving school district without reimbursement unless the parents qualify for transportation assistance. Upon a parent's request, the board may approve transportation into the sending district. The board's approval is subject to the sending district's approval.

An open enrollment request into the school district from parents of a special education student is reviewed on a case-by-case basis. The determining factors for approval of such an open enrollment request will be whether the special education program available in the school district is appropriate for the student's needs and whether the enrollment of the special education student will cause the class size to exceed the maximum allowed. The area education agency director of special education serving the school district will determine whether the program is appropriate. The special education student will remain in the sending district until the final determination is made.

The policies of the school district will apply to students attending the school district under open enrollment.

It is the responsibility of the superintendent to develop appropriate office procedures and administrative regulations necessary for open enrollment requests.

OPEN ENROLLMENT TRANSFERS - PROCEDURES AS A RECEIVING DISTRICT

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 139A.8; 274.1; 279.11; 282.1, .3, .8, .18; 299.1 (2013).
281 I.A.C. 17.
1990 Op. Att'y Gen. 75.

Cross Reference: 501.6 Student Transfers In
501.7 Student Transfers Out or Withdrawals
501.14 Open Enrollment Transfers - Procedures as a Sending District
506 Education Records
507 Student Health and Well-Being
606.6 Insufficient Classroom Space

Approved 2/17

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HOMELESS CHILDREN AND YOUTH

The Rock Valley Community School District believes all students should have access to a free, appropriate public education. The district will ensure that homeless children and youth have equal access to the same free, appropriate public education as other children and youth.

The term “homeless children and youth” means individuals who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence. The term includes:

- Children and youth who are:
 - Sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason (sometimes referred to as “doubled up”);
 - Living in motels, hotels, trailer parks, or camping grounds due to lack of alternative adequate accommodations;
 - Living in emergency or transitional shelters; or
 - Abandoned in hospitals
- Children and youth who have a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for, or ordinarily used as, a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings;
- Children and youth who are living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations, or similar settings; and
- Migratory children who qualify as homeless because they are living in circumstances described above.

To help ensure that homeless children and youth have a full opportunity to enroll, attend, and succeed at school, the board shall:

- Designate the Elementary Principal as the local homeless children and youth liaison;
- Provide training opportunities for staff so staff may help identify and meet the needs of homeless children and youth;
- Remove barriers, including those associated with fees, fines, and absences, to the identification, enrollment, retention, attendance and/or success in school for homeless children and youth;
- Ensure collaboration and coordination with other service providers;
- Ensure transportation is provided in accordance with legal requirements;
- Provide school stability in school assignment according to the child’s best interests;
- Ensure the privacy of education records, as provided by applicable law, including information about a homeless child or youth’s living situation;
- Engage in the dispute resolution process for decisions relating to the educational placement of homeless children and youth as provided by applicable law; and
- Prohibit the segregation of a homeless child or youth from other students enrolled in the district.

The superintendent may develop an administrative process or procedures to implement this policy.

HOMELESS CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Legal Reference: 20 U.S.C. § 6301
42 U.S.C. § 11302
42 U.S.C. §§ 11431 *et. Seq.*
281 I.A.C. 33

Cross Reference: 501 Student Attendance
503.3 Fines - Fees - Charges
506 Education Records
507.1 Student Health and Immunization Certificates
603.3 Special Education
711.1 Student School Transportation Eligibility

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Reviewed 1/17

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STUDENT APPEARANCE

The board believes inappropriate student appearance causes material and substantial disruption to the school environment or presents a threat to the health and safety of students, employees and visitors.

Students are expected to adhere to standards of cleanliness and dress that are compatible with the requirements of a good learning environment. The standards will be those generally acceptable to the community as appropriate in a school setting.

The board expects students to be clean and well-groomed and wear clothes in good repair and appropriate for the time, place and occasion. Clothing or other apparel promoting products illegal for use by minors and clothing displaying obscene material, profanity, or reference to prohibited conduct are disallowed. While the primary responsibility for appearance lies with the students and their parents, appearance disruptive to the education program will not be tolerated. When, in the judgment of a principal, a student's appearance or mode of dress disrupts the educational process or constitutes a threat to health or safety, the student may be required to make modifications.

It is the responsibility of the superintendent, in conjunction with the principals, to develop administrative regulations regarding this policy.

Legal Reference: Hazelwood School District v. Kuhlmeier, 484 U.S. 260 (1988).
 Bethal School District v. Fraser, 478 U.S. 675 (1986).
 Tinker v. Des Moines Ind. Comm. Sch. Dist., 393 U.S. 503 (1969).
 Bystrom v. Fridley High School, 822 F.2d 747 (8th Cir. 1987).
 Torvik v. Decorah Community School, 453 F.2d 779 (8th Cir. 1972).
 Turley v. Adel Community School District, 322 F.Supp. 402 (S.D. Iowa 1971).
 Sims v. Colfax Comm. School Dist., 307 F.Supp. 485 (Iowa 1970).
 Iowa Code § 279.8 (2013).

Cross Reference: 500 Objectives for Equal Educational Opportunities for Students
 502 Student Rights and Responsibilities

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Revised

CARE OF SCHOOL PROPERTY/VANDALISM

Students will treat school district property with care and respect. Students found to have destroyed or otherwise harmed school district property may be required to reimburse the school district. They may be subject to discipline under board policy and the school district rules and regulations. They may also be referred to local law enforcement authorities.

It is the responsibility of the superintendent, in conjunction with the principal, to develop administrative rules regarding this policy.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 279.8; 282.4, .5; 613.16 (2013).

Cross Reference: 502 Student Rights and Responsibilities
802.1 Maintenance Schedule

Approved 2/17

Reviewed 1/17

Revised _____

FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION

Student expression, other than student expression in student-produced official school publications, made on the school district premises or under the jurisdiction of the school district or as part of a school-sponsored activity may be attributed to the school district; therefore, student expression must be responsible. Student expression must be appropriate to assure that the students learn and meet the goals of the school activity and that the potential audience is not exposed to material that may be harmful or inappropriate for their level of maturity.

Students will be allowed to express their viewpoints and opinions as long as the expression is responsible. The expression will not, in the judgment of the administration, encourage the breaking of laws, defame others, be obscene or indecent, or cause a material and substantial disruption to the educational program. The administration, when making this judgment, will consider whether the activity in which the expression was made is school-sponsored and whether review or prohibition of the students' speech furthers an educational purpose. Further, the expression must be done in a reasonable time, place, and manner that is not disruptive to the orderly and efficient operation of the school district.

Students who violate this policy may be subject to disciplinary measures. Employees are responsible for insuring students' expression is in keeping with this policy. It is the responsibility of the superintendent to develop administrative regulations regarding this policy.

Legal Reference: U.S. Const. amend. I.
Hazelwood School District v. Kuhlmeier, 484 U.S. 260 (1988).
Bethel School District v. Fraser, 478 U.S. 675 (1986).
New Jersey v. T.L.O., 469 U.S. 325 (1985).
Tinker v. Des Moines Ind. Comm. Sch. Dist., 393 U.S. 503 (1969).
Bystrom v. Fridley High School, 822 F.2d 747 (8th Cir. 1987).
 Iowa Code §§ 279.8; 280.22; (2013).

Cross Reference: 502 Student Rights and Responsibilities
 504 Student Activities
 603.9 Academic Freedom
 904.5 Distribution of Materials

Approved 2/17Reviewed 1/17

Revised _____

STUDENT COMPLAINTS AND GRIEVANCES

Student complaints and grievances regarding board policy or administrative regulations and other matters should be addressed to the student's teacher or another licensed employee, other than the administration, for resolution of the complaint. It is the goal of the board to resolve student complaints at the lowest organizational level.

If the complaint cannot be resolved by a licensed employee, the student may discuss the matter with the principal within 3 days of the employee's decision. If the matter cannot be resolved by the principal, the student may discuss it with the superintendent within 3 days after speaking with the principal.

If the matter is not satisfactorily resolved by the superintendent, the student may ask to have the matter placed on the board agenda of a regularly scheduled board meeting in compliance with board policy.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code § 279.8 (2013).

Cross Reference: 210.8 Board Meeting Agenda
213 Public Participation in Board Meetings
307 Communication Channels
502 Student Rights and Responsibilities
504.3 Student Publications

Approved 2/17

Reviewed 1/17

Revised _____

STUDENT LOCKERS

Student lockers are the property of the school district. Students will use the lockers assigned to them by the school district for storing their school materials and personal belongings necessary for attendance at school. It is the responsibility of students to keep their assigned lockers clean and undamaged.

To ensure students are properly maintaining their assigned lockers, the principal of the building may periodically inspect all or a random selection of lockers. Either students or another individual will be present during the inspection of lockers. Student lockers may also be searched, at any time and without advance notice, in compliance with board policy regulating search and seizure.

As a routine procedure to maintain safety/orderly conduct within the school district, the district reserves the right to use “drug dogs” to determine compliance with federal, state and local laws.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 279.8; 280.14; 808A (2013).

Cross Reference: 502 Student Rights and Responsibilities

Approved 2/17

Reviewed 1/17

Revised _____

WEAPONS

The board believes weapons, other dangerous objects and look-a-likes in school district facilities cause material and substantial disruption to the school environment or present a threat to the health and safety of students, employees and visitors on the school district premises or property within the jurisdiction of the school district.

School district facilities are not an appropriate place for weapons, dangerous objects and look-a-likes. Weapons and other dangerous objects and look-a-likes will be taken from students and others who bring them onto the school district property or onto property within the jurisdiction of the school district or from students who are within the control of the school district.

Parents of students found to possess weapons, dangerous objects or look-a-likes on school property are notified of the incident. Possession or confiscation of weapons, dangerous objects or look-a-likes will be reported to law enforcement officials, and students will be subject to disciplinary action including suspension or expulsion.

Students bringing firearms to school or knowingly possessing firearms at school will be expelled for not less than one year. The superintendent has the authority to recommend this expulsion requirement be modified for students on a case-by-case basis. For purposes of this portion of this policy, the term "firearm" includes, but is not limited to, any weapon which is designed to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive, the frame or receiver of any such weapon, a muffler or silencer for such a weapon, or any explosive, incendiary or poison gas, or otherwise defined by applicable law.

Weapons under the control of law enforcement officials are exempt from this policy. The principal may allow authorized persons to display weapons, other dangerous objects or look-a-likes for educational purposes. Such a display will also be exempt from this policy. It is the responsibility of the superintendent, in conjunction with the principal, to develop administrative regulations regarding this policy.

Legal Reference: 18 U.S.C. § 921
Iowa Code §§ 279.8; 280.21B; 483A.27(11), 724
281 I.A.C. 12.3(6)

Cross Reference: 502 Student Rights and Responsibilities
503 Student Discipline
507 Student Health and Well-Being

Approved 2/17

Reviewed 1/17

Revised _____

SMOKING - DRINKING - DRUGS

The board prohibits the distribution, dispensing, manufacture, possession, use, or being under the influence of beer, wine, alcohol, tobacco, other controlled substances, or "look alike" substances that appear to be tobacco, beer, wine, alcohol or controlled substances by students while on school district property or on property within the jurisdiction of the school district; while on school owned and/or operated school or chartered vehicles; while attending or engaged in school activities; and while away from school grounds if the misconduct will directly affect the good order, efficient management and welfare of the school district.

The board believes such illegal, unauthorized or contraband materials generally cause material and substantial disruption to the school environment or present a threat to the health and safety of students, employees, or visitors.

Violation of this policy by students will result in disciplinary action including suspension or expulsion. Use, purchase or being in possession of cigarettes, tobacco or tobacco products for those under the age of eighteen, may be reported to the local law enforcement authorities. Possession, use or being under the influence of beer, wine, alcohol and/or of a controlled substance may also be reported to the local law enforcement authorities.

Students who violate the terms of this policy may be required to satisfactorily complete a substance abuse assistance or rehabilitation program approved by the school board. If such student fails to satisfactorily complete such a program, the student may be subject to discipline including suspension or expulsion.

The board believes the substance abuse prevention program may include:

- Age-appropriate, developmentally-based drug and alcohol curriculum for students in grades kindergarten through twelve, which address the legal, social, and health consequences of tobacco, drug and alcohol use and which provide information about effective techniques for resisting peer pressure to use tobacco, drugs or alcohol;
- A statement to students that the use of illicit drugs and the unlawful possession and use of alcohol is wrong and harmful;
- Standards of conduct for students that clearly prohibit, at a minimum, the unlawful possession, use, being under the influence of or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol by students on school premises or as part of any of its activities;
- A clear statement that disciplinary sanctions, up to and including suspension or expulsion and referral for prosecution, will be imposed on students who violate the policy and a description of those sanctions;
- A statement that students may be required to successfully complete an appropriate rehabilitation program;
- Information about drug and alcohol counseling and rehabilitation and re-entry programs available to students;
- A requirement that parents and students be given a copy of the standards of conduct and the statement of disciplinary sanctions required; and
- Notification to parents and students that compliance with the standards of conduct is mandatory.

It is the responsibility of the superintendent, in conjunction with the principal, to develop administrative regulations regarding this policy.

SMOKING - DRINKING – DRUGS

Legal Reference: 34 C.F.R. Pt. 86 (2012).
Iowa Code §§ 123.46; 124; 279.8, .9; 453A (2013).
281 I.A.C. 12.3(6); .5(3)(e), .5(4)(e), .5(5)(e).

Cross Reference: 502 Student Rights and Responsibilities
503 Student Discipline
507 Student Health and Well-Being

Approved 2/17

Reviewed 1/17

Revised _____

SEARCH AND SEIZURE

School district property, including school-owned vehicles, are held in public trust by the board. School district authorities may, without a search warrant, search students or protected student areas based on a reasonable and articulable suspicion that a school district policy, rule, regulation or law has been violated. The search is in a manner reasonable in scope to maintain order and discipline in the schools, promote the educational environment, and protect the safety and welfare of students, employees and visitors to the school district facilities. The furnishing of a locker, desk or other facility or space owned by the school and provided as a courtesy to a student, even if the student provides the lock for it, will not create a protected student area and will not give rise to an expectation of privacy with respect the locker, desk, or other facility.

School authorities may seize any illegal, unauthorized or contraband materials discovered in the search. Items of contraband may include, but are not limited to, nonprescription controlled substances, marijuana, cocaine, amphetamines, barbiturates, apparatus used for controlled substances, alcoholic beverages, tobacco, nicotine, weapons, explosives, poisons and stolen property. Such items are not to be possessed by a student while they are on school district property or on property within the jurisdiction of the school district; while on school owned and/or operated school or chartered vehicles; while attending or engaged in school activities; and while away from school grounds if misconduct will directly affect the good order, efficient management and welfare of the school district. Possession of such items will be grounds for disciplinary action including suspension or expulsion and may be reported to local law enforcement officials. The board believes that illegal, unauthorized or contraband materials may cause material and substantial disruption to the school environment or presents a threat to the health and safety of students, employees, or visitors on the school district premises or property within the jurisdiction of the school district.

As a routine procedure to maintain safety/orderly conduct within the school district, the district reserves the right to use “drug dogs” to determine compliance with federal, state and local laws.

It is the responsibility of the superintendent, in conjunction with the principals, to develop administrative regulations regarding this policy.

Legal Reference: U.S. Const. amend. IV.
New Jersey v. T.L.O., 469 U.S. 325 (1985).
Cason v. Cook, 810 F.2d 188 (8th Cir. 1987), *cert. den.*, 482 U.S. 930 (1987).
 Iowa Code ch. 808A (2013).
 281 I.A.C. 12.3(6).

Cross Reference: 502 Student Rights and Responsibilities
 503 Student Discipline

Approved 2/17

Reviewed 1/17

Revised _____

INTERVIEWS OF STUDENTS BY OUTSIDE AGENCIES

Generally, students may not be interviewed during the school day by persons other than parents and school district officials and employees.

Requests from law enforcement officers and from persons other than parents, school district officials, and employees to interview students are made through the principal's office. Upon receiving a request, it is the responsibility of the principal to determine whether the request will be granted. Generally, prior to granting a request, the principal will attempt to contact the parents to inform them of the request and to ask them to be present.

If a child abuse investigator wishes to interview a student, the principal will defer to the investigator's judgment as to whether the student should be interviewed independently from the student's parents, whether the school is the most appropriate setting for the interview, and who will be present during the interview.

Students will not be taken from school without the consent of the principal and without proper warrant.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 232; 280.17 (2013).
281 I.A.C. 102.
441 I.A.C. 9.2; 155; 175.
1980 Op. Att'y Gen. 275.

Cross Reference: 402.2 Child Abuse Reporting
502.10 Search and Seizure
503 Student Discipline
902.2 News Conferences and Interviews

Approved 2/17

Reviewed 1/17

Revised _____

USE OF MOTOR VEHICLES

The board recognizes the convenience to families and students of having students drive to and park at their school attendance center. Driving a motor vehicle to and parking it at the student's attendance center is a privilege.

Students who drive to and park at their school attendance center shall only drive to and park at their designated attendance center or at either attendance center or a shared district's attendance center for the purpose of attending extracurricular activities. Students may not loiter around or be in their vehicle during the school day without permission from the principal. Students shall leave their attendance center when there is no longer a legitimate reason for them to be at their attendance center. Students who drive shall enter and leave the parking lot by the routes designated by the principal.

Students who live within one mile of school, and would not otherwise be eligible for a student driving permit, may be eligible for a student driving permit, for driving to and from school and school activities and practices, if the student possess physical limitations which impact their ability to get to/from school by another method.

Students who wish to drive to and park at their school attendance center shall comply with the rules and regulations established by the building principal. Failure to comply with this policy or the school district rules shall be reason for revocation of school driving and parking privileges as well as other disciplinary action including suspension and expulsion.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 279.8; 321 (2013).

Cross Reference: 502 Student Rights and Responsibilities

Approved 2/17

Reviewed 1/17

Revised _____

STUDENT CONDUCT

The board believes inappropriate student conduct causes material and substantial disruption to the school environment, interferes with the rights of others, or presents a threat to the health and safety of students, employees, and visitors on school premises. Appropriate classroom behavior allows teachers to communicate more effectively with students.

Students will conduct themselves in a manner fitting to their age level and maturity and with respect and consideration for the rights of others while on school district property or on property within the jurisdiction of the school district; while on school owned and/or operated school or chartered vehicles; while attending or engaged in school activities; and while away from school grounds if misconduct will directly affect the good order, efficient management and welfare of the school district. Consequences for the misconduct will be fair and developmentally appropriate in light of the circumstances.

Students who fail to abide by this policy and the administrative regulations supporting it may be disciplined for conduct which disrupts or interferes with the education program; conduct which disrupts the orderly and efficient operation of the school district or school activity; conduct which disrupts the rights of other students to participate in or obtain their education; conduct that is violent or destructive; or conduct which interrupts the maintenance of a disciplined atmosphere. Disciplinary measures include, but are not limited to, removal from the classroom, detention, suspension, probation, and expulsion.

A student who commits an assault against an employee on school district property or on property within the jurisdiction of the school district; while on school-owned or school-operated chartered vehicles; while attending or engaged in school district activities will be suspended by the principal. Notice of the suspension is sent to the board president. The board will review the suspension and decide whether to hold a disciplinary hearing to determine whether to impose further sanctions against the student which may include expulsion. In making its decision, the board shall consider the best interests of the school district, which shall include what is best to protect and ensure the safety of the school employees and students from the student committing the assault. Assault for purposes of this section of this policy is defined as, when, without justification, a student does any of the following:

- an act which is intended to cause pain or injury to, or which is intended to result in physical contact which will be insulting or offensive to another, coupled with the apparent ability to execute the act; or
- any act which is intended to place another in fear of immediate physical contact which will be painful, injurious, insulting or offensive, coupled with the apparent ability to execute the act; or
- intentionally points any firearm toward another or displays in a threatening manner any dangerous weapon toward another.

The act is not an assault when the person doing any of the above and the other person are voluntary participants in a sport, social or other activity, not in itself criminal, when the act is a reasonably foreseeable incident of such sport or activity, and does not create an unreasonable risk of serious injury or breach of the peace.

Removal from the classroom means a student is sent to the building principal's office. It is within the discretion of the person in charge of the classroom to remove the student.

STUDENT CONDUCT

Detention means the student's presence is required during non-school hours for disciplinary purposes. The student can be required to appear prior to the beginning of the school day, after school has been dismissed for the day, or on a non-school day. Whether a student will serve detention, and the length of the detention, is within the discretion of the licensed employee disciplining the student or the building principal.

Suspension means; either an in-school suspension, an out-of-school suspension, a restriction from activities or loss of eligibility. An in-school suspension means the student will attend school but will be temporarily isolated from one or more classes while under supervision. An in-school suspension will not exceed ten consecutive school days. An out-of-school suspension means the student is removed from the school environment, which includes school classes and activities. An out-of-school suspension will not exceed ten consecutive school days. A restriction from school activities means a student will attend school and classes and practice but will not participate in school activities.

Probation means a student is given a conditional suspension of a penalty for a definite period of time in addition to being reprimanded. The conditional suspension will mean the student must meet the conditions and terms for the suspension of the penalty. Failure of the student to meet these conditions and terms will result in immediate reinstatement of the penalty.

Expulsion means an action by the board to remove a student from the school environment, which includes, but is not limited to, classes and activities, for a period of time set by the board.

Discipline of special education students, including suspensions and expulsions, will comply with the provisions of applicable federal and state laws.

It is the responsibility of the superintendent, in conjunction with the principal, to develop administrative regulations regarding this policy.

Legal Reference: Goss v. Lopez, 419 U.S. 565 (1975).
Brands v. Sheldon Community School District, 671 F. Supp. 627 (N.D. Iowa 1987).
Sims v. Colfax Comm. School Dist., 307 F. Supp. 485 (Iowa 1970).
Bunger v. Iowa High School Athletic Assn., 197 N.W.2d 555 (Iowa 1972).
Board of Directors of Ind. School Dist. of Waterloo v. Green, 259 Iowa 1260, 147 N.W.2d 854 (1967).
 Iowa Code §§ 279.8; 282.3, 282.4, 282.5; 708.1
 281 I.A.C. 12.3(6)

Cross Reference: 501 Student Attendance
 502 Student Rights and Responsibilities
 504 Student Activities
 603.3 Special Education
 903.5 Distribution of Materials

Approved 2/17

Reviewed 1/17

Revised _____

STUDENT SUSPENSION

Administrative Action

A. Probation

1. Probation is conditional suspension of a penalty for a set period of time. Probation may be imposed by the principal for infractions of school rules which do not warrant the necessity of removal from school.
2. The principal will conduct an investigation of the allegations against the student prior to imposition of probation. The investigation will include, but not be limited to, written or oral notice to the student of the allegations against the student and an opportunity to respond. Written notice and reasons for the probation will be sent to the parents.

B. In-School Suspension

1. In-school suspension is the temporary isolation of a student from one or more classes while under administrative supervision. In-school suspensions may be imposed by the principal for infractions of school rules which are serious but which do not warrant the necessity of removal from school.
2. The principal will conduct an investigation of the allegations against the student prior to imposition of an in-school suspension. The investigation will include, but not be limited to, written or oral notice to the student of the allegations against the student and an opportunity to respond. In-school suspension will not be imposed for more than ten school days. Written notice and reasons for the in-school suspension will be sent to the student's parents.

C. Out-of-School Suspension

1. Out-of-school suspension is the removal of a student from the school environment for periods of short duration. Out-of-school suspension is to be used when other available school resources are unable to constructively remedy student misconduct.
2. A student may be suspended out of school for up to ten school days by a principal for a commission of gross or repeated infractions of school rules, regulations, policy or the law, or when the presence of the student will cause interference with the maintenance of the educational environment or the operation of the school. The principal may suspend students after conducting an investigation of the charges against the student, giving the student:
 - a. Oral or written notice of the allegations against the student and
 - b. The opportunity to respond to those charges.

At the principal's discretion, the student may be allowed to confront witnesses against the student or present witnesses on behalf of the student.

STUDENT SUSPENSION

3. Notice of the out-of-school suspension will be mailed no later than the end of the school day following the suspension to the student's parents and the superintendent. A reasonable effort is made to personally notify the student's parents and such effort is documented by the person making or attempting to make the contact. Written notice to the parents will include the circumstances which led to the suspension and a copy of the board policy and rules pertaining to the suspension.

D. Suspensions and Special Education Students

1. Students who have been identified as special education students may be referred for a review of the student's Individual Education Program (IEP). The IEP may be revised to include a continuum of intervention strategies and programming to change the behavior.
2. Students who have not been identified as special education students may be referred for evaluation after the student's suspension to determine whether the student has a disability and is in need of special education.

Approved 2/17

Reviewed 1/17

Revised _____

EXPULSION

Only the board may remove a student from the school environment. The removal of a student from the school environment, which includes, but is not limited to, classes and activities, is an expulsion from school.

Students may be expelled for violations of board policy, school rules or the law. It is within the discretion of the board to discipline a student by using an expulsion for a single offense or for a series of offenses depending on the nature of the offense and the circumstances surrounding the offense.

It is within the discretion of the superintendent to recommend to the board the expulsion of a student for disciplinary purposes. Only the board may take action to expel a student and to readmit the student. The principal will keep records of expulsions in addition to the board's records.

When a student is recommended for expulsion by the board, the student is provided with:

1. Notice of the reasons for the proposed expulsion;
2. The names of the witnesses and an oral or written report on the facts to which each witness testifies unless the witnesses are students whose names may be released at the discretion of the superintendent;
3. An opportunity to present a defense against the charges and provide either oral testimony or written affidavits of witnesses on the student's behalf;
4. The right to be represented by counsel; and,
5. The results and finding of the board in writing open to the student's inspection.

In addition to these procedures, a special education student must be provided with additional procedures. A determination should be made of whether the student is actually guilty of the misconduct. A staffing team should determine whether the student's behavior is caused by the student's disability and whether the conduct is the result of inappropriate placement. Discussions and conclusions of this meeting should be recorded.

If the special education student's conduct is not caused by the disability, the student may be expelled or suspended for a long-term period following written notice to the parent and pursuant to the school district's expulsion hearing procedures. If the misconduct is caused by the disability and a change in placement is recommended, the change must be made pursuant to the placement procedures used by the school district.

Legal Reference: Goss v. Lopez, 419 U.S. 565 (1975).
Wood v. Strickland, 420 U.S. 308 (1975).
Southeast Warren Comm. School District v. Dept. of Public Instruction, 285 N.W.2d 173 (Iowa 1979).
 Iowa Code §§ 21.5; 282.3, .4, .5 (2013).
 281 I.A.C. 12.3(6).

Cross Reference: 502 Student Rights and Responsibilities
 503 Student Discipline

Approved 2/17

Reviewed 1/17

Revised _____

FINES - FEES - CHARGES

The board believes students should respect school district property and assist in its preservation for future use by others. Students may be assessed fines, charges, or fees for the materials needed in a course, for overdue school materials, for participating in activities, or for misuse of school property.

The superintendent will inform the board of the dollar amount to be charged to students or others for fines, charges, or fees annually. Parents of students meeting specific financial eligibility standards will be eligible for a waiver of student fees or a reduction of student fees based upon the request of the parent. It is the responsibility of the superintendent, in conjunction with the principal, to develop administrative regulations regarding this policy.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 256.7(20); 279.8; 280.10, .11; 282.6; 285.1; 301.1 (2013).
281 I.A.C. 18.2.
1994 Op. Att'y Gen. 23.
1990 Op. Att'y Gen. 79.
1982 Op. Att'y Gen. 227.
1980 Op. Att'y Gen. 532.

Cross Reference: 501.16 Homeless Children & Youth
502 Student Rights and Responsibilities
503 Student Discipline

Approved 2/17

Reviewed 1/17

Revised _____

STUDENT FEE WAIVER AND REDUCTION PROCEDURES

The board recognizes that while certain fees charged students are appropriate and authorized, certain students and their families are not financially able to pay the fees. The school district will grant either full waivers, partial waivers or temporary waivers depending upon the circumstances and the student or student's parents' ability to meet the financial criteria.

- A. Waivers -
 - 1. Full Waivers - a student will be granted a full waiver of fees charged by the school district if the student or student's parents meet the financial eligibility criteria for free meals under the Child Nutrition program, Family Investment Program, or transportation assistance under open enrollment. Students in foster care are also eligible for full waivers.
 - 2. Partial Waivers - a student will be granted a partial waiver of fees charged by the school district if the student or the student's parents meet the financial eligibility criteria for reduced price meals offered under the Child Nutrition program. A partial waiver is based on the same percentage as the reduced price meals.
 - 3. Temporary Waivers - a student may be eligible for a temporary waiver of fees charged by the district in the event the student's parents are facing financial difficulty. Temporary waivers may be applied for at any time throughout the school year and will not extend beyond the end of the school year.
- B. Application - Parents or students eligible for a fee waiver will make an application on the form provided by the school district. Applications may be made at any time but must be renewed annually.
- C. Confidentiality - The school district will treat the application and application process as any other student record and student confidentiality and access provisions will be followed.
- D. Appeals - Denials of a waiver may be appealed to the superintendent of schools.
- E. Fines or charges assessed for damage or loss to school property are not fees and will not be waived.
- F. Notice - the school district will annually notify parents and students of the waiver. The following information will be included in registration materials.

Students whose families meet the income guidelines for free and reduced price lunch, the Family Investment Program (FIP), or transportation assistance under open enrollment, or who are in foster care are eligible to have their student fees waived or partially waived. Students whose families are experiencing a temporary financial difficulty may be eligible for a temporary waiver of student fees. Parents or students who believe they may qualify for temporary financial hardship should contact the principal for a waiver form. This waiver does not carry over from year to year and must be completed annually.

Approved 2/17

Reviewed 1/17

Revised _____

GOOD CONDUCT RULE

Participation in school activities is a privilege. School activities provide the benefits of promoting additional interests and abilities in the students during their school years and for their lifetimes.

Students who participate in extracurricular activities serve as ambassadors of the school district throughout the calendar year, whether away from school or at school. Students who wish to have the privilege of participating in extracurricular activities must conduct themselves in accordance with board policy and must refrain from activities which are illegal, immoral or unhealthy.

Students who fail to abide by this policy and the administrative regulations supporting it may be subject to disciplinary measures. The principal will keep records of violations of the good conduct rule.

It is the responsibility of the superintendent and principals to develop rules and regulations for school activities. These rules and regulations will be spelled out in the student handbook which will be reviewed annually with students. Students wanting to participate in school activities must meet the requirements set out by the school district for participation in the activity.

Legal Reference: Bunger v. Iowa High School Athletic Assn., 197 N.W.2d 555 (Iowa 1972).
 In re Jason Clark, 1 D.P.I. App. Dec. 167 (1978).
 Iowa Code §§ 280.13, .13A (2013).
 281 I.A.C. 12.3(6); 36.15(1).

Cross Reference: 502 Student Rights and Responsibilities
 503 Student Discipline
 504 Student Activities

Approved 2/17

Reviewed 1/17

Revised

CORPORAL PUNISHMENT

Corporal punishment is defined as the intentional physical punishment of a student and is prohibited. It includes the use of unreasonable or unnecessary physical force or physical contact made with the intent to harm or cause pain. No employee is prohibited from:

- Using reasonable and necessary force, not designed or intended to cause pain, in order to accomplish any of the following:
 - To quell a disturbance or prevent an act that threatens physical harm to any person.
 - To obtain possession of a weapon or other dangerous object within a pupil's control.
 - For the purposes of self-defense or defense of others as provided for in Iowa Code section 704.3.
 - For the protection of property as provided for in Iowa Code section 704.4 or 704.5.
 - To remove a disruptive pupil from class or any area of school premises or from school-sponsored activities off school premises.
 - To protect a student from the self-infliction of harm.
 - To protect the safety of others.
- Using incidental, minor, or reasonable physical contact to maintain order and control.

Reasonable physical force should be commensurate with the circumstances of the situation. The following factors should be considered in using reasonable physical force for the reasons stated in this policy:

1. The size and physical, mental, and psychological condition of the student;
2. The nature of the student's behavior or misconduct provoking the use of physical force;
3. The instrumentality used in applying the physical force;
4. The extent and nature of resulting injury to the student, if any;
5. The motivation of the school employee using physical force.

Upon request, the student's parents are given an explanation of the reasons for physical force.

It is the responsibility of the superintendent to develop administrative regulations regarding this policy.

Legal Reference: Ingraham v. Wright, 430 U.S. 651 (1977).
 Goss v. Lopez, 419 U.S. 565 (1975).
 Tinkham v. Kole, 252 Iowa 1303, 110 N.W.2d 258 (1961).
 Lai v. Erickson, PTPC Admin. Doc. 83-12 (1983).
 Iowa Code §§ 279.8; 280.21 (2013).
 281 I.A.C. 12.3(6); 103.
 1980 Op. Att'y Gen. 275.

Cross Reference: 402.3 Abuse of Students by School District Employees
 502 Student Rights and Responsibilities
 503 Student Discipline

Approved 2/17

Reviewed 1/17

Revised _____

STUDENT GOVERNMENT

The student council provides for student activities, serves as a training experience for student leaders, promotes the common good, gives students a share in the management of the school, develops high ideals of personal conduct, acts as a clearinghouse for student activities, seeks to interest students in school district affairs and helps solve problems that may arise. Members of the council are student representatives who have direct access to the administration.

The principal, in conjunction with the students and licensed employees, will set forth the guidelines for the student government's elections, operations, and other elements of the government.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code § 279.8 (2013).

Cross Reference: 502 Student Rights and Responsibilities
504 Student Activities

Approved 2/17

Reviewed 1/17

Revised _____

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

Secondary school student-initiated, noncurriculum-related groups and student curriculum-related groups, upon receiving permission from the principal, may use school facilities for group meetings during non-instructional time.

Non-instructional time will mean any time before the first period of the day and after the last period of the day in which any student attends class. Meetings will not interfere with the orderly conduct of the education program or other school district operations. It is within the discretion of the principal to determine whether the meetings will interfere with the orderly conduct of the education program or other school district operations. Activities relating to and part of the education program will have priority over the activities of another organization.

Curriculum-Related Organizations

It will also be the responsibility of the principal to determine whether a student group is curriculum-related. One or more of the following questions will be answered affirmatively if the group is curriculum-related:

- Is the subject matter of the group actually taught in a regularly offered course?
- Will the subject matter of the group soon be taught in a regularly offered course?
- Does the subject matter of the group concern the body of courses as a whole?
- Is participation in the group required for a particular course?
- Does participation in the group result in academic credit?

Secondary school curriculum-related student organizations may use the school district facilities for meetings and other purposes before and after the instructional school day. Employees are assigned to monitor approved meetings and may interact with curriculum-related organizations.

Noncurriculum-Related Organizations

Student-initiated, noncurriculum-related organizations are provided access to meeting space and school district facilities.

Only students may attend and participate in meetings of noncurriculum-related groups. Such attendance is strictly voluntary and student-initiated. As a means of determining whether a student's attendance is voluntary, the principal may require parental consent for the student to attend the meetings.

Employees will be assigned to monitor approved meetings. Employees will not participate in the meeting or assist in planning, criticizing, or encouraging attendance. Only students may be involved in and attend the noncurriculum group's meetings.

It is the responsibility of the superintendent with the principal, to develop administrative regulations regarding this policy.

Legal Reference: Westside Community Board of Education v Mergens, 496 U.S. 226 (1990).
Bender v. Williamsport Area Community School District, 741 F.2d 538 (3d Cir. 1984), *vacated and remanded on other grounds*, 475 U.S. 534 (1986).
 20 U.S.C. §§ 4071-4074 (2012). Iowa Code §§ 287.1-.3; 297.9 (2013).

Cross Reference: 502 Student Rights and Responsibilities
 504 Student Activities

Approved 2/17

Reviewed 1/17

Revised _____

STUDENT PUBLICATIONS

Students may produce official publications as part of the curriculum under the supervision of a faculty advisor and the principal. Official school publications include material produced in the journalism, newspaper, yearbook, or writing classes and distributed to the student body either free or for a fee.

Any expression made by students, including student expression in official school publications, is not an expression of official school policy. The school district, the board, and the employees of officials are not liable in any civil or criminal action for any student expression made or published by students unless the employees or officials have interfered with or altered the content of the student speech or expression. The liability, if any, is only to the extent of the interference or alteration of the speech or expression.

Official school publications are free from prior restraint by employees of officials except as provided by law. A faculty advisor will supervise student writers to maintain professional standards of English and journalism and to comply with the law including, but not limited to, the restrictions against unlawful speech. The production of official school publications is guided by the law and by the ethical standards adopted by professional associations or societies of journalism.

Person, other than students, who believe they have been aggrieved by student expression in a student-produced official school publication will follow the grievance procedure outlines in board policy 214.1. Students who believe their freedom of expression in a student-produced official school publication has been restricted will follow the grievance outlines in board policy 502.6.

The superintendent is responsible for developing a student publications code. This code will include, but not be limited to, reasonable rules including time, place and manner of restrictions. The superintendent will also be responsible for distributing this policy and the student publications code to the students and their parents.

Legal Reference: Hazelwood School District v. Kuhlmeier, 484 U.S. 260 (1988).
Bystrom v. Fridley High School, 822 F.2d 747 (8th Cir. 1987)
Iowa Code § 280.22 (2013).

Cross Reference: 309 Communication Channels
502 Student Rights and Responsibilities
504 Student Activities
903.5 Distribution of Material

Approved 2/17

Reviewed 1/17

Revised _____

STUDENT PUBLICATIONS CODE

A. Official school publications defined.

An "official school publication" is material produced by students in the journalism, newspaper, yearbook, or writing classes and distributed to students either free or for a fee.

B. Expression in an official school publication.

1. No student will express, publish or distribute in an official school publication material which is:
 - a. obscene;
 - b. libelous;
 - c. slanderous; or
 - d. encourages students to:
 - 1) commit unlawful acts;
 - 2) violate school rules;
 - 3) cause the material and substantial disruption of the orderly and efficient operation of the school or school activity;
 - 4) disrupt or interfere with the education program;
 - 5) interrupt the maintenance of a disciplined atmosphere; or
 - 6) infringe on the rights of others.
2. The official school publication is produced under the supervision of a faculty advisor.

C. Responsibilities of students.

1. Students writing or editing official school publications will assign and edit the news, editorial and feature contents of the official school publications subject to the limitations of the student publications code and the law.
2. Students will strive to achieve professional standards of accuracy, fairness, objectivity and thoroughness in each and every aspect of official school publications.
3. Students will strive to achieve professional standards of grammar, usage, punctuation and spelling for clarity and accuracy of official school publications.

D. Responsibilities of faculty advisors.

Faculty advisors will supervise student writers to maintain professional standards of English and journalism and to comply with the law including, but not limited to, the restrictions against unlawful speech.

E. Liability.

Student expression in an official school publication will not be deemed to be an expression of the school district. The school district, the board, and the employees or officials are not liable in any civil or criminal action for any student expression made or published by students unless the employees or officials have interfered with or altered the content of the student expression. The liability, if any, is only to be the extent of interference or alteration of the speech or expression.

F. Appeal procedure.

1. Students who believe they have been unreasonably restricted in their exercise of expression in an official student publication will seek review of the decision through the student grievance procedure, under board policy 502.4.
2. Persons who believe they have been aggrieved by a student-produced official student publication will file their complaint through the citizen grievance procedure, under board policy 213.

Approved 2/17Reviewed 1/17

Revised _____

STUDENT PERFORMANCES

Students, as part of the education program, may participate in contests or other public and private events approved by the superintendent that will be of benefit to the student and the education program. Performance at such events is a privilege.

Students, who perform at such events, serve as ambassadors of the school district and must conduct themselves in the same manner as required in the regular school day. Students who fail to abide by this policy and the administrative regulations supporting it may be subject to disciplinary measures.

Students will be allowed to perform in these events only with proper permission and supervision and when the events do not disrupt the education program or other school district operations. The events must be approved by the superintendent, unless it involves unusual travel and expense, in which case the board must approve of the performance.

It is the responsibility of the superintendent, in conjunction with the principal, to develop administrative regulations regarding this policy. In developing the administrative regulations, these guidelines should be followed:

- Performances by student groups below the high school level should be allowed on a very limited basis;
- All groups of students should have an opportunity to participate; and,
- Extensive travel by one group of students should be discouraged.

It is within the discretion of the superintendent to determine whether the event will benefit the education program and the participating students. Contests or other performances by students unapproved by the superintendent are the responsibility of the parent and the student.

Legal Reference: Hazelwood School District v. Kuhlmeier, 484 U.S. 260 (1988).
Iowa Code §§ 280.13-.14 (2013).
281 I.A.C. 12.6.

Cross Reference: 502 Student Rights and Responsibilities
503.4 Good Conduct Rule
504 Student Activities
904 Community Activities Involving Students

Approved 2/17

Reviewed 1/17

Revised _____

STUDENT FUND RAISING

Students may raise funds for school-sponsored events with the permission of the superintendent. Fundraising by students for events other than school-sponsored events is not allowed. Collection boxes for school fund raising must have prior approval from the superintendent before being placed on school property.

It is the responsibility of the superintendent, in conjunction with the principal, to develop administrative regulations regarding this policy.

Legal Reference: Senior Class of Pekin High School v. Tharp, 154 N.W.2d 874 (Iowa 1967).
Iowa Code § 279.8 (2013).

Cross Reference: 502 Student Rights and Responsibilities
503 Student Discipline
504 Student Activities
704.5 Student Activities Fund
905.2 Advertising and Promotion

Approved 2/17

Reviewed 1/17

Revised _____

STUDENT ACTIVITY PROGRAM

Participation in school activities is a privilege. School activities provide the benefits of promoting additional interests and ability in the students during their school years and for their lifetime.

Students will have an opportunity to participate in a school activity unless the activity is not offered or the student cannot participate for disciplinary reasons. If the activity is an intramural or interscholastic athletic activity, students of the opposite sex will have a comparable opportunity for participation. Comparable opportunity does not guarantee boys and girls will be allowed to play on each other's teams when there are athletic activities available that will allow both boys and girls to reap the benefits of school activities, which are the promotion of additional interests and abilities in the students.

Student activity events must be approved by the superintendent unless they involve unusual travel expense, in which case the board will take action. The events must not disrupt the education program or other school district operations.

A junior or senior high student who participates in school sponsored athletics may participate in a non-school sponsored sport during the same season with approval of the superintendent, high school principal or activities director.

Such outside participation shall not conflict with the school sponsored athletic activity.

Violations of the districts policy will be subject to the following sanctions;

1st offense – Loss of 2 extracurricular events

2nd offense – Loss of 1 year eligibility

It is the responsibility of the superintendent to develop administrative regulations for each school activity. These regulations will include, but not be limited to, when physical examinations will be required, how and when parents will be informed about the risk of the activity, academic requirements, and proof of insurance on the student participating in certain activities. Students wanting to participate in school activities must meet the requirements set out by the school district for participation in the activity.

Legal Reference: 20 U.S.C. §§ 1681-1683; 1685-1686 (2012).
34 C.F.R. Pt. 106.41 (2012).
Iowa Code §§ 216.9; 280.13-.14 (2013).
281 I.A.C. 12.3(6), 12.6., 36.15(7).

Cross Reference: 501 Student Attendance
502 Student Rights and Responsibilities
503 Student Discipline
504 Student Activities
507 Student Health and Well-Being

Approved 2/17

Reviewed 1/17

Revised _____

STUDENT PROGRESS REPORTS AND CONFERENCES

Students may receive a progress report at the end of each nine-week grading period by accessing the school districts electronic website. Students, who are doing poorly, and their parents, are notified prior to the end of the semester in order to have an opportunity to improve their grade. The board encourages the notification of students who have made marked improvement prior to the end of the semester.

Parent-teacher conferences may be held to keep the parents informed.

Parents, teachers, or principals may request a conference for students in grades preschool through twelve in addition to the scheduled conference time. Parents and students are encouraged to discuss the student's progress or other matters with the student's teacher.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 256.11, .11A; 280, 284.12 (2013).
281 I.A.C. 12.3(4), .5(16).

Cross Reference: 505 Student Scholastic Achievement
506 Education Records

Approved 2/17

Reviewed 1/17

Revised _____

STUDENT PROMOTION - RETENTION - ACCELERATION

Students will be promoted to the next grade level at the end of each school year based on the student's achievement, age, maturity, emotional stability, and social adjustment.

The district shall adhere to the following:

- **Retention/Promotion in kindergarten – eighth grade:** The retention of a student will be determined based upon the judgment of the district's professional staff. When it becomes evident a student in grades kindergarten through eight may be retained in a grade level for an additional year, the parents will be informed prior to making the retention decision. It is within the sole discretion of the district to retain students in their current grade level and to deny promotion to a student.
- **Retention/Promotion in ninth – twelfth grade:** Students in grades nine through twelve will be informed of the required course work necessary to be promoted each year. When it becomes evident a student in these grades will be unable to meet the minimum credit requirements for the year, the student and parents will be informed. It is within the sole discretion of the district to retain students in their current grade level and to deny promotion to a student.
- **Acceleration in kindergarten – twelfth grade:** Students in grades kindergarten through twelve with exceptional talents may, with the permission of the principal and parents, take classes beyond their current grade level. Enrichment opportunities outside the school district may be allowed when they do not conflict with the school district's graduation requirements.
- **Retention or Acceleration in kindergarten – twelfth grade** may also occur in additional instances as provided by law.

Any student or parent who is not satisfied with the decision of the district's professional staff may seek recourse through policy 502.4 – *Student Complaints and Grievances*.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 256.11, 279.8.
281 I.A.C. 12.5(16).

Cross Reference: 501 Student Attendance
505 Student Scholastic Achievement
603.2 Summer School Instruction

Approved 2/17

Reviewed 1/17

Revised _____

STUDENT HONORS AND AWARDS

The Rock Valley Community School District will provide a program that establishes student honors and awards including, but not limited to, academic awards, scholarships and good citizenship awards to assist students in setting goals. Students are made aware of honors and awards and the action necessary on the part of the student to achieve them.

Students who have not attended an accredited public or private school are not eligible for honors and awards associated with graduation (i.e. scholarships, academic honors, class rank, etc.) unless they have attended the Rock Valley Community School District for their entire two semesters of their senior year.

It is the responsibility of the superintendent to develop the administrative regulations regarding this policy.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code § 279.8 (2013).

Cross Reference: 504 Student Activities
505 Student Scholastic Achievement

Approved 2/17

Reviewed 1/17

Revised _____

TESTING PROGRAM

A comprehensive testing program is established and maintained to evaluate the education program of the school district and to assist in providing guidance or counseling services to students and their families.

No student is required, as part of any applicable program, funded by the United States Department of Education, to submit to a survey, analysis or evaluation that reveals information concerning:

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

without the prior consent of the student (if the student is an adult or emancipated minor), or in the case of an unemancipated minor, without the prior written consent of the parent.

It is the responsibility of the superintendent, in conjunction with the principal, to develop administrative regulations regarding this policy.

It is the responsibility of the board to review and approve the evaluation and testing program.

Legal Reference: 20 U.S.C. § 1232h
Iowa Code §§ 280.3

Cross Reference: 505 Student Scholastic Achievement
506 Education Records
607.2 Student Health Services

Approved 2/17

Reviewed 1/17

Revised _____

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Students must successfully complete the courses required by the board and Iowa Department of Education in order to graduate.

It is the responsibility of the superintendent to ensure that student's complete grades one through twelve and that high school students complete 48 credits prior to graduation. The following credits will be required:

<u>Subject</u>	<u>Current</u>
English	8
Science	6
Mathematics	6
Social Studies	6
Life Skills	1
Physical Education	4
Electives	<u>17</u>
	48

The required courses of study will be reviewed by the board annually.

Graduation requirements for special education students will be in accordance with the prescribed course of study as described in their Individualized Education Program (IEP). Each student's IEP will include a statement of the projected date of graduation at least 18 months in advance of the projected date and the criteria to be used in determining whether graduation will occur. Prior to the special education student's graduation, the IEP team will determine whether the graduation criteria have been met.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 256.11, .11A; 279.8; 280.3, .14 (2013).
281 I.A.C. 12.2; .5; 12.3(5).

Cross Reference: 505 Student Scholastic Achievement
603.3 Special Education

Approved 2/17

Reviewed 1/17

Revised _____

EARLY GRADUATION

Generally, students will be required to complete the necessary course work and graduate from high school at the end of grade twelve. Students may graduate prior to this time if they meet the minimum graduation requirements stated in board policy.

A student who graduates early will no longer be considered a student and will become an alumnus of the school district. However, the student who graduates early may participate in commencement/awards exercises.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 279.8; 280.3, (2013).
281 I.A.C. 12.2; .5; 12.3(5)

Cross Reference: 505 Student Scholastic Achievement

Approved 2/17

Reviewed 1/17

Revised _____

COMMENCEMENT

Students who have successfully completed all graduation requirements taken through the first semester of their senior year will be allowed to participate in commencement exercises. Participation in commencement does not represent completion of requirements to receive a high school diploma.

It is the responsibility of the principal to solicit input from each graduating class regarding the proceedings for their commencement. Failure of a student to participate in commencement will not be a reason for withholding the student's final progress report or diploma certifying the student's completion of high school.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 279.8; 280.3, .14 (2013).
281 I.A.C. 12.5

Cross Reference: 505 Student Scholastic Achievement

Approved 2/17

Reviewed 1/17

Revised _____

PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT

Parental involvement is an important component in a student's success in school. The board encourages parents to become involved in their child's education to ensure the child's academic success. The board will:

- (1) involve parents in the development of the Title I plan by reviewing the plan on an annual basis with members of the District Leadership Team. Improvements suggested by this group will be reviewed by the Administration and approved by the Board of Education;
- (2) provide the coordination, technical assistance and other support necessary to assist participating schools in planning and implementing effective parent involvement activities to improve student achievement and school performance. The elementary principal will be responsible for the coordination of the Title I program. The elementary principal will contact representatives of all eligible schools in the district to provide them information and assistance in implementing effective parent involvement activities. A report of progress in student achievement and school performance will be made to the Board and public on an annual basis;
- (3) build the schools and parents' capacity for strong parental involvement by providing an informational handout explaining Title I services. A contract will be used to specifically state responsibilities by parents, students, teachers, and administrators of Title I students. Title I parents as well as other parents will be encouraged to become active in programs through an established Parent Volunteer Program. Parent/teacher conferences are used to inform all parents of progress and to outline ways to involve parents in a supportive role.
- (4) coordinate and integrate parental involvement strategies under Title I with other programs. The elementary principal will review other programs, seek to implement those that are applicable, and involve the Board in establishment of such programs;
- (5) review annually evaluation surveys of the content and effectiveness of the parental involvement policy in improving the academic quality of the school served. This survey will help to identify barriers to greater participation by parents in Title I activities. Low-income parents, limited English proficient parents, minority parents, parents with disabilities, and parents with low ability will be included in the survey to determine strategies to positively affect parental involvement; and
- (6) assure that parents are involved in Title I activities as they are with all other educational activities provided by the school district.

The board will review this policy annually. The superintendent is responsible for notifying parents of this policy annually or within a reasonable time after it has been amended during the school year. It is the responsibility of the superintendent to develop administrative regulations regarding this policy

Legal References: 20 U.S.C. § 6318

Cross References: 903.2 Community Resource Persons and Volunteers

Approved 2/17

Reviewed 1/17

Revised _____

EDUCATION RECORDS ACCESS

The board recognizes the importance of maintaining education records and preserving their confidentiality as provided by law. Education records are kept confidential at collection, storage, disclosure and destruction stages. The board secretary is the custodian of education records. Education records may be maintained in the central administration office or administrative office of the student's attendance center.

Definitions

For the purposes of this policy, the defined words have the following meaning:

- “Education Record” means those records that contain information directly related to a student and which are maintained by an education agency or institution or by a party acting for the agency or institution.
- “Eligible Student” means a student who has reached eighteen years or attends a postsecondary institution. Parents of an eligible student are provided access to education records only with the written permission of the eligible student unless the eligible student is defined as a dependent by the Internal Revenue Code. In that case, the parents may be provided access without the written permission of the student.

An education record may contain information on more than one student. Parents will have the right to access the information relating to their student or to be informed of the information. Eligible students will also have the right to access the information relating to themselves, or be informed if the information.

Parents, eligible students and other individuals authorized in accordance with law will have a right to access to the student's education upon request without unnecessary delay and in no instance more than forty-five calendar days after the request is made. Parents, other than parents of an eligible student, may be denied access to a student's records if the school district has a court order stating such or when the district has been advised under the appropriate laws that the parents may not access the education records. Parents, an eligible student or an authorized representative of the parents will have the right to access the student's education records prior to an Individualized Education Program (IEP) meeting or hearing.

Copies of education records will be provided if failure to do so would effectively prevent the parents or student from exercising the right to access the education records. Fees for copies of the records are waived if it would prevent the parents or student from accessing the records. A fee may not be charged to search or retrieve information from education records.

Upon the request of parents or an eligible student, the school district will provide an explanation and interpretation of the education records and a list of the types and locations of education records collected, maintained or used by the school district.

If the parents or an eligible student believes the information in the education records is inaccurate, misleading or violates the privacy of the student, the parents or an eligible student may request that the school district amend the education records.

EDUCATION RECORDS ACCESS

Education records may be disclosed in limited circumstances without parental or eligible student's written permission. This disclosure is made on the condition that the education record will not be disclosed to a third party without the written permission of the parents or the eligible student. This disclosure may be:

- To school officials within the school district and AEA personnel whom the superintendent has determined to have a legitimate educational interest, including, but not limited to, board members, employees, school attorney, auditor, health professionals, and individuals serving on official school committees;
- To officials of another school district in which the student wishes to enroll, provided the other school district notifies the parents the education records are being sent and the parents have an opportunity to receive a copy of the records and challenge the contents of the records unless the annual notification includes a provision that records will automatically be transferred to new school districts;
- To the U.S. Comptroller General, the U.S. Attorney General, the U.S. Secretary of Education or state and local educational authorities;
- In connection with a student's application for, or receipt of, financial aid;
- To organizations conducting educational studies for, or on the behalf of, educational agencies or institutions for the purpose of developing, validating or administering predictive tests, administering student aid programs, and improving instruction, if such studies are conducted in such a manner as will not permit the personal identification of students and their parents by persons other than representatives of such organizations and such information will be destroyed when no longer needed for the purpose for which it was conducted;
- To accrediting organizations;
- To parents of a dependent student as defined in the Internal Revenue Code;
- To comply with a court order or judicially issued subpoena;
- In connection with a health or safety emergency;
- As directory information; or
- In additional instances as provided by law

The superintendent will keep a list of the individuals and their positions who are authorized to view a special education student's education records without the permission of the parents or the eligible student. Individuals not listed are not allowed access without parental or an eligible student's written permission. This list must be current and available for public inspection and updated as changes occur.

The superintendent will also keep a list of individuals, agencies and organizations which have requested or obtained access to a student's education records, the date access was given and their legitimate educational interest or purpose for which they were authorized to view the records. The superintendent, however, does not need to keep a list of the parents, authorized educational employees, officers and agencies of the school district who have accessed the student's education records. This list for an education record may be accessed by the parents, the eligible student and the custodian of education records.

Permanent education records, including a student's name, address, phone number, grades, attendance record, classes attended, grade level completed and year completed may be maintained without time limitation. Permanent education records will be kept in a fire-safe vault or they may be maintained with a secure backup file.

EDUCATION RECORDS ACCESS

When personally identifiable information, other than permanent education records, is no longer needed to provide educational services to a special education student, the parents or eligible student are notified. This notice is normally given after a student graduates or otherwise leaves the school district. If the parents or eligible student request that the personally identifiable information be destroyed, the school district will destroy the records, except for the permanent records. Prior to the destruction of the records, the school district must inform the parents or eligible student as the records may be needed by the parents or eligible student for social security benefits or other purposes. For purposes of policy, “no longer needed to provide educational services” means that a record is no longer relevant to the provision of instruction, support, or related services and it is no longer needed for accountability and audit purposes. At a minimum, a record needed for accountability and audit purposes must be retained for five years after completion of the activity for which the funds were used.

The school district will cooperate with the juvenile justice system in sharing information contained in permanent education records regarding students who have become involved with the juvenile justice system. The school district will enter into an interagency agreement with the juvenile justice agencies (agencies) involved.

The school district will provide training or instruction to employees about parents' and eligible students' rights under this policy. Employees will also be informed about the procedures for carrying out this policy. It is the responsibility of the superintendent to annually notify parents and eligible students that they have the right to:

- (1) Inspect and review the student's education records;
- (2) Seek amendment of the student's education records that the parent or eligible student believes to be inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the student's privacy rights;
- (3) Consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in the student's education records, except to the extent that the law authorizes disclosure without consent; and
- (4) File a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the district to comply with the law.

The notice is given in a parents' or eligible student's native language. Should the school district collect personal information from students for the purposes of marketing or selling that information, the school district will annually notify parents of such activity.

The notice will include a statement that the parents have a right to file a complaint alleging the school district failed to comply with this policy. Complaints are forwarded to Family Policy Compliance Office, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, Washington, DC. 20202-8520.

Legal Reference: 20 U.S.C. § 1232g, 1415.
34 C.F.R. Pt. 99, 300, .610 *et seq.*
Iowa Code §§ 22; 279.9B, 280.24, .25, 622.10
281 I.A.C. 12.3(4); 41
1980 Op. Att'y Gen. 720, 825.

Cross Reference: 501 Student Attendance
505 Student Scholastic Achievement
506 Education Records
507 Student Health and Well-Being
603.3 Special Education
708 Care, Maintenance and Disposal of School District Records
901 Public Examination of School District Records

Approved 2/17

Reviewed 1/17

Revised _____

EDUCATION RECORDS CHECKLIST

	Copy to Parent Upon Request	Parent Sig. Required**	User Must Sub. Written Reg.*	No Parent Sig. Required	Parent Notify in Advance	Parent Notify of Release	Req. Made Part of Stud. Rec.	Sche. Hearing Follows/wrtn. decision t/Par.	
Subpoena or Judicial Order				•	•				Lawfully Issued
Student Financial Aid				•					Written Request
School or Staff in Same School System				•					No Written Request Necessary
Other School System Where Student Plans to Enroll	•		•	•		•	•		506.1E2
United States Comptroller General			•	•			•		506.1E2
Dept. of Health, Education and Welfare Secretary			•	•			•		506.1E2
National Institute of Education			•	•			•		506.1E2
Iowa Dept. of Education Official			•	•			•		506.1E2
Parent Inspection of Student Educational Records	•	•							506.1E5
Parent Request for Hearing to Challenge Record		•						•	506.1E4
Parent Authorization for School to Release Information	•	•							506.1E3
Notification of Transfer of Education Records	•			•					506.1E6

*Such written request is available for inspection by the parent or student and the school official responsible for record maintenance.

**When a student has attained the age of 18 years or is attending an institution of post-secondary education, the permission or consent required of the rights accorded the parent of the student will thereafter be required of and accorded only to the student.

REQUEST OF NONPARENT FOR EXAMINATION OR COPIES OF EDUCATION RECORDS

The undersigned hereby requests permission to examine the _____ Community School District's official education records of:

(Legal Name of Student)

(Date of Birth)

The undersigned requests copies of the following official education records of the above student:

The undersigned certifies that they are (check one):

- (a) An official of another school system in which the student intends to enroll. ()
- (b) An authorized representative of the Comptroller General of the United States. ()
- (c) An authorized representative of the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Education or U.S. Attorney General ()
- (d) An administrative head of an education agency as defined in Section 408 of the Education Amendments of 1974. ()
- (e) An official of the Iowa Department of Education. ()
- (f) A person connected with the student's application for, or receipt of, financial aid ()

The undersigned agrees that the information obtained will only be redisclosed consistent with state or federal law without the written permission of the parents of the student, or the student if the student is of majority age.

(Signature)

(Title)

(Agency)

APPROVED:

Signature: _____

Title: _____

Dated: _____

Date: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ ZIP: _____

Phone Number: _____

ROCK VALLEY COMMUNITY SCHOOL
PARENTAL AUTHORIZATION FOR RELEASE INFORMATION
TO ANOTHER DISTRICT

Student's Name

Date of Birth

Address (Street/P.O. Box)

City/State/Zip

I hereby grant permission to the Rock Valley Community School to release information about my son or daughter to the following school:

The following information is requested to be transferred:

- A. Records of Academic Performance
- B. Attendance
- C. Standardized Test Results
- D. Health and Immunization Records
- E. Psychological Evaluation Reports
- F. All Special Education Records including IEP's

Parent/Guardian Signature

Today's Date

Rock Valley Community School
1712 20th Avenue
Rock Valley, IA 51247

Phone: (712) 476-2710

Fax: (712) 476 2125

ROCK VALLEY COMMUNITY SCHOOL
PARENTAL AUTHORIZATION FOR RELEASE INFORMATION
TO ROCK VALLEY COMMUNITY SCHOOL

Student's Name

Date of Birth

I hereby grant permission to the school office of:

to release information about my son or daughter to the Rock Valley Community School.

The following information is requested to be transferred:

- A. Records of Academic Performance
- B. Attendance
- C. Standardized Test Results
- D. Health and Immunization Records
- E. Psychological Evaluation Reports
- F. All Special Education Records including IEP's

Parent/Guardian Signature

Today's Date

Please send all records to:

Rock Valley Community School
1712 20th Avenue
Rock Valley, IA 51247

Phone: (712) 476-2710

Fax: (712) 476 2125

Thank you!

REQUEST FOR HEARING ON CORRECTION OF EDUCATION RECORDS

To: _____ Address: _____
Board Secretary (Custodian)

I believe certain official education records of my child, _____, (full legal name of student), _____ (school name), are inaccurate, misleading or in violation of privacy rights of my child.

The official education records which I believe are inaccurate, misleading or in violation of the privacy or other rights of my child are:

The reason I believe such records are inaccurate, misleading or in violation of the privacy or other rights of my child is:

My relationship to the child is: _____

I understand that I will be notified in writing of the time and place of the hearing; that I will be notified in writing of the decision; and I have the right to appeal the decision by so notifying the hearing officer in writing within ten days after my receipt of the decision or a right to place a statement in my child's record stating I disagree with the decision and why.

(Signature)

Date: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ ZIP _____

Phone Number: _____

REQUEST FOR EXAMINATION OF EDUCATION RECORDS

To: _____ Address: _____
Board Secretary (Custodian)

The undersigned desires to examine the following official education records.

of _____ , _____
(Full Legal Name of Student) (Date of Birth) (Grade)

(Name of School)

My relationship to the student is: _____

(check one)

- I do
- I do not

desire a copy of such records. I understand that a reasonable charge may be made for the copies.

(Parent's Signature)

APPROVED:

Signature: _____
Title: _____
Dated: _____

Date: _____
Address: _____
City: _____
State: _____ ZIP _____
Phone Number: _____

NOTIFICATION OF TRANSFER OF EDUCATION RECORDS

To: _____ Date: _____
Parent/or Guardian

Street Address: _____
City/State _____ ZIP: _____

Please be notified that copies of the _____ Community School District's official education records concerning _____, (full legal name of student) have been transferred to:

_____ School District Name _____ Address

upon the written statement that the student intends to enroll in said school system.

If you desire a copy of such records furnished, please check here _____ and return this form to the undersigned. A reasonable charge will be made for the copies.

If you believe such records transferred are inaccurate, misleading or otherwise in violation of the privacy or other rights of the student, you have the right to a hearing to challenge the contents of such records.

(Name)

(Title)

JUVENILE JUSTICE AGENCY INFORMATION SHARING AGREEMENT

Statement of Purpose: The purpose of this Agreement is to allow for the sharing of information among the School District and the Agencies prior to a student's adjudication in order to promote and collaborate to improve school safety, reduce alcohol and illegal drug use, reduce truancy, reduce in-school and out-of-school suspensions, and to support alternatives to in-school and out-of-school suspensions and expulsions which provide structured and well supervised educational programs supplemented by coordinated and appropriate services designed to correct behaviors that lead to truancy, suspension, and expulsions and to support students in successfully completing their education.

Identification of Agencies: This agreement is between [insert school district name] (hereinafter "School District") and [insert agency] (hereinafter "Agencies") .

Statutory Authority: This agreement implements Iowa Code § 280.25 and is consistent with 34 C.F.R. 99.38 (2012).

Parameters of Information Exchange:

1. The School District may share any information with the Agencies contained in a student's permanent record which is directly related to the juvenile justice system's ability to effectively serve the student.
2. Prior to adjudication information contained in the permanent record may be disclosed by the school district to the Agencies without parental consent or court order.
3. Information contained in a student's permanent record may be disclosed by the School District to the Agencies after adjudication only with parental consent or a court order.
4. Information shared pursuant to the agreement is used solely for determining the programs and services appropriate to the needs of the student or student's family or coordinating the delivery of programs and services to the student or student's family.
5. Information shared under the agreement is not admissible in any court proceedings which take place prior to a disposition hearing, unless written consent is obtained from a student's parent, guardian, or legal or actual custodian.
6. Information obtained by the school from other juvenile justice agencies may not be used as the basis for disciplinary action of the student.
7. This agreement only governs a school district's ability to share information and the purposes for which that information can be used. Other agencies are bound by their own respective confidentiality policies.

Records' Transmission: The individual requesting the information should contact the principal of the building in which the student is currently enrolled or was enrolled. The principal will forward the records within a reasonable time following receipt of the request.

Confidentiality: Confidential information shared between the Agencies and the school district will remain confidential and will not be shared with any other person, unless otherwise provided by law. Information shared under the agreement is not admissible in any court proceedings which take place prior to a disposition hearing, unless written consent is obtained from a student's parent. Agencies or individuals violating the terms of this agreement subject their entity represented and themselves personally to legal action pursuant to federal and state law.

JUVENILE JUSTICE AGENCY INFORMATION SHARING AGREEMENT

Amendments: This agreement constitutes the entire agreement among the agencies with respect to information sharing. Agencies may be added to this agreement at the discretion of the school district.

Term: This agreement is effective from [insert date].

Termination: The School District may discontinue information sharing with an Agency if the School District determines that the Agency has violated the intent or letter of this Agreement.

APPROVED:

Signature: _____	Address: _____
Title: _____	City: _____
Agency: _____	State: _____ ZIP _____
Dated: _____	Phone Number: _____

Signature: _____	Address: _____
Title: _____	City: _____
Agency: _____	State: _____ ZIP _____
Dated: _____	Phone Number: _____

Signature: _____	Address: _____
Title: _____	City: _____
Agency: _____	State: _____ ZIP _____
Dated: _____	Phone Number: _____

Signature: _____	Address: _____
Title: _____	City: _____
Agency: _____	State: _____ ZIP _____
Dated: _____	Phone Number: _____

ANNUAL NOTICE

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) affords parents and students over 18 years of age (“eligible students”) certain rights with respect to the student’s education records. They are:

- (1) They right to inspect and review the student’s education records within 45 days of the day the district receives a request for access.

Parents or eligible students should submit to the school principal (or appropriate school official) a written request that identifies the record(s) they wish to inspect. The principal (or appropriate school official) will make arrangements for access and notify the parent or eligible student of the time and place where the records may be inspected.

- (2) The right to request the amendment of the student’s education records that the parent or eligible student believes are inaccurate or misleading or in violation of the student’s privacy rights under FERPA.

Parents or eligible students who wish to ask school district to amend a record should write the school principal, clearly identify the part of the record they want changed, and specify why it should be changed.

If the district decides not to amend the record as requested by the parent or eligible students, the district will notify the parent or eligible student of the decision and advise them of their right to a hearing regarding the request of amendment. Additional information regarding the hearing procedures will be provided to the parent or eligible student when notified of the right to a hearing.

- (3) The right to consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in the student’s education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent.

One exception, which permits disclosure without consent is disclosure to school officials with legitimate educational interests. A school official is a person employed by the district as an administrator, supervisor, instructor, or support staff member (including health or medical staff and law enforcement unit personnel); a person serving on the school board. A school official also may include a volunteer or contractor outside of the school who performs an institutional service of function for which the school would otherwise use its own employees and who is under the direct control of the school with respect to the use and maintenance of PII from education records, such as an attorney, auditor, medical consultant, or therapist, a parent or student serving on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee or student assistance team, or assisting another school official in performing his or her tasks.

A school official has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibility.

Upon request, the district discloses education records without consent to officials of another school district in which a student seeks or intends to enroll or is already enrolled if the disclosure is for purposes of the student’s enrollment or transfer. (Note: FERPA requires a school district to make a reasonable attempt to notify the parent or eligible student of the records request unless it states in its annual notification that it intends to forward records on request.)

ANNUAL NOTICE

- (4) The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the district to comply with the requirements of FERPA. The name and address of the office that administers FERPA is:

Family Policy Compliance Office, U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Ave., SW, Washington, DC, 20202-4605

Approved 2/17

Reviewed 1/17

Revised _____

USE OF STUDENT RECORDS REGULATION

Parents and eligible students will have a right to access a student's education records upon request without unnecessary delay and in no instance more than forty-five calendar days after the request is made. The intent of this regulation is to establish procedures for granting requests from eligible students and parents to access a student's education records.

Education records mean those records that contain information directly related to a student and which are maintained by an education agency or institution or by a party acting for the agency or institution. These may include, but are not necessarily limited to: dates of attendance; academic work completed; level of achievement (grades, standardized test scores); attendance data; scores on standardized intelligence, aptitude, and psychological tests; interest inventory results; health data; family background information; teacher or counselor ratings and observations; and verified reports of serious or recurrent behavior patterns.

A. Access to Records

1. Parents, eligible students, and other individuals authorized in accordance with law will have access to the student's education records during the regular business hours of the school district. Parents and eligible students will have a right to access the student's education records upon request without unnecessary delay and in no instance more than forty-five calendar days after the request is made. An eligible student or parent, upon written request to the board secretary, shall receive an explanation and interpretation of the education records. A student, eighteen years or older, has the right to determine who, outside the school system, has access to the records. Parents of students who are 18 years or older but still dependents for income tax purposes may access the student's records without prior permission of the student.
2. School official having access to student records are defined as having a legitimate educational interest. A school official is a person employed by the school district as an administrator, supervisor, instructor or support staff member (including health or medical staff and law enforcement personnel); a person serving on the school board; a person or company with whom the school district has contracted to perform a special task (such as an attorney, auditor, AEA employee, medical consultant, or therapist); or a parent or student serving on an official committee, such as disciplinary or grievance committee or student assistance team, or assisting another school official in performing his or her tasks.

B. Release of Information Outside the School – Information from education records may be disclosed to outside parties as outlined in board policy and otherwise provided by law.

C. Procedures for Requesting a Record Amendment

1. If the eligible student, parent, or legal guardian believe the information in the education records is inaccurate, misleading, or violates the privacy of the student, the parents or an eligible student may request that the school district amend the education student records.
2. The school district will decide whether to amend the education student records within a reasonable time after receipt of the request.
3. If the school district determines an amendment is made to the education student record, the school district will make the amendment and inform the parents or the eligible student of the decision in writing.
4. If the school district determines that amendment of the student's education record is not appropriate, it will inform the parents or the eligible student of their right to a hearing before the hearing officer provided by the school district. The hearing officer may be an employee of the school district, so long as the employee does not have a direct interest in the outcome of the hearing.

USE OF STUDENT RECORDS REGULATION

5. Upon parental request, the school district will hold a hearing regarding the content of a student's education records which the parent believes to be inaccurate, misleading, or in violation of the privacy rights of students.
6. The hearing will be held within a reasonable time after receipt of the parent or eligible student's request. The parent or eligible student will receive reasonable advance notice of date, time and place of the hearing.
7. The parents or eligible student will be given a full and fair opportunity to present evidence relevant to the issues. The parent or eligible student may be represented by an individual at their choice at their own expense.
8. The hearing officer will render a written decision within a reasonable period after the hearing. The decision will be based upon evidence presented at the hearing and must include a summary of the evidence and the reasons for the decision.
9. The parents may appeal the hearing officer's decision to the superintendent within [redacted] days if the superintendent does not have a direct interest in the outcome of the hearing.
10. The parents may appeal the superintendent's decision or the hearing officer's decision if the superintendent was unable to hear the appeal, to the board within [redacted] days. It is within the discretion of the board to hear the appeal.
11. If the parents' and the eligible student's request to amend the education student record is further denied following the hearing, the parents or the eligible student are informed that they have a right to place an explanatory letter in the education student record commenting on the school district's decision or setting forth the reasoning for disagreeing with the school district. Additions to the student's education records will become a part of the education student record and be maintained like other education student records. If the school district discloses the education student records, the explanation by the parents will also be disclosed or the eligible student of the decision writing.

Approved 2/17

Reviewed 1/17

Revised _____

STUDENT DIRECTORY INFORMATION

Student directory information is designed to be used internally within the school district. Directory information is contained in the education records of a student that would not generally be considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if disclosed. The district may disclose “directory information” to third parties without consent if it has give public notice of the types of information which it has designated as “directory information,” the parent’s or eligible student’s rights to restrict the disclosure of such information, and the period of time within which a parent or eligible student has to notify the school in writing that he or she does not want any or all of those types of information designated “directory information.” The district has designated the following as “directory information”:

- Student’s name
- Photograph
- Date and place of birth
- Dates of attendance
- Grade level
- Participation in officially recognized activities and sports
- Weight and height of members of athletic teams
- Degrees, honors, and awards received
- The most recent educational agency or institution attended

Student is defined as an enrolled individual, PK-12 including children in school district sponsored child-care programs.

Prior to developing a student directory or to giving general information to the public, parents (including parents of students open enrolled out of the school district and parents of children home schooled in the school district) will be given notice annually of the intent to develop a directory or to give out general information and have the opportunity to deny the inclusion of their child's information in the directory or in the general information about the students.

It is the responsibility of the superintendent to provide notice and to determine the method of notice that will inform parents.

Legal Reference: 20 U.S.C. § 1232g (2012).
 34 C.F.R. Pt. 99 (2012).
 Iowa Code § 22; 622.10 (2013).
 281 I.A.C. 12.3(4); 41.123.
 1980 Op. Att’y Gen. 720.

Cross Reference: 504 Student Activities
 506 Education Records
 901 Public Examination of School District Records
 902.4 Live Broadcast or videotaping

Approved 2/17

Reviewed 1/17

Revised _____

AUTHORIZATION FOR RELEASING STUDENT DIRECTORY INFORMATION

The Rock Valley Community School District has adopted a policy designed to assure parents and students the full implementation and protection of their rights under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974. A copy of the school district’s policy (505.1) is available for review online.

This law requires the school district to designate as “directory information” any personally identifiable information taken from a student’s educational records prior to making such information available to the public.

Even though the student addresses and telephone numbers are not considered directory information, military recruiters and post-secondary educational institutions may legally access this information without prior consent. Parents not wanting military recruiters and post-secondary institutions to access this information must ask the school district to withhold the information.

The school district has designated the following information as directory information: student’s name; date and place of birth; grade level; participation in officially recognized activities and sports; height and weight of members of athletic teams; dates of attendance; degrees and awards received; and the most recent previous educational institution attended by the student; and photograph. You have the right to refuse the designation of any or all of the categories of personally identifiable information as directory information with respect to your student provided that you notify the school district in writing no later than the first day of this school year. If you desire to make such a refusal, please complete and return the slip attached to this notice.

ROCK VALLEY COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
Parental Directions to Withhold Student/Directory Information
_____ School Year

Student Name: _____ Grade: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Category Designation: _____

(Signature of Parent/Legal Guardian/Custodian of Child)

(Date)

This form must be returned to your child’s school no later than the 1st day of school.

Parental Directions to Withhold Student/Directory Information from
Military Recruiters and Post-Secondary Educational Institutions for the _____ School Year

Student Name: _____ Grade: _____

Date of Birth: _____

(Signature of Parent/Legal Guardian/Custodian of Child)

(Date)

This form must be returned to your child’s school no later than the 1st day of school.
Additional forms are available at your child’s school.

USE OF DIRECTORY INFORMATION

The *Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act* (FERPA), a Federal law, requires that Rock Valley Community School District, with certain exceptions, obtain your written consent prior to the disclosure of personally identifiable information from your child’s education records. However, Rock Valley Community School District may disclose appropriately designated “directory information” without written consent, unless you have advised the District to the contrary in accordance with District procedures. The primary purpose of directory information is to allow the Rock Valley Community School District to include this type of information from your child’s education records in certain school publications. Examples include:

- A playbill, showing your student’s role in a drama production;
- The annual yearbook;
- Honor roll or other recognition lists;
- Graduation programs; and
- Sports activity sheets, such as for wrestling, showing weight and height of team members.

Directory information, which is information that is generally not considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if released, can also be disclosed to outside organizations without a parent’s prior written consent. Outside organizations include, but are not limited to, companies that manufacture class rings or publish yearbooks. In addition, two federal laws require local educational agencies (LEAs) receiving assistance under the *Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965* (ESEA) to provide military recruiters, upon request, with the following information – names, addresses and telephone listings – unless parents have advised the LEA that they do not want their student’s information disclosed without their prior written consent.¹

If you do not want the Rock Valley Community School District to disclose directory information from your child’s education records without your prior written consent, you must notify the District in writing by the first day of the school year. Rock Valley Community School District has designated the following information as directory information:

- Student’s name
- Photograph
- Date and place of birth
- Dates of attendance
- Grade level
- Participation in officially recognized activities and sports
- Weight and height of members of athletic teams
- Degrees, honors, and awards received
- The most recent educational agency or institution attended

Approved 2/17 Reviewed 1/17 Revised _____

¹ These laws are: Section 9528 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (20 U.S.C. § 7908) and 10 U.S.C. § 503(c).

STUDENT PHOTOGRAPHS

The board will permit student "portrait" photographs to be taken on school premises by a commercial photographer as a service to the students and their families.

Parents will be notified prior to the taking of pictures by a commercial photographer for student "portraits." In no case will students be required to have their picture taken or be pressured to purchase pictures.

Students or commercial photographers may take pictures of students upon consent for such things as the yearbook or student newspaper.

It is the responsibility of the superintendent, in conjunction with the principal, to develop administrative rules regarding student photographs.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code § 279.8 (2013).
1980 Op. Att'y Gen. 114.

Cross Reference: 506 Education Records

Approved 2/17

Reviewed 1/17

Revised _____

STUDENT LIBRARY CIRCULATION RECORDS

Student library circulation records are designed to be used internally to assist in the orderly administration of the school district libraries and media center. As a general rule, student library circulation records are considered confidential records and will not be released without parental consent. Individuals who may access such records include a student's parents, the student, authorized licensed employees, authorized government officials from the U.S. Comptroller General, the Secretary of Education, the Commissioner and Director of the National Institute of Education, and the Assistant Secretary for Education and State Education Department. Appropriate authorities in a health or safety emergency may access the student's library circulation records without the approval or the notification of the student's parents. Parents may not access records, without the student's permission, of a student who has reached the age of majority or who is attending a post-secondary educational institution unless the student is considered a dependent for tax purposes.

It is the teacher-librarian's responsibility, as the person maintaining the student library circulation records, to approve requests for access to student library circulation records. Students' library circulation records may be accessed during the regular business hours of the school district. If copies of documents are requested, a fee for such copying is charged.

It is the responsibility of the superintendent, in conjunction with the teacher or teacher-librarian, to develop administrative regulations regarding this policy.

Legal Reference: 20 U.S.C. § 1232g (2012).
34 C.F.R. Pt. 99 (2012).
Iowa Code §§ 22; (2013).
281 I.A.C. 12.3(4), (12).
1980 Op. Att'y Gen. 720, 825.

Cross Reference: 506 Education Records

Approved 2/17

Reviewed 1/17

Revised _____

STUDENT HEALTH AND IMMUNIZATION CERTIFICATES

Students desiring to participate in athletic activities or enrolling in kindergarten or first grade in the school district will have a physical examination by a licensed physician and provide proof of such an examination to the school district. A physical examination and proof of such an examination may be required by the administration for students in other grades enrolling for the first time in the school district.

A certificate of health stating the results of a physical examination and signed by the physician is on file at the attendance center. Each student will submit an up-to-date certificate of health upon the request of the superintendent. Failure to provide this information may be grounds for disciplinary action.

Students enrolling for the first time in the school district will also submit a certificate of immunization against diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus, poliomyelitis, rubeola, rubella, and other immunizations required by law. The student may be admitted conditionally to the attendance center if the student has not yet completed the immunization process but is in the process of doing so. Failure to meet the immunization requirement will be grounds for suspension, expulsion or denial of admission. Upon recommendation of the Iowa Department of Education and Iowa Department of Public Health, students entering the district for the first time may be required to pass a TB test prior to admission. The district may conduct TB tests of current students.

Exemptions from the immunization requirement in this policy will be allowed only for medical or religious reasons recognized under the law. The student must provide a valid Iowa State Department of Health Certificate of Immunization Exemption to be exempt from this policy.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 139.9; 280.13 (2013).
281 I.A.C. 33.5.
641 I.A.C. 7.

Cross Reference: 402.2 Child Abuse Reporting
501 Student Attendance
507 Student Health and Well-Being

Approved 2/17

Reviewed 1/17

Revised _____

ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICATION TO STUDENTS

Some students may need prescription and nonprescription medication to participate in their educational program.

Medication shall be administered when the student's parent or guardian (hereafter "parent") provides a signed and dated written statement requesting medication administration and the medication is in the original, labeled container, either as dispensed or in the manufacturer's container.

When administration of the medication requires ongoing professional health judgment, an individual health plan shall be developed by an authorized practitioner with the student and the student's parent. Students who have demonstrated competence in administering their own medications may self-administer their medication. A written statement by the student's parent shall be on file requesting co-administration of medication, when competence has been demonstrated. By law, students with asthma or other airway constricting diseases may self-administer their medication upon approval of their parents and prescribing physician regardless of competency.

Persons administering medication shall include the licensed registered nurse, parent, physician, and persons who have successfully completed a medication administration course or to be an authorized practitioner, including parents. A medication administration course and periodic update shall be conducted by a registered nurse or licensed pharmacist, and a record of course completion kept on file at the agency.

A written medication administration record shall be on file including:

- date;
- student's name;
- prescriber or person authorizing administration;
- medication;
- medication dosage;
- administration time;
- administration method;
- signature and title of the person administering medication; and
- any unusual circumstances, actions, or omissions.

Medication shall be stored in a secured area unless an alternate provision is documented. Emergency protocols for medication-related reactions shall be posted. Medication information shall be confidential information.

Disposal of unused, discontinued/recalled, or expired medication shall be in compliance with federal and state law. Prior to disposal school personnel shall make a reasonable attempt to return medication by providing written notification that expired, discontinued, or unused medications needs to be picked up. If medication is not picked up by the date specified, disposal shall be in accordance with the disposal procedures for the specific category of medication.

ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICATION TO STUDENTS

Legal Reference: Disposing on Behalf of Ultimate Users, 79 Fed. Reg. 53520, 53546 (Sept, 2014)
Iowa Code §§124.101(1), 147.107, 152.1, 155A.4(2), 280.16, 280.23
281 IAC §41.404(1)(f), (3)(f)
657 IAC §8.32(124); §8.32(155A).
655 IAC §6.2(152).

Cross Reference: 506 Education Records
 507 Student Health and Well-Being
 603.3 Special Education
 607.2 Student Health Services

Approved 2/17

Reviewed 1/17

Revised

COMMUNICABLE DISEASES - STUDENTS

Students with a communicable disease will be allowed to attend school provided their presence does not create a substantial risk of illness or transmission to other students or employees. The term "communicable disease" will mean an infectious or contagious disease spread from person to person, or animal to person, or as defined by law.

Prevention and control of communicable diseases is included in the school district's bloodborne pathogens exposure control plan. The procedures will include scope and application, definitions, exposure control, methods of compliance, universal precautions, vaccination, post-exposure evaluation, follow-up, communication of hazards to employees and record keeping. This plan is reviewed annually by the superintendent and school nurse.

The health risk to immunosuppressed students is determined by their personal physician. The health risk to others in the school district environment from the presence of a student with a communicable disease is determined on a case-by-case basis by the student's personal physician, a physician chosen by the school district or public health officials.

It is the responsibility of the superintendent, in conjunction with the school nurse, to develop administrative regulations stating the procedures for dealing with students with a communicable disease.

For more information on communicable disease charts, and reporting forms, go to the Iowa Department of Public Health Web site: <http://www.idph.state.ia.us>

Legal Reference: School Board of Nassau County v. Arline, 480 U.S. 273 (1987).
29 U.S.C. §§ 701 *et seq.* (2012).
45 C.F.R. Pt. 84.3 (2012).
Iowa Code ch. 139 (2013).
641 I.A.C. 1.2-.5, 7.

Cross Reference: 403.3 Communicable Diseases - Employees
506 Education Records
507 Student Health and Well-Being

Approved 2/17

Reviewed 1/17

Revised _____

STUDENT ILLNESS OR INJURY AT SCHOOL

When a student becomes ill or is injured at school, the school district will attempt to notify the student's parents as soon as possible.

The school district, while not responsible for medical treatment of an ill or injured student, will have employees present administer emergency or minor first aid if possible. An ill or injured child will be turned over to the care of the parents or qualified medical employees as quickly as possible. In cases of emergency, pupils shall be transported to a hospital or a doctor's office by ambulance or other convenient types of transportation. If possible the family physician listed on the office records shall be contacted.

It is the responsibility of the principal to file an accident report with the superintendent within twenty-four hours after the student is injured.

Annually, parents are required to complete a medical emergency authorization form indicating the procedures to be followed, if possible, in an emergency involving their child. The authorization form will also include the phone numbers of the parents and alternative numbers to call in case of an injury or illness.

The superintendent is responsible, in conjunction with the school nurse, to develop rules and regulations governing the procedure in the event a student should become ill or be injured at school.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code § 613.17 (2013).

Cross Reference: 507 Student Health and Well-Being

Approved 2/17

Reviewed 1/17

Revised _____

EMERGENCY PLANS AND DRILLS

Students will be informed of the appropriate action to take in an emergency. Emergency drills for fire, weather, and other disasters are conducted each school year. Fire and tornado drills are each conducted regularly during the academic school year with a minimum of two before December 31 and two after January 1.

Each attendance center will develop and maintain a written plan containing emergency and disaster procedures. The plan will be communicated to and reviewed with employees. Employees will participate in emergency drills. Licensed employees are responsible for instructing the proper techniques to be followed in the drill.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code § 100.31 (2013).
281 I.A.C. 41.25(3).

Cross Reference: 507 Student Health and Well-Being
711.7 School Bus Safety Instruction
804 Safety Program

Approved 2/17

Reviewed 1/17

Revised _____

STUDENT INSURANCE

Students will have the opportunity to participate in the health and accident insurance plan selected by the school district. The cost of the health and accident insurance program is borne by the student. Participation in the insurance health and accident plan is not a contract with the school district, but rather, a contract between the insurance company and the student.

Students participating in intramural or extracurricular athletics are required to have health and accident insurance or proof of insurance in the form of a signed waiver. The student will bring written proof of insurance or participate in the health and accident insurance program selected by the school district.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code § 279.8 (2013).

Cross Reference: 504 Student Activities
507 Student Health and Well-Being

Approved 2/17

Reviewed 1/17

Revised _____

CUSTODY AND PARENTAL RIGHTS

Disagreements between family members are not the responsibility of the school district. The school district will not take the "side" of one family member over another in a disagreement about custody or parental rights. Court orders that have been issued are followed by the school district. If a family dispute arises during school hours or events, law enforcement may be contacted to resolve such disputes. It is the responsibility of the person requesting an action by the school district to inform and provide the school district the court order allowing such action.

This policy does not prohibit an employee from listening to a student's problems and concerns.

It is the responsibility of the superintendent to ensure employees remain neutral in a disagreement about custody and parental rights.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 232.67, .70, .73, .75; 235A; 279.8; 710.6 (2013).
441 I.A.C. 9.2; 155; 175.

Cross Reference: 506 Education Records
507 Student Health and Well-Being

Approved 2/17

Reviewed 1/17

Revised _____

STUDENT SPECIAL HEALTH SERVICES

The board recognizes that some special education students need special health services during the school day. These students will receive special health services in conjunction with their individualized education program.

The superintendent, in conjunction with licensed health personnel, will establish administrative regulations for the implementation of this policy.

Legal Reference: Board of Education v. Rowley, 458 U.S. 176 (1982).
 Springdale School District #50 v. Grace, 693 F.2d 41 (8th Cir. 1982).
 Southeast Warren Comm. School District v. Dept. of Public Instruction, 285
 N.W.2d 173 (Iowa 1979).
 20 U.S.C. §§ 1400 *et seq.* (2012).
 34 C.F.R. Pt. 300 *et seq.* (2012).
 Iowa Code §§ 256.11(7); 256B; 273.2, .5, .9(2)-(3); 280.8 (2013).
 281 I.A.C. 41.405

Cross Reference: 502 Student Rights and Responsibilities
 506 Education Records
 603.3 Special Education

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WELLNESS POLICY

The board promotes healthy students by supporting wellness, good nutrition and regular physical activity as a part of the total learning environment. The Rock Valley School District and its board of directors, supports a healthy environment where students learn and participate in positive dietary and lifestyle practices. By facilitating learning through the support and promotion of good nutrition and physical activity, schools contribute to the basic health status of students. Improved health optimizes student performance potential.

The school district supports and promotes proper dietary habits contributing to students' health status and academic performance. All foods available on school grounds and at school-sponsored activities during the instructional day should meet or exceed the school district nutrition standards and in compliance with state and federal law. Foods should be served with consideration toward nutritional integrity, variety, appeal, taste, safety and packaging to ensure high-quality meals.

The school district will make every effort to eliminate any social stigma attached to, and prevent the overt identification of, students who are eligible for free and reduced-price meals. Toward this end, the school district may utilize electronic identification and payment systems; provide meals at no charge to all children, regardless of income; promote the availability of meals to all students; and/or use nontraditional methods for serving meals, such as "grab-and-go" or classroom breakfast.

The school district will develop a local wellness policy committee comprised of parents, students, and representatives of the school food authority, the school board, school administrators, and the public, physical education teachers, and school health professionals. The local wellness policy committee will develop a plan to implement the local wellness policy and periodically review and update the policy. The committee will designate an individual to monitor implementation and evaluation the implementation of the policy. The committee will report annually to the board and community regarding the content and effectiveness of this policy and recommend updates if needed. When monitoring implementation, schools will be evaluated individually with reports prepared by each school and the school district as a whole. The report will include which schools are in compliance with this policy, the extent to which this policy compares to model Wellness policies and describe the progress made in achieving the goals of this policy.

Specific Wellness Goals

- nutrition education and promotion
- physical activity
- other school-based activities that are designed to promote student wellness,
- nutrition guidelines for all foods available on campus
- plan for measuring implementation

The nutritional guidelines for all foods available will focus on promoting student health and reducing childhood obesity in the school district.

Legal Reference: Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act, 42 U.S.C. 1751 *et seq.* (2005)
Child Nutrition Act of 1966, 42 U.S.C. 1771 *et seq.*,
Iowa Code 256.7(29), 256.11(6)(2013)
Iowa Code IAC 12.5(19), 12.5(20), 58.11

Cross Reference: 504.5 Student Fund Raising
504.6 Student Activity Program
710 School Food Services

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NUTRITION EDUCATION AND PROMOTION

The school district will provide nutrition education and engage in nutrition promotion that;

- Is offered as part of a sequential, comprehensive, standards-based program designed to provide students with the knowledge and skills necessary to promote, maintain and protect their health; and
- Promotes fruits, vegetables, whole-grain products, low-fat and fat-free dairy products, healthy food preparation methods and health-enhancing nutrition practices.

PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

Physical Education

The school district will provide physical education that:

- is for all students in grades K-12 for the entire school year, except as academically warranted;
- includes students with disabilities, students with special health-care needs;
- engages students in moderate to vigorous activity during at least 50 percent of physical education class time; and/or
- provides students with activities which will increase the heart rate for at least 15 minutes each class period.

Daily Recess

Students in grades TK-5 should have the opportunity to participate in recess;

- three recess periods per day for primary students,
- two recess periods per day for intermediate students; and,
- that which encourages moderate to vigorous physical activity including inside activities on days when the weather is inclement.

When activities, such as mandatory school-wide testing, make it necessary for students to remain indoors for long periods of time, schools should give students periodic breaks during which they are encouraged to stand and be moderately active.

Physical Activity and Punishment

Employees should not use physical activity (e.g., running laps, pushups) as a form of punishment.

(Note: this does not include voluntary athletic programs.)

Use of Facilities Outside of School Hours

For the promotion of physical activity, school facilities, as designated, will be made available outside of normal school hours to students, community members and staff. School policies concerning health and safety will be applicable at all times.

OTHER SCHOOL-BASED ACTIVITIES THAT PROMOTE STUDENT WELLNESS

Integrating Physical Activity into Classroom Settings

Students need to fully embrace regular physical activity as a personal behavior and need opportunities for physical activity beyond the physical education classroom. Toward that end, the school district will:

- offer classroom health education that complements physical education by reinforcing the knowledge and self-management skills needed to maintain a physically active lifestyle and to reduce time spent on sedentary activities; and
- discourage sedentary activities, such as watching television, playing computer games, etc.

Communication with Parents

The school district will support parents' efforts to provide a healthy diet and daily physical activity for their children. The school district will:

- provide parents a list of foods that meet the school district's snack standards and ideas for healthy celebrations/parties, rewards and fundraising activities;
- support parents' efforts to provide their children with opportunities to be physically active outside of school; and,
- include sharing information about physical activity and physical education through the school's web page, newsletter, take-home materials, special events or physical education activities.

Food Marketing in Schools

School-based marketing will be consistent with nutrition education and health promotion. The school district will:

- limit food and beverage marketing to the promotion of foods and beverages that meet the nutrition standards;
- promote healthy foods, including fruits, vegetables, whole grains, and low-fat dairy products; and market activities that promote healthful behaviors such as the promotion of water as the drink of choice, sales of fruits for fundraisers, and differentiated pricing to promote healthy food choices.

Staff Wellness

The school district values the health and well-being of every staff member and will support activities and policies that encourage personal efforts by staff to maintain a healthy lifestyle. The school district will:

- provide opportunities to participate in a voluntary fitness program in school facilities and the use of school equipment; and
- encourage staff members to participate.

NUTRITION GUIDELINES FOR ALL FOODS AVAILABLE ON CAMPUS

School Meals

Meals served through the National School Lunch and Breakfast Programs will:

- be appealing and attractive to children and staff;
- be served in clean and pleasant settings;
- meet, at a minimum, nutrition requirements established by local, state and federal law;
- offer a variety of fruits and vegetables;
- serve only low-fat (1%) and fat-free milk and nutritionally equivalent non-dairy alternatives (as defined by the USDA); and,
- ensure that half of the served grains are whole grain.

The District should:

- involve stakeholders in selecting new foods to be offered through the meal programs; and
- share information about the nutritional content of meals with parents and students when requested.

Breakfast

To ensure that all children have breakfast, either at home or at school, in order to meet their nutritional needs and enhance their ability to learn, the district will;

- operate the breakfast program, to the extent possible;
- notify parents and students of the availability of the School Breakfast Program; and,
- encourage parents to provide a healthy breakfast for their children through newsletter articles, take-home materials or other means.

Free and Reduced-Priced Meals

The school district will make every effort to eliminate any social stigma attached to, and prevent the overt identification of, students who are eligible for free and reduced-price meals. Toward this end, the school district may:

- utilize electronic identification and payment systems;
- provide meals at no charge to all children, regardless of income; and,
- promote the availability of meals to all students.

Meal Times and Scheduling

The school district:

- will provide students with at least 10 minutes to eat after sitting down for breakfast and 15 minutes after sitting down for lunch;
- should schedule meal periods at appropriate times, e.g., lunch should be scheduled between 10:45 a.m. and 1 p.m.;
- should not schedule tutoring, club or organizational meetings or activities during mealtimes, unless students may eat during such activities;
- will provide students access to hand washing or sanitizing before they eat meals or snacks.

Qualification of Food Service Staff

Qualified nutrition professionals will administer the meal programs. As part of the school district's responsibility to operate a food service program, the school district will;

- provide continuing professional development for all nutrition professionals; and,
- provide staff development programs that include appropriate certification and/or training programs for child nutrition directors, nutrition managers and cafeteria workers, according to their levels of responsibility.

NUTRITION GUIDELINES FOR ALL FOODS AVAILABLE ON CAMPUS

Sharing of Foods

The school district discourages students from sharing their foods or beverages with one another during meal or snack times, given concerns about allergies and other restrictions on some children's diets.

Food Sold Outside the Meal (e.g. vending, a la carte, sales)

All foods and beverages sold individually outside the reimbursable meal programs (including those sold through a la carte lines, vending machines, student scores or fundraising activities) during the school day, or through programs for students after the school day will meet nutrition standards as required by state or federal laws. For current state guidelines, click here:

http://educateiowa.gov/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=1769&catid=838&Itemid=2545.

Snacks

Snacks served during the school day will make a positive contribution to children's diets and health, with an emphasis on serving fruits and vegetables as the primary snacks and water (milk for the elementary) as the primary beverage. District buildings will assess if and when to offer snacks based on timing of meals, children's nutritional needs and children's ages, and other considerations. A list of healthful snack items will be disseminated by the District to teachers and parents.

Celebrations

District buildings should evaluate their celebrations practices that involve food during the school day. The district will provide a listing of healthy food and beverage alternatives to staff and students.

Rewards

Food and beverages may be used as rewards for academic performance or good behavior. The school nurse will develop a recommended list of food and beverages to be used. Food and beverages that do not appear on the recommended list must receive approval by the building principal.

Food Safety

All foods made available through the food service program adhere to food safety and security guidelines;

- All foods made available through the food service program comply with the state and local food safety and sanitation regulations. Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points (HACCP) plans and guidelines are implemented to prevent food illness in schools.

http://www.fns.usda.gov/tn/Resources/servingsafe_chapter6.pdf

- For the safety and security of the food and facility, access to the food service operations are limited to child nutrition staff and authorized personnel.

PLAN FOR MEASURING IMPLEMENTATION

Monitoring

The superintendent will ensure compliance with established school district-wide nutrition and physical activity wellness policies.

In the K-6 and 7-12:

- the principals will ensure compliance with those policies in the school and will report on the school's compliance to the superintendent; and,
- food service staff will ensure compliance with nutrition policies within food service areas.

In the school district:

- the school district will report on the most recent USDA School Meals Initiative (SMI) review findings and any resulting changes;
- the superintendent will develop a summary report every three years on district-wide compliance with the school district's established nutrition and physical activity wellness policies, based on input from the staff; and,
- the report will be provided to the school board and also distributed to the community, advisory committee, principals and health services personnel in the district.

Policy Review

To help with the initial development of the school district's wellness policy a baseline assessment will be conducted of the school's existing nutrition and physical activity environments and practices. The results will be compiled at the school district level to identify and prioritize needs.

Assessments will be repeated every three (3) years to help review policy compliance, assess progress and determine areas in need of improvement. As part of that review, the school district will review the nutrition and physical activity policies and practices and the provision of an environment that supports healthy eating and physical activity. The school district will revise the wellness policy and develop work plans to facilitate their implementation.

CLASS OR STUDENT GROUP GIFTS

Student groups may make expenditures for gifts to the district upon securing the recommendation of the building principal and the approval of the Superintendent. Gifts may be accepted and acknowledged by the Superintendent or his/her designated representative acting for the Board.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 68B; 722.1, .2 (2013).

Cross Reference: 704.4 Gifts - Grants - Bequests

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OPEN NIGHT

In keeping with good community relations, student school activities will not be scheduled on Wednesday night beyond 6:00 p.m. whenever possible. It is the responsibility of the principal to oversee the scheduling of school activities for compliance with this policy.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code § 279.8 (2013).

Cross Reference: 900 Principles and Objectives for Community Relations

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