

Hay Springs Public School Student Handbook 2026-2027

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Material in this handbook may be subject to change at any time.

“School” and “the school” shall mean the County of Sheridan School District #3, DBA: Hay Springs Public Schools throughout this handbook. “Parent” shall mean the parent(s), guardian(s), or other person(s) with legal custody and/or responsibility for the child(ren) in question.

SECTION 1: MISSION AND GOALS

Intent of Handbook

Each student is responsible for becoming familiar with the handbook and knowing the information contained in it. Parents are encouraged to use this handbook as a resource and to assist their child in following the rules contained in this handbook. This handbook is based on School Board policies. An electronic copy of this handbook is available at www.hshawks.com; paper copies are available upon request.

Mission Statement

Empower Students to SOAR

- Show Pride through Success
- Own Opportunities
- Act Positively to Achieve
- Respect All

SECTION 2: SCHOOL INFORMATION

School Day Information

Hay Springs Elementary Arrival and Departure

7:30 – 7:55 Breakfast
7:45 AMPlayground (supervised)
8:00 AMEntrance Bell Rings and School Begins
11:00 AMK-2 Lunch / 3-5 Recess
11:30 AM3-5 Lunch / K-2 Recess
12:00 PMReturn to Classroom
1:11 PM 3-6 Specials
2:14 PM..... K-2 Specials
4:00 PMK-5th Dismissal from School

Middle and High School Schedule

Period 1: 8:00-9:00 * Pledge

Period 2: 9:02-10:02

Period 3: 10:04-11:04

Period 4: 11:06-12:06

ML Lunch / HS WIN: 12:08-12:38

HS LUNCH/ ML WIN: 12:40-1:10

Period 5: 1:12-2:12

Period 6: 2:14-3:14

Period 7: 3:16-4:16

Preschool

8:00 Morning Class Arrival

11:30 ... Morning Class Dismissal

12:00 ... Afternoon Class Arrival

4:00 Afternoon Class Dismissal

Building Hours

The building is open from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. every day that school is in session. Students may ONLY be in the building earlier or later with prearranged teacher supervision. All doors will remain locked. All parents and students must enter through the main front door. There is no outside playground supervision prior to 7:45 a.m. Teachers will be on duty from 7:45 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. every day school is in session. Holidays, in-service and early out days, etc. are exceptions and the hours may vary.

Parent Pick-Up/Drop-Off

Parents/Guardians are asked to drop-off and pick-up their children before and after school along the curbside west of the school building. Parents/Guardians are asked to not drop off students in the middle of the street for safety concerns. Cars approaching the school from the west are asked to turn north and utilize the drop-off pick-up lane.

School Cancellations for Inclement Weather

The Superintendent of Schools is authorized by the Board of Education to close public schools in case of severe weather. The Superintendent or his designee will notify local news media (KSDZ, KCSR). This information is available on Infinite Campus, the school Facebook page, X, and www.hshawks.com. If school is canceled during the day, parents will be notified. The School will be using Infinite Campus Messenger to send mass announcements starting August 2026.

Parents may decide to keep their children at home in inclement weather because of personal circumstances. Students absent because of severe weather when school is in session will be marked absent. The absence will be treated like any other absence for legitimate causes provided parents properly notify the school of their decision. Parents may pick up their children in inclement weather at any time during the school day. Students may be dismissed from school during severe weather with a telephone request from the parent.

Drills and Alarms

Bus Evacuation

At least twice during each school year, each pupil shall be instructed in safe riding practices and participate in emergency evacuation drills. (NDE Rule 91:005.05)

Fire

Fire drills will be conducted as required by Nebraska Law. Fire routes are posted in every room. The signal for fire drills will be a constant alarm. The fire alarm calls for the immediate clearing of the building by all students and personnel. Teachers will dismiss students and see that doors and windows are closed, go with the students to the nearest exit, and proceed to the designated meeting location: elementary to the playground, secondary to the teacher parking lot. Students are to be quiet and orderly when leaving the building during fire drills. Any student who tampers with or sets off the fire alarm will be subject to suspension from school. The student may be required to meet with the fire chief and/or the fire department to explain his/her action before readmission to school.

Tornado

Students should sit on the floor with their backs to the wall, knees drawn up, head down, and hands over their head. If there is not enough room in the Preschool room, the students should go to the sensory room.

Elementary

3rd Grade, 2nd Grade and Kindergarten will use the south stairwell, entering from the west using the right side of the stairs. They will proceed through the cafeteria and enter the preschool room using the main door. 5th Grade, 4th Grade and 1st Grade will use the south stairwell, entering from the east using the left side of the stairs. They will enter the preschool room through the sensory room.

Middle Level

Middle Level students should proceed to the DL Lab for shelter by using the north stairwell by the office. Overflow students will go to the hallway or restroom outside the DL lab.

High School

High School students should proceed to the lower ground level hallway between the music room and the title room.

Lister

Students who are in Lister need to go to the girls' interior locker room.

Teachers

Teachers should accompany the students they have in class at the time of the tornado. When leaving your room, be sure to close the door. Do not waste time closing or opening windows. All doors in the shelter area should be closed. Please keep students away from all windows.

Intruder

Intruder drills will be held twice each school year. The drill will be announced and staff and students will take appropriate action.

SECTION 3: USE OF BUILDING AND GROUNDS

Visitors

Adults are welcome to visit school. All visitors must enter and check in at the office through the main office door. All visitors must also check out and exit through the main door. All other doors will be locked. Classroom or lunch visits must be pre arranged through the office. School age visitors are not allowed to visit during school hours without prior permission from the administration.

Care of School Property

Students are responsible for the care of the school building and property. Students will be required to pay any damages they may cause.

Lockers/Vehicles

Each middle school and high school student will be assigned a locker. The school will not assume responsibility for items stored in lockers.

Students have full responsibility for the security of their lockers and their vehicles parked on school property and will make certain they are locked and that the keys and combinations are not given to others. Students will not place, keep, or maintain any article or material in lockers or vehicles parked on school property that is forbidden by law and /or District Policy. If the office is not given a key or the combination when requested, locks will be cut off.

Searches

Lockers and Other Types of Searches

Student lockers, desks, computer equipment, and other such property are owned by the school. School property is subject to search at any time by school officials or law enforcement. Periodic searches of lockers, desks, computers, vehicles, backpacks and other such property may be conducted at the discretion of the administration.

Students will be responsible for prohibited items found in their lockers or vehicles parked on school property. If a student has a lock on a locker he/she may be asked to remove it for searching or the lock will be cut off. If a vehicle is subject to search, law enforcement and/or parents/guardians will be contacted.

Law enforcement and/or the student's parents will be notified if any prohibited articles or materials are found in a student's locker or vehicle parked on school property, or on the student's person as a result of a search conducted in accordance with this policy.

School officials may conduct a search if there is a reasonable basis to believe that the search will uncover evidence of a crime or a school rule violation. The search must be conducted in a reasonable manner under the circumstances.

Illegal items or other items reasonably determined to be a threat to the safety of others or a threat to educational purposes may be taken and kept by school officials. Any firearm or other weapon will be confiscated and delivered to law enforcement officials as soon as practical.

Canine Searches

The District will allow the use of specially trained non-aggressive dogs to sniff out and alert to the current presence of concealed prohibited items, illicit substances, and alcohol. This program is implemented in response to concerns of the District regarding drug use and to maintain a safe school environment conducive to education.

Law enforcement visits to school with dogs shall be unannounced. The dogs will be used to sniff the air and vacant classrooms, in common areas, around student lockers, and around vehicles parked on school property. If a dog alerts to anything, it will be searched by school officials and/or law enforcement officers. Searches of vehicles will be conducted as described above.

Custody of Evidence

Anything found in the course of a search conducted in accordance with this section which is evidence of a violation of the student conduct standards may be:

1. Seized and admitted as evidence in any suspension or expulsion proceeding if it is tagged for identification at the time it is seized and kept in a secure place by the Administration, the Administration's designee, or a law enforcement officer until it is presented at the hearing.
2. Returned to the parent of the student from whom it was seized if personal property, if permitted by law enforcement.
3. Turned over to a law enforcement officer.

Involvement of Law Enforcement Officer

In those situations where the administration determines that federal or state laws and/or county or city ordinances have been violated, appropriate law enforcement officers shall be contacted. In all cases involving the discovery of alcohol or controlled substances and weapons, law enforcement officers will be contacted. Parents will be contacted before a law official interviews a student, unless directed by the law official otherwise. Contraband seized from students will be made available to law enforcement officials with a statement outlining the specifics of the involved case, when so requested.

Refreshments

Students will be allowed drinks with a lid; however, no pop or energy drinks will be allowed per federal food guidelines. Students will also be allowed to have one single serve snack such as granola bars, poptarts, etc.

Hall Traffic

Students are required to ask their teacher for permission to leave the classroom. Students will take the classroom hall pass. Only one student will be allowed out of the classroom at a time.

Video Surveillance

Video cameras may be used on School District property to ensure the health, welfare and safety of all staff, students and visitors to District property, and to safeguard District facilities and equipment. Notice is hereby given that video surveillance may occur on District property. In the event a video surveillance recording captures a student or other building user violating school policies or rules or local, state or federal laws, the video surveillance recording may be used in appropriate disciplinary proceedings against the student or other building user and may also be provided to law enforcement agencies. Video cameras may be used in locations as deemed appropriate by the Administration.

Electronic Devices

Personal electronic devices and/or cell phones that are not required for classroom use or for medical reasons, are not allowed in the student's possession unless directed by the teacher. Students may check their messages between classes and during lunch. If a student needs to make a phone call using their electronic device, they are asked to do so in the front office. Phone calls will be transferred to the student only in the event of an emergency.

In addition to any prohibitions on electronic devices defined in the student handbook, students will not use electronic devices for recording or transmitting photographs, images or sounds of other persons without direct administrative approval and consent of all person(s) being recorded, other than the recording of persons participating in school activities that are open to the public. Students shall not use electronic devices at any time where there is an expectation of privacy. Violations of this policy may result in disciplinary action.

Electronic device violations will be handled in accordance with the discipline matrix.

Securly

Securly is a full-service Chromebook management system is comprised of three parts. Auditor Premium monitors all Gmail email, Google Docs, and Google Drive files for cyber-bullying, violence, self-harm, grief, profanity, and nudity. Classroom Premium provides Chromebook classroom management including real-time screen view, site lock, site push, FindMyChromebook, time-based classroom policies, and more. Filter Premium includes cloud-based web content filtering, and cyber-bullying/self-harm detection. Securly also allows teachers and administrators to track usage of Hay Springs Public Schools Chromebooks anywhere at any time.

Student Vehicles/ Parking

Students are to park only in areas designated for student parking. Student vehicles will be parked when the student arrives and must remain parked until school is dismissed or when the student departs for home/work. If students park in the school parking lot, they must exit to the North.

Student Valuables

The school is not responsible for a student's personal property.

Lost and Found

Students who find lost articles are asked to take them to the office, where the articles can be claimed by the owner. It is recommended that articles of clothing and lunch boxes be clearly marked with the student's full name. If articles are lost at school, such loss should be reported to the office. Items will be kept until the end of each Quarter at which time they will be taken to the "Caring & Sharing Neighbors" center.

Nuisance Items

Items which have been or are reasonably expected to be used to disrupt or interfere with the educational process may be removed from student's possession.

Accidents

Every accident in the school building, on the school grounds, at practice sessions, or at any athletic event sponsored by the school must be reported to the office or if after hours contact the Activities Director.

Announcements

Announcements will be posted each morning on the Infinite Campus homepage, and the announcements page at www.hshawks.com. Students are asked to get in the habit of checking our announcements daily.

High School Dances

Dances are open to students grades nine through twelve and their dates unless otherwise specified. No person 20 years of age or older will be permitted to attend these dances. Students must register their out of town/out of school dates with the office prior to the date of the dance. The doors will be locked thirty (30) minutes after the dance begins. If students choose to leave, they will not be allowed back into the dance. The Code of Conduct and eligibility will be followed. Breathalyzers may be administered.

Prom Banquet

The Prom Banquet will be open to Hay Springs juniors and seniors and their dates, the board of education, and the high school staff members Sophomores (and Freshmen, if necessary) will be selected by the junior class to act as servers for the banquet. The Code of Conduct and eligibility will be followed. Breathalyzers may be administered.

Clubs and Organizations

All clubs will be under the direction and supervision of school personnel or an approved sponsor and in conformity with laws of the state and policies of the Board of Education. Any new clubs or organizations must be approved by the Administrator.

All activities, practices, and fundraising, including those held by a group for its members only, must be scheduled on the school calendar through the office. All funds are to be controlled through the activity account of the school. No bills should be paid in cash without a receipt. All purchases must be approved by the Activities Director and Superintendent. (Policy 706.01)

The school may be used on Sundays if prior approval is secured from the Administration and an approved adult sponsor is present at all times. Such activity will not conflict with church or church-sponsored activities. Wednesday night is observed as church night in our community and every effort is made to release students in time to participate in these activities. All students should be out of the building no later than 6:15 p.m.

SECTION 4: ATTENDANCE

School attendance is directly related to an individual student's level of academic achievement. However, if students are sick they should stay home and get healthy prior to returning to school.

Parents, when reporting their child absent, must give the reasons for the absence; however, only authorized school authorities can excuse students from school.

Nebraska Statute 79-201: Every person residing in a school district within the State of Nebraska who has legal or actual charge or control of any child not less than six or more than eighteen years of age, shall cause such child to attend regularly the public schools each day that such schools are open and in session except when excused by school authorities, unless such child has been graduated from High School.

Elementary students who arrive after 8:30 am will be counted absent for the morning. Students who leave before 3:00 pm will be counted absent for the afternoon.

Notification of Absence

A parent of each student is required to notify the school each day that a student is to be absent. Parents are required to notify the school before 8:30 a.m. on the day their child is absent or the school will attempt to contact the parent. If the parent knows of an upcoming absence, please notify the school (308) 638-4434 as soon as possible. If no phone call or note is received by the office prior to the absence, the absence may be considered truancy.

Attendance and Excuses

Students participating in school-sponsored activities under the direction of a school approved sponsor and representing the school will not be counted as absent.

Notification of Absenteeism

Upon reaching the following limits during a semester, the parent will be notified as follows:

A day of absence = 7 class periods for 6- 12 students and 495 minutes for k-6 not necessarily all in one day.

After the 5th day of absence, (35 class periods grades 6-12 or 2475 minutes k-6), an advisory letter will be sent to the parent.

After the 10th day of absence, (70 class periods grades 6-12 or 4950 minutes k-6), an advisory letter will be sent to the parent and the administration may meet with parents and to discuss an attendance plan.

After the 15th day of absence (105 class periods grades 6-12 or 7425 minutes k-6), a letter reporting the absences will be mailed to the parent and the County Attorney and the administration may meet with parents and student to discuss an attendance plan.

After the 20th day of absence (140 class periods grades 6-12 or 9900 minutes k-6), a letter reporting the absences will be mailed to the parent and the County Attorney and the administration may meet with parents and student to discuss an attendance plan.

College Visitation

Juniors and seniors are allowed two (2) days for college visitation, per school year. These absences will be marked as activity

Extracurricular Participation -

1. Students must be in attendance by 10AM through the end of the school day to attend practice unless prearranged with the administration.
2. Students must be in attendance by 10AM or 4 hours prior to event departure through the end of the school day on the day of any scheduled school activity in order to participate. The student must attend all classes the day after any scheduled school activity in order to participate in the next corresponding activity. Exceptions to this rule may be arranged and approved by the administration.
3. Pre-arranged medically excused absences will not affect participation.

Skiping School/Truancy/Leaving School

Students who leave class or the school premises without permission during the school day will be considered unexcused. Students who must leave school for any reason during the school day must have a parent/guardian call the front office and sign out before leaving school grounds. All attendance will be handled in accordance with the discipline matrix.

Closed Campus

The school has a closed campus. Only senior students have the privilege of leaving campus during lunchtime. Students are required to return on time and will fall under the tardy procedures if they are late. Senior open campus privileges will be suspended if a student abuses the privilege. If any other students leave during lunch, they may be considered truant and that policy will be followed. Students will remain in the cafeteria or with their sponsor for the entire lunch period.

Make-Up Work for Absences

Students will be given two (2) school days to make up work missed for each absence unless they were truant.

If a student is absent on the day that an assignment was previously due, the student will be required to turn in the assignment on the first day of his/her return to school. If the student fails to turn in the assignment, the instructor will follow the late work policy. Late assignments will be graded at the teacher's discretion, but within a reasonable amount of time.

Late Work Policy

Students will receive no more than 80% if an assignment is 1 school day late up to 4 school days late.

Students will receive no more than 60% if an assignment is 5-8 school days late.

Students will receive a 0% if an assignment is more than 8 school days late.

All late assignments will be marked as incomplete in the gradebook.

Tardies

Middle and High School students will have 3 minutes between class changes. Students will be considered tardy to class if they are not in their classroom when the tardy bell rings, unless the student has a pass from the teacher or administrator who detained them. Teachers will enter all tardies into the Infinite Campus student management system.

SECTION 5: ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

Hay Springs Public Schools Grading System

A	(100-93-100)		C	(84-78)	
	100-99	A+		84-83	C+
	98-95	A		82-81	C
	94-93	A-		80-78	C-
B	(92-85)		D	(77-70)	
	92-91	B+		77-75	D+
	90-87	B		74-72	D
	86-85	B-		71-70	D-
			F	(69 or Below)	
			P	(Pass-not used in GPA calculation)	
			I	(Incomplete work "0" one week after term)	

Students taking college course will follow the college grade scale and the letter grade will be adjusted on the final transcript

College courses will be calculated using a 5.0 weighted grade scale.

Promotion and Retention

Hay Springs Public School staff will place students at the grade level and in the courses best suited to them academically, socially, and emotionally. Students will typically progress annually from grade to grade. A student may be retained at a grade level or be required to repeat a course when such is determined to be appropriate for the educational interests of the student. If a student fails a required class, they will be required to retake and pass the class prior to graduation. Elementary students will be promoted on teacher recommendation. Parents will be notified when retention is being considered.

Report Cards

Report cards are issued at the end of each quarter or nine-week session. This report card shall contain an accurate and complete report of the student's grades and attendance record. Report cards are available in the office after each quarter.

Parent-Teacher Conferences

Parent-Teacher conferences will be held during 1st and 3rd quarters; parents are urged to attend. Conferences with teachers, at any time, are encouraged and may be set by calling the school and making arrangements with one or more teachers as needed.

Distance Learning Courses

Hay Springs Public Schools offer students classes over the distance learning system. We are part of a consortium with other institutions. Therefore, the students are required to follow not only the rules of the school but also the rules of the consortium. When a student registers to take a distance learning class, he/she and his/her parents will be required to sign the appropriate documents that outline the expectations as well as the consequences for not following the expectations. The district also offers the opportunity for Dual Credit or College-only credit courses. The cost of college tuition and books is the responsibility of the student and/or their parents.

Graduation Requirements

English 4 years (40 credits)

- English 9
- English 10
- English 11
- English 12 or College Level English

Social Studies (30 credits)

- Geography / World History
- American History
- American Government / Economics

Mathematics 3 years (30 credits)

- Algebra I
- Geometry
- Other high school math

Fine Arts (10 credits)

- Any high school art or music class

Science (30 credits)

- Science 9
- Biology I
- Other high school science

Career Tech Education (20 credits)

- Personal finance
- Foundations of Computing (Class of 2028)
- Other high school CTE course

Electives may be from any area. Students must earn 240 credits to graduate. Students earn 5 credits per class/per semester.

Participation in Graduation Ceremony

To receive a diploma, a student must have successfully completed all graduation requirements as established by the Board of Education as of the date set for graduation. If all requirements are not met the student will NOT be allowed to participate in the graduation ceremony.

Graduation Dress Code

Graduation is a formal event. Graduation gowns will be in school colors (Hunter Green, Gold, and/or White)

No tennis shoes, work boots, flip-flops, bare feet, sunglasses or shorts will be allowed. Dress pants with a shirt and tie are encouraged for boys and skirts, dresses (of appropriate length) or slacks are encouraged for girls.

Senior Academic Honor Awards

Valedictorian – Highest GPA after eight semesters calculated on the last Monday prior to graduation on a 4.0 system. If grades are equal to the hundredths decimal place (ex: 3.98) two or more valedictorians will be awarded.

Salutatorian – Will be awarded to the next highest GPA after eight semesters calculated on the last Monday prior to graduation on a 4.0 system. If Salutatorian GPAs are the same when calculated to the hundredths decimal place (ex: 3.98) two or more salutatorians will be presented.

Honor Cords – All students maintaining a 3.65 GPA over eight semesters will receive Green & Gold Cords. National Honor Society members will receive the NHS white satin pendant stole. Presidential Excellence Award winners will receive the gold cord with a medal. Any other cords or stoles must be approved by the administration.

Honor Roll

Any student grades 2-12 with all A's or A's & B's and is enrolled as a full time student at the school will be placed on the Honor Roll. The honor roll will be posted each nine weeks and at semester.

Ineligibility List

The "Ineligibility List" will be run each Monday morning to identify those students who are currently failing or have an incomplete in a class or classes. Students on the Ineligibility List will be given an ineligibility sheet on Monday and will have until Thursday at 4:15 to complete work or raise the grade to passing.

Students who remain on the Ineligibility List will not be eligible to participate in extra-curricular activities until he/she is passing all classes and will be required to attend ASP until passing. No student will be removed from the list without the administrator's approval.

Students who appear on the Ineligibility List in the same subject two (2) weeks in a row, despite being cleared each week, will have 1 week ASP assigned.

After School Program (ASP)

Hay Springs Public Schools offers an After School Program from 4:15 to 5:00 pm to provide additional help, instruction, time and/or support to students who are in need or have been assigned ASP.

Students directed to attend ASP will be students who, in the opinion of the administrators and teachers, (1) need additional assistance of any kind, (2) have failing grades, and/or (3) have missing assignments.

Students will not be allowed to leave ASP before 5:00pm without administration's approval.

Students will not be assigned ASP as part of a disciplinary consequence.

During ASP, all rules, handbooks, and codes of conduct apply. Failure to attend ASP when directed to do so will have consequences as outlined in the discipline matrix. Absences from ASP must be approved in the same manner as absences from any other school day.

Hay Springs Public Schools will not provide transportation to and from ASP. In the event any student is entitled to transportation services by the state or federal law, transportation services will be provided as required by law.

SECTION 6: SUPPORT SERVICES

ACADEMIC SERVICES

Special Education Services

The school offers comprehensive services for students with special needs. Services are available for, but are not limited to, speech - language and articulation, vision, hearing, psychological, academic and physical disabilities, following Federal guidelines for IDEA, Title I and Office for Civil Rights (OCR).

Parents/Students may contact the Administration for further information.

Home-bound Services

The type and extent of the home-bound education program will be developed by administration in conjunction with instructional and other support personnel as deemed appropriate. Programs for home-bound instruction will be submitted to the Superintendent for approval prior to implementation.

The school district shall provide home-bound instruction to district students unable to attend school. Those students who cannot attend school and have been identified as eligible for Special Education Services shall be provided necessary services as established under District Special Education Policy.

HEALTH SERVICES

Student Illness

School personnel will notify parents when a student needs to be sent home from school due to illness.

Emergency daytime phone numbers should be included on your child's enrollment form so that a parent/guardian can be reached if a child becomes ill or injured while at school. Also include any health related information that is important.

Students with a fever of 100.4 F or above or displaying other signs of illness will be sent home. Students must be fever free/vomit free for 24 hours before returning to school.

Guidelines for Administering Medication

Whenever possible medications should be administered outside of school hours. All medication (unless approved by the Administration) is to be kept in the school office and is to be administered by assigned school personnel. In order for school personnel to give medication to a student at school, the medication must be in the original labeled container, which has the student's name, licensed health care provider's name, medication name, and instructions on it. Ask your pharmacist for a second labeled bottle if necessary. The parent will need to fill out and sign a permission slip available at the office. This form will include the directions on dosage and time. This is important to enable the school to safely administer medication to your child.

Over the counter medication will only be given with written permission from the parent. Medication must be provided by the parent; the school will not provide any form of medication.

Medical Conditions Requiring Assistance

Physicals, Immunization Records, and any necessary health care provider notes must be provided at the time of enrollment. If a student has a chronic illness or severe allergy that may require emergency assistance, please notify the administration.

Physical Examination

Evidence of a physical examination by a licensed health care provider is required prior to the entrance of the student into Kindergarten, seventh grade, or in the case of transfer from out of state. A parent who objects must submit a written statement of refusal for his or her child. The statement will be kept in the student's file. Waiver forms are available in the office.

Eye Exam

Students entering school for the first time, including Kindergarten and transfer students from out of state, will be required to provide proof of a vision evaluation taken within six months prior to the student's entrance. The vision evaluation must be signed by a licensed healthcare professional.

Concussion

A student showing signs or symptoms of a concussion, thereby being "reasonably suspected" of having had a concussion, must be removed from participation and may not return until evaluated by a licensed healthcare professional. Written and signed clearance from an appropriate licensed healthcare professional and written and signed clearance from the athlete's parents is required prior to the athlete's return to participation. Concussion educational training must be made available to all coaches on how to recognize symptoms of a concussion, and how to seek proper medical treatment. Athletes and parents must be provided concussion information prior to an athlete's participation on an annual basis that includes signs & symptoms of a concussion, risks posed by sustaining a concussion, and actions an athlete should take in response to sustaining a concussion – including informing their coaches.

Asthma, Anaphylaxis, and Allergic Reaction Protocol (Policy # 5601)

The District will adopt and implement the Emergency Response to Life-Threatening Asthma or Systemic Allergic Reactions (Anaphylaxis Protocol as required by the Nebraska Department of Education.

The Superintendent, in conjunction with licensed health personnel, shall establish administrative regulations for the implementation of this policy. The regulations established shall comply with NDE rules regarding the protocol to follow in case of a life-threatening asthma or systemic allergic reaction (including anaphylaxis) and use of an EpiPen and albuterol. These regulations and protocols shall also ensure that each school building will procure and maintain the equipment and medication necessary under the protocol in the case of any student or school staff emergency. Staff training in using the protocol shall occur periodically. Records of such training and occurrences of administering medication under the protocol shall be maintained. The Emergency Protocol shall be implemented, and the equipment and medication necessary to implement the Emergency Protocol shall be maintained, at each school building while school is in session. For purposes of the Emergency Protocol, the phrase "while school is in session" is defined as the core instructional school day. The "core instructional school day" is defined as that portion of each day school is in session during which teachers are on duty to provide and students are scheduled to receive instruction in the School District's curriculum, generally beginning at 8:00 a.m. and ending at 3:30 p.m. The Emergency Protocol shall not be required to be implemented other than in the school buildings while school is in session, and as such is not required to be implemented at extracurricular activities, on school buses, or during school field trips. Implementation of the Emergency Protocol at such non-mandatory times or places shall be made in the discretion of the administration and shall be subject to the availability of the employees designated or trained in implementation of the Emergency Protocol and the availability of the necessary equipment and medication at such times or places.

The parent or guardian of a student of minority age may sign a waiver requesting that their student not receive emergency treatment under this protocol.

The Superintendent or designee shall further develop and implement protocols to address anaphylaxis and the emergency use of epinephrine at school buildings and school-sponsored activities. A school nurse or trained staff member may administer epinephrine to any individual believed to be experiencing anaphylaxis. These protocols will also address the District's response, documentation, notification, and reporting any instances of administering epinephrine. The District will continue to implement individualized health or Section 504 plans for students with known severe allergies, and nothing in this policy limits rights or accommodations under Section 504, the ADA, or the IDEA.

When a student is found to have live lice and/or nits:

- a. The parent/guardian is notified and information related to detection and elimination of head lice will be provided at that time or sent home with the student in a sealed envelope.
- b. The student is not sent home from school, however it is acceptable if the parent/guardian picks up the student.
- c. The parent/guardian is instructed that the student should be treated before returning to school and that nits should be removed.
- d. When the student returns to school, the school health staff is to confirm that treatment has been completed. If live and/or nits are found, the parent is notified to keep nit-picking and combing.
- e. Follow up head checks may be done by school staff to confirm lice management efforts. If future checks reveal an increased number of nits present or it is obvious to the screener that the student's hair has not been treated, the parent/guardian will be contacted for follow-up and support.

Notification Procedures:

- a. The customary notification for the presence of head lice is to be done on an individual/case by case basis to the parent/guardian of the infested student. Classroom notifications are not done with typical head lice cases.
- b. In very unusual cases, it may be appropriate in the professional opinion of the school official and in consultation of the administrator to consider a general parent/guardian notification for a high number of identified cases of head lice. Any communication will protect student confidentiality in accordance with applicable privacy laws.

Exclusion Procedure Support:

- a. In the rare case that a student has either: 1) chronic head lice infestation or 2) severe head lice infestation that is disruptive to the learning environment, the school health official will be consulted.
- b. If in the nurse's professional judgement it is determined that exclusion needs to be considered, the nurse will consult with the administrator about implementing exclusion. This measure will be taken with careful consideration:
 - i. With chronic head lice infestation cases, the school health official will secure documentation of repeated and unsuccessful head lice management measures.
 - ii. The return of the student after exclusion will be predicated on a head check with evidence of progress in head lice management and progress toward eradication of the head lice. Evidence will look like elimination of live lice and a decrease in the number of nits.
 - iii. It may be appropriate in the judgement of the school nurse to monitor progress of lice management over a period of time. The goal is supporting the family in head lice eradication.

Immunizations

Students must meet all State of Nebraska/Health and Human Services requirements for immunizations.

STUDENT RECORDS**Student Files**

The school maintains three separate files of student records.

1. Cumulative File

- A. Academic Records may contain but are not limited to:

- a. directory information
 - b. classes, grades and credits

- c. test scores
- d. attendance
- e. school activity participation
- B. Disciplinary Records
 - a. description of disciplinary problems and actions taken
 - b. copies of correspondence resulting from disciplinary action

2. Health Records-All records are located in an administrative office and are available for review by the parents or student at age 18. The high school will comply with the request for review within a reasonable period of time. Parents or a student at age 18 will have the right to a hearing to challenge the content of the records if so desired.

3. Special Education Records

Student Records and Parental Rights

Students 18 years of age or older, or parents of students under the age of 18 may schedule a conference with an administrator to evaluate the file upon request. Requests for transcripts must be made in writing to the office. Parents must sign the request for students under 18, but for those who are 18 or over, only that individual can make the request (The office may send transcripts to an educational institution with a verbal request but all other requests must be made in writing). This is in compliance with guidelines established by the Federal Privacy Act. Questions concerning the complete FERPA rules and regulations may be directed to the Administration.

If a student is not supposed to have contact with his/her parents, the school must be notified in writing by the appropriate authorities.

Birth Certificate Requirements

State law requires that a certified copy of a student's birth certificate be used when enrolling a new student in school. If a student is registering with the school for the first time, documents may be obtained from the Bureau of Vital Statistics in the state in which the child was born. Assistance in obtaining birth certificates may be obtained from Health Records Management, P.O. Box 95065, Lincoln, NE 68509-5065. There is a fee per certificate. *Please note:* The document parents receive from the hospital looks like a birth certificate, but it is not a certified state copy. A certified copy has the raised seal of the state of Nebraska on it and is signed by the director of vital statistics.

Hay Springs SafeSchools Reporting System

This system allows students, parents, staff and community members to quickly, easily, and anonymously report safety concerns to school officials 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. You may access this reporting tool by visiting our district website at www.hshawks.com and clicking on the SafeSchools tab on the lower left of the homepage.

SECTION 7: ALCOHOL AND TOBACCO

Philosophy

All students have the right to attend school in a drug-free environment conducive to good learning. The use of controlled substances, alcohol, and tobacco is not only a violation of the law, but it interferes with both effective educational activities and the healthy development of young people. The education system has a fundamental, ethical and legal obligation to prevent drug abuse and maintain a drug-free and safe educational environment, not only throughout the schools, but also in all school-related activities.

Offenses on School Property or at School Sanctioned Activities

School Reporting Procedures

1. School personnel who come in contact with evidence of a student possessing or being under the influence of a controlled substance are required to notify the Principal.
2. School personnel who have reasonable suspicion that a student possesses or is under the influence of alcohol, tobacco, controlled substances, "look-alike" drugs, or drug paraphernalia will request that the student accompany them to the Administration or designated official. If the student refuses, the staff member will immediately notify the Administration or designated official. In the event that the incident occurs at an evening or out-of-town activity, the school personnel will also contact the parent and/or law enforcement.

Administrative Responsibilities

1. An Administrator and/or school nurse will make the judgment regarding the immediate medical needs of the student. If no medical attention is required, the administrator may interview the student.
2. An Administrator will attempt to obtain evidence by direct request, questioning, and through search and seizure procedures as outlined in these administrative procedures.
3. Information procured will be documented and evidence will be tagged for identification and placed in a secure area.

Parent Notification

1. An Administrator will notify the student's parents as soon as it is fully determined that a violation of school rules & regulations has occurred.
2. The parents will be informed of the nature of the student's violation, that (in cases of illegal possession of alcohol and/or controlled substances) the appropriate law enforcement authorities have been contacted, and that the parents' presence is requested, if possible, while the student is being questioned by law enforcement authorities.

Law Enforcement Notification

1. In the cases of illegal possession of alcohol and/or a controlled substance, the appropriate law enforcement authorities will be contacted by school personnel and requested to report to the school.
2. The Administrator will turn all confiscated contraband over to the law enforcement authorities and explain the results of the student interview.
3. Law enforcement authorities may question the student.

CODE OF CONDUCT – HAY SPRINGS JR/SR HIGH SCHOOL

PROCEDURE ON VIOLATION: In the event the student is to be suspended from activities pursuant to the established rule, the following action shall be taken:

1. The student shall be notified immediately of the action taken.
2. The student shall meet with the school Activities Director and Principal. The parent/guardian should be notified and invited to attend the meeting. If sponsors, teachers, and coaches are involved they should also be invited to attend.
3. At this meeting, full explanation of the action taken shall be given and the student and his/her parent/guardian shall be afforded full opportunity to make any statements or explanation desired.

CRITERIA FOR SANCTIONS:

1. Refusal to abide by the school's requests concerning actions, appearance and general conduct as representative of Hay Springs Jr.- Sr. High School.
2. Violations of any rules listed below reported by school personnel and/or law, or personal admission.
 - A. Possession or use of alcohol
 - B. Possession or use of a controlled substance
 - C. Possession or use of Tobacco (smoking or chewing)
 - D. Possession or use of electronic nicotine devices
 - E. Any crime involving violence, willful destruction of property or any actions involving moral turpitude

If Criteria for Sanction fall under A-D then the following disciplinary actions will be applied. If Criteria for Sanction Falls under E the educational component is not applicable.

First Offense: Meeting with Principal, Athletic Director, parent(s), and student;

- The Student is notified of suspension from competitions in all extracurricular/co-curricular activities for 8 School days during the school year and a minimum of one (1) contest/performance/activity. If all activities in which the student participates cease before the end of the suspension, the remainder of the suspension will carry over to the following year's activities so the student completes the required number of days; and
- The student must complete an approved drug and alcohol education class at the student's expense during the next available session. **(The student will be expected to attend and participate in all scheduled practices during the suspension) **

Second Offense: Meeting with Principal, Athletic Director, parent(s), and student;

- The Student is notified of suspension from competitions in all extracurricular/co-curricular activities for 16 School days during the school year and a minimum of one (1) contest/performance/activity. If all activities in which the student participates cease before the end of the suspension, the remainder of the suspension will carry over to the following year's activities so the student completes the required number of days; and
- The student must complete an approved drug and alcohol education class at the student's expense during the next available session. **(The student will be expected to attend and participate in all scheduled practices during the suspension) **

Third Offense: Meeting with Principal, Athletic Director, parent(s), and student;

- The Student is notified of suspension from competitions in all extracurricular/co-curricular activities for the remainder of the school year and a minimum of one (1) contest/performance/activity. If all activities in which the student participates cease before the end of the suspension, the remainder of the suspension will carry over to the following year's activities so the student completes the required number of days; and
- The student must complete an approved drug and alcohol education class at the student's expense during the next available session. **(The student will be expected to attend and participate in all scheduled practices during the suspension) **

Fourth Offense: Meeting with Principal, Athletic Director, parent(s), and student;

• Suspension of eligibility to participate in activities for the remainder of the student's time as a student at Hay Springs Public Schools.

*****Vacation days will be EXCLUDED, except for those on which scheduled school activities are held*****

When the penalty for violation cannot be completed in the confines of one (1) school year, it shall carry over into the next school year in which the student will be participating in such activities.

1. Suspension from participation shall include attendance at dances and contributing in any way to the contest/performance.
2. Participation in Graduation and Honors Night may be denied at the discretion of the administration, if it has reasonable cause to believe a student's conduct merits such suspension, for reasons to include, but not limited to, those set forth in the student Code of Conduct.

SELF-REPORT OPTION: If a student voluntarily reports, prior to being addressed by the administration, to the coach, sponsor, activities director, or principal within three (3) school days of the rule violation, the consequences for first and second violations will be reduced. In the case of a first violation, the suspension would be reduced to 10 days and one (1) activity. This applies to the first offense only. The student must complete an approved drug and alcohol education class at the student's expense during the next available session.

STUDENT ABSENCE ON THE DAY OF AN ACTIVITY:

1. Students must be in attendance by 10AM through the end of the school day to attend practice unless prearranged with the administration.
2. Students must be in attendance by 10AM or 4 hours prior to event departure through the end of the school day on the day of any scheduled school activity in order to participate. The student must attend all classes the day after any scheduled school activity in order to participate in the next corresponding activity. Exceptions to this rule may be arranged and approved by the administration.
3. Pre-arranged medically excused absences will not affect participation.

.....SUMMER ACTIVITIES.....

Student groups holding student activities during the summer months are applicable. In these situations, such groups must require that their members are subject to the provisions of the Hay Springs High School Code of Conduct on a year-round basis, and are therefore subject to disciplinary measures for breaches of the "Code", regardless of the season or time of the year.

SUMMER PENALTIES: Penalties assessed during the summer will apply at the start of school activities in the next year.

APPEAL:

1. In the event the student, parent or guardian should disagree with the actions of the Activities Director/Principal, they may appeal the decision to the Superintendent by giving written notice of such appeal to the Superintendent within twenty-four (24) hours of the decision of the Activities Director/Principal. Upon receipt of such notice of appeal the Superintendent shall review the record and render his/her decision within twenty-four (24) hours of the receipt of the notice of appeal.

2. If the student, parent or guardian disagrees with the decision of the Superintendent on appeal, then the decision may be further appealed to the School Board by giving written notice of such appeal to the Secretary of the Board of Education within twenty-four (24) hours of the Superintendent's decision on appeal. The School Board shall then schedule a hearing on the matter within seventy-two (72) hours of receipt of notice of appeal and render its decision. The decision of the Hay Springs School Board shall be final for purposes of appeal to any court of competent jurisdiction.

DATE: _____ SCHOOL: HAY SPRINGS

BIRTHDATE: _____

I HAVE READ THE RULES PERTAINING TO THE CODE OF CONDUCT FOR CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES AND ACKNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTAND THE PURPOSE THEREOF.

Student's Signature

Date

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

All students/parents/guardians are required to sign the Code of Conduct form and return it to the Activities Director's Office. If the form is not signed and returned, the student is not eligible to participate in any school sanctioned or school sponsored activities.

This is a 365-day Code of Conduct from the date of signature.

Hay Springs Public Schools

RANDOM MANDATORY DRUG TESTING POLICY FOR STUDENTS INVOLVED IN EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

MISSION STATEMENT

The Board of Education for Hay Springs Public Schools values students' participation in extracurricular activities. Such students, as role models for other students, are a key to our goal to provide the best possible educational program for our students. To achieve our goal and to maximize the skills and talents of our students, it is important that each student understands the dangers of drug and alcohol use. This policy statement should qualify our position on student drug and alcohol use. Participation in extracurricular activities is a privilege which can be taken away for failure to comply with this policy. The purpose of this policy is as follows:

- 1) To provide for the health and safety of all students;
- 2) To undermine the effects of peer pressure by providing legitimate reason for students to refuse use of illegal drugs and/or alcohol;
- 3) To identify students who use illegal drugs and/or alcohol; and
- 4) To encourage students who use illegal drugs and/or alcohol to participate in appropriate treatment programs.

DEFINITIONS

DPA: A national certified Drug Program Administrator, which shall use a certified laboratory in testing of samples.

Drugs: Any substance considered illegal by Nebraska Statute, i.e., Uniform Controlled Substances Act, section 28-401 et seq., or which is controlled by the Food and Drug Administration unless prescribed to the student by any licensed medical practitioner authorized to prescribe controlled substances. For purposes of this policy, drugs shall include the illegal use of alcohol.

Drug Program Coordinator: The Drug Program Coordinator shall be the Hay Springs High School Principal or the designee.

MRO: Medical Review Officer.

School Year: From the first day classes commence in the fall, unless the activity begins prior to the first day of classes, in which event it shall include from the first day of practice through and including the last day of classes and/or school activities as defined by policy.

Activity Programs: Any activity that meets the guidelines of an extracurricular activity at Hay Springs Public Schools, which shall include the following:

Basketball	Golf	Student Council
Cross Country	Wrestling	Football
FBLA	One Act Plays	Track
Band/Choir	Volleyball	FFA
Speech/Debate/Journalism		

*Other extra-curricular activities not required for graduation such as prom, winter ball and homecoming.

Participant: Any student who participates in any extracurricular activity as herein before set forth shall be a participant and his/her name shall be included in the participant pool. A participant shall enter the participant pool upon signing the attached consent form (EXHIBIT A) along with his/her parent or guardian, and returning said signed consent form to the High School Principal. A participant shall remain in the selection pool until the end of the current calendar school year. A student will be removed from the testing pool if he/she has voluntarily withdrawn from the testing pool.

Sample Collection: Samples will be collected as directed by the Drug Program Administrator on the same day the student is selected for testing, or if the student is absent on that day, on the day of the student's return to school. If a urine sample is required, all students providing samples will do so alone in an individual bathroom or stall with the door closed.

Drug Program Administrator: The Board will choose a nationally certified Drug Program Administrator (DPA) for the purpose of determining through random selection the student(s)/ participant(s) to be tested. This will be accomplished by the use of a "Student List" identifying the student by number only. The DPA, by use of a certified laboratory, shall also process sample results and maintain privacy with respect to test results and related matters.

Medical Review Officer "MRO": Hay Springs High School will utilize an MRO to review all laboratory-reported positive tests. The role of the MRO is critical to protecting the interest of the students. The MRO serves a critical role in determining whether the use of a substance identified by the sample analysis is from illicit use or a legitimate medical use. The MRO will demonstrate his/her knowledge by being certified by an MRO Accreditation body. The parent or the guardian will be contacted by the MRO or his/her assistant. The MRO will report results of verified positives and/or warrant health and safety issues to the student and to the designated school representative through the DPA.

Scope of Tests: The drug screen tests for one or more illegal drugs and/or alcohol. The Drug Program Coordinator shall determine which illegal drugs shall be screened, but in no event shall that determination be made after selection of students for testing.

Student samples will not be screened for the presence of any substances other than an illegal drug or for the existence of any physical condition other than drug use.

Non-Punitive Nature of Policy: No student shall be penalized academically for testing positive for illegal drugs or alcohol. The results of drug tests pursuant to this policy will not be documented in any student's academic records. Information regarding the results of drug tests will not be disclosed to criminal or juvenile authorities absent legal compulsion by valid and binding subpoena or other legal process, which the district shall not solicit. In the event of service of any such subpoena or legal process, the student and the student's custodial parent or legal guardian will be notified as soon as possible by the district.

DRUG SCREENING PROCEDURES

General Policy: Practical experience and research have proven that even small quantities of narcotics, abused prescription drugs or alcohol can affect judgment and reflexes which can create unsafe conditions for students, especially those involved in sports or any activity covered in this policy. Even when not readily apparent, the effect can have serious results for students engaged in activities. Drug-using students participating in extracurricular activities are a threat to co-participants, other students, and themselves, and may make injurious errors. For these reasons, the Board has adopted a policy that all students participating in extracurricular activities must remain substance-free.

Prohibitions: All students participating in extracurricular activities are prohibited from using, possessing, distributing, manufacturing, or having controlled substances, improperly used medications, or any mind/mood altering or intoxicating substances present in their system.

Alcohol Use / Possession: All students participating in extracurricular activities are prohibited from possessing or use of alcohol.

After School Hours Conduct: After-school-hours use of drugs, alcohol, or any other prohibited substances is illegal. All students participating in extracurricular activities should realize that these regulations prohibit all illicit drug use during and away from school activities.

Procedure:

1. All Current Students Participating in Extracurricular Activities

A. Random Testing

The Board authorizes random unannounced screening of all students participating in extracurricular activities. The list of students participating in extracurricular activities contained in the random pool will be updated upon receipt of a signed consent form. Students participating in extracurricular activities who have been selected will be required to report to the designated collection site for testing.

B. Consent

Each student wishing to participate in any extracurricular activity and the student's custodial parent or legal guardian shall consent in writing to drug testing pursuant to the district's drug testing program. Written consent shall be in the form attached to this policy as EXHIBIT A. No student shall be allowed to participate in any extracurricular activity absent such consent.

C. Removal from the Random Testing List

Students who quit or are cut from an activity, prior to being selected for random testing, may request their name be dropped from the testing list. A request form must be signed by the student and his/her parents to be dropped. However, students may volunteer to remain in the pool even though he/she are not part of the activity. If a student chooses to drop out of the testing pool mid-year they will not be allowed to re-enter the testing pool until a year from the date their name was removed.

2. Testing Procedures

A. General Guidelines

The Board and the DPA shall rely, when practical, on the guidance of the Federal Department of Transportation, Procedures for Transportation Workplace Drug Testing Programs, 49 C.F.R. Parts 40.1 through 40.39, and on the further guidance of the Omnibus Transportation Employee Testing Act provided in 49 C.F.R. Parts 382, 391, 392 and 395.

B. Substances

Substances that students participating in extracurricular activities may be randomly tested for: alcohol, amphetamines, cannabinoids, cocaine, opiates, synthetic opiates and PCP, and other substances, such as but not limited to steroids, barbiturates, and benzodiazepines without advance notice as part of tests authorized by the Board for safety purposes. Such tests will be coordinated with the Drug Program Coordinator.

C. Testing Procedure

The Board reserves the right to utilize hair, breath, saliva or urinalysis testing procedures. Urine, hair and oral fluid samples which screen positive will be confirmed by GC/MS. Positive saliva or breath alcohol tests will be confirmed by EBT (Evidential Breath Tester).

3. Collection Sites

The Drug Program Coordinator will designate a collection site(s) at Hay Springs High School where individuals may provide specimens.

4. Collection Procedures

The Board and the DPA have developed and will maintain a documented procedure for collecting, shipping and accessing all specimens. The Board and the DPA will utilize a standard Custody and Control Form for all students participating in

extracurricular activities testing. A tamper-proof sealing system, identifying numbers, labels, and sealed shipping containers will be used for specimen transportation. Collection sites will maintain instructions and training emphasizing the responsibility of the collection site personnel to protect the integrity of the specimen and maintain as proper a collection procedure that is reasonable. All alcohol testing will be performed by a certified Breath Alcohol Technician (BAT). Where the Board has an employee collect the specimen, the Board will provide instruction and training to that employee.

5. Return of Results

The DPA will transmit by a secure method the results of all tests to the DPA's MRO. The MRO will be responsible for reviewing test results of students. Prior to making a final decision, the MRO shall give the individual an opportunity to discuss the result either face-to-face or over the telephone. The DPA shall then promptly tell the principal of the high school which student(s) tested positive.

6. Request for Retest

A split specimen will be collected for all testing methods, with the exception of alcohol testing. A positive alcohol test will be confirmed with an EBT device. Students involved in the program may, upon a non-negative test result, request that the split sample be tested (within 72 hours of being notified of the final testing result) at a second nationally certified laboratory from a list provided by the MRO. The request for the test must be submitted in writing to the MRO. Students participating in extracurricular activities are required to pay the associated costs for an additional test in advance. However, the costs will be reimbursed if the result of the split sample test is negative.

Positive Results: Whenever a student's test results indicate the presence of an illegal drug (positive test), the following will occur: If the sample tests positive, the custodial parent or legal guardian will be notified and a meeting will be scheduled with the Hay Springs High School Principal (Drug Program Coordinator), the student, and the custodial parent or legal guardian.

First Positive Test or First Refusal to Submit to a Drug Test:

- DPC meeting with parent(s) and student;
- The student will be ineligible to publicly perform in any activity for 8 school days
- Written proof of alcohol/drug use assessment by a drug counselor is required at the student's expense. Follow through of the recommended drug assistance program sessions with the counselor is strongly encouraged.
- Follow-up drug testing, a minimum of once a month, will commence after the first parent meeting for the remainder of the school year.

Second Positive Test or Second Refusal to Submit to a Drug Test:

- DPC meeting with parent/s and the student
- Suspension of the privilege to publicly perform in extracurricular activities for 16 school days.
- Five sessions of drug counseling must be completed at the student's expense before the student may petition to return to activities.
- Follow-up drug testing, a minimum of once a month, for the remainder of the school year.
- Student will return to step 2 in subsequent school years.

Third Positive Test or Third Refusal to Submit to a Drug Test

- DPC meeting with parent/s and student
- Suspension of the privilege to publicly perform in extracurricular activities for the remainder of the school year.
- An additional five sessions of drug counseling must be completed at the student's expense before the student may petition to return to activities.
- Follow-up drug testing, a minimum of once a month, will commence after the first parent/guardian meeting for the remainder of the school year.
- Student will return to step 2 in subsequent school years.

Fourth Positive Test or Fourth Refusal to Submit to a Test

- DPC meeting with the parent/guardian and student;
- Suspension of eligibility to participate in activities for the remainder of the student's time as a student at their assigned attendance center.
- **Refusal to Submit to Drug Use Test:** A participating student who refuses to submit to a drug test authorized under this policy, shall have the same obligations, responsibilities and shall incur the same penalties as though the student tested positive for an illegal drug (positive test).

Appeal: A student participating in extracurricular activities who has been determined by the principal or Drug Program Coordinator to be in violation of this policy shall have the right to appeal the decision to the Superintendent or his/her designee(s). Such request for a review must be submitted to the Superintendent in writing within five (5) calendar days of notice of the positive test. A student requesting a review will remain eligible to participate in any extracurricular activities until the review is completed. The Superintendent or his/her designee(s) shall then determine whether the original finding was justified. No further review of the Superintendent's decision will be provided, and his/her decision shall be conclusive in all respects. Any necessary interpretation or application of this policy shall be in the sole and exclusive judgment and discretion of the Superintendent which shall be final and not subject to appeal.

Record Keeping and Confidentiality: All records pertaining to participants shall be kept separate from the student records. The record keeping and results of all testing will be held in the strictest confidence. These records will be accessible only to the Drug Program Coordinator or his designee. Records pertaining to a particular student will be destroyed upon his/her graduation from Hay Springs High School, or one year after his/her class graduation.

SEVERABILITY

Should any sentence, clause, provision, or paragraph of this entire policy be deemed unlawful or unconstitutional, it is intended that, insofar as may be practicable, the remaining portions of this policy shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 8: STUDENT RIGHTS, CONDUCT, RULES AND REGULATIONS

Hay Springs Discipline Matrix

Hay Springs Schools believes in every student's right to access and obtain a quality education. Hay Springs Schools utilizes a discipline matrix to communicate the way that the school will deal with discipline issues. Consistency in dealing with unwanted school behaviors leads to a greater understanding and trust with all stakeholders. The discipline matrix guides the administration on how to deal with most situations; however, administrative discretion is necessary in certain situations. The ultimate goal with this approach is to educate our students, and provide an opportunity to change behaviors.

Bullying

Hay Springs Public Schools recognizes that bullying and intimidation have a negative effect on school climate. Students who are intimidated and fearful cannot give their education the single-minded attention they need for success. Bullying can also lead to more serious violence. Every student has the right to an education and to be safe in and around school.

Definition of bullying: Bullying is a pattern of physical and/or mental abuse over time that results in, or is likely to result in physical and/or emotional harm. Such abuse is often viewed as a student being "picked on." Bullying includes physical intimidation or assault; extortion; oral or written threats; teasing; putdowns; name-calling; threatening looks, gestures or actions; cruel rumors; false accusations; and social isolation.

Bullying is prohibited. Hay Springs Public Schools and staff shall not tolerate any bullying on District grounds or at any school activity on or off campus.

Staff intervention: Staff members who observe or become aware of an act of bullying will take immediate, appropriate steps to intervene. Staff members shall also report all acts of bullying to the Administration, and file a report providing as much information as possible to assist in any investigation.

Students and parents shall report bullying: The Board expects students and parents who become aware of an act of bullying to report such actions to the appropriate staff member or to the building Administration for further investigation. Students and parents may also report bullying through the Safe Schools website. A link can be found on the school website (hshawks.com). Any student who retaliates against another for reporting bullying may be subject to the consequences listed below.

Copyright and Fair Use Policy

It is the school's policy to follow the Federal Copyright Law. Students are reminded that, when using school equipment and when completing course work, they also must follow the Federal Copyright Laws. The Federal Copyright Law governs the reproduction of works authorship. Copyrighted works are protected regardless of the medium in which they are created or reproduced; thus, copyright extends to digital works and works transformed into a digital format. Copyrighted works are not limited to those that bear a copyright notice.

Public Displays of Affection

Public Displays of Affection will not be tolerated on school property or at school activities and will be subject to disciplinary action. Such conduct includes: kissing or any other types of affection that would be considered inappropriate or an undue distraction to others. Students will be sent to the office if this type of behavior occurs and will be subject to disciplinary action.

Public Indecency

Any student who commits public indecency during school or during a school activity of any kind is subject to disciplinary action. Public indecency is defined in Nebraska State Statute section 28-806.

Student Conduct on School Transportation

Safety of student passengers is primary; this overrides all other considerations. Students must be well-behaved during transportation. Outside of ordinary conversation, classroom conduct is to be observed by the students. Any student, who is guilty of inappropriate behavior, may forfeit the privilege to ride in a school vehicle. Any case of pupil misbehavior and failure to cooperate with the driver is subject to disciplinary action.

Student Appearance Policy

All students are expected to dress and groom themselves neatly in clothes that are suitable for school. Any clothing or attire that creates a disturbance or disrupts the learning environment is not to be worn in school.

- No crop tops or sagging pants - clothes must meet in the middle
- Tank Top straps must be 2 finger widths wide
- Shorts/ skirts/ dresses must be a minimum of knuckle length
- No hats, hoods, visors, or bandanas
- No clothing that depicts guns, violence, drugs, tobacco, or alcohol
- Clothing may not state, imply, or depict hate speech/imagery targeting groups based on race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, religion, or any other protected group
- No inappropriate accessories ie: chains, gloves, sunglasses etc.

Coaches, sponsors or teachers may have additional requirements for students who are in special lab classes, students who are participants in performing groups or students who are representing the school as part of an extracurricular activity program.

SECTION 9: ATHLETICS AND ACTIVITIES - no changes unless AD or NSAA request

NSAA Eligibility Requirements

1. Student must be an undergraduate.
2. Student must be enrolled in at least twenty hours per week and regular in attendance, in accordance with the school's attendance rules and regulations at the school he/she wishes to represent in interscholastic competition.
3. Student must be enrolled in some high school on or before the eleventh school day of the current year.
4. Student is ineligible if nineteen years of age before August 1 of current school year.
5. After a student's initial enrollment in grade nine, he/she shall be ineligible after eight semesters of school membership.
6. Student must have been enrolled in school the immediate preceding semester.
7. Student must have received twenty semester hours of credit the immediate preceding semester and must be receiving a minimum of twenty semester credits during the semester of activity participation.
8. Once the season of a sport begins, a student shall compete only in athletic contests/meets in that sport which are scheduled by his/her school. Any other competition will render the student ineligible for a portion of, or all of, the season in that sport. The season of a sport begins with the first date of practice as permitted by NSAA rules.
9. A student shall not participate in sports camps or clinics during the season of a sport in which he/she is involved, either as an individual or as a member of a team.
10. A student shall not participate on an all-star team while a high school undergraduate.
11. A student entering grade nine for the first time after being promoted from grade eight of a two-year junior high, or a three-year middle school, or entering a high school for the first time after being promoted to grade ten from a three-year junior high school is eligible. After making a choice of high schools, any subsequent transfer will cause the student to be ineligible for ninety school days.
12. If a student has participated on a high school team at any level as a seventh, eighth or ninth grade student, he/she has established his/her eligibility at the high school where he/she participated. If the student elects to attend another high school upon entering ninth or tenth grade, he/she shall be ineligible for ninety school days.
13. When the parents of a student change their domicile from one school district, which has a high school to another school district, which has a high school, the student is ineligible for ninety school days except:
 - A. If the change in domicile by the parent occurs during a school year, the student may remain at the school he/she is attending and be eligible until the end of the school year or transfer to a high school located in the school district where the parents established their domicile and be eligible.
 - B. If a student has been attending the same high school since initial enrollment in grade nine and the school is located in the school district from which the parents moved, he/she may remain at that high school and retain eligibility or he/she is eligible at a high school located in the school district where his/her parents established their domicile.
 - C. If the parents moved during the summer months and the student is in grade twelve, the student may remain at the high school he/she has been attending and retain eligibility.
 - D. Parentship does not fulfill the definition of a parent. If a Parent has been appointed for a student, the student is eligible in the school district where his /her natural parents{s} have their domicile. Individual situations involving Parentship may be submitted to the Executive Director for his review and ruling.

- E. A student shall not participate in a contest under an assumed name.
- F. A student must maintain his/her amateur status.
- G. Students who take part in activities must be eligible according to the Hay Springs District #3 Eligibility Rules and Regulations.

Before your student begins any athletic season, including practice, he or she must have the following forms filled out, signed and returned to the Office or on file in the office.

1. Physical form with health care provider's signature.
2. Check for participation fee.
3. NSAA permission to participate form.

Nebraska School Activities Association Sports Seasons

All interscholastic sports in grades 9-12 are divided into three seasons, fall, winter, and spring. The 6th (if applicable), 7th and 8th grade interscholastic athletics are divided into four seasons, fall, early winter, late winter and spring.

Extracurricular Activities

The school offers a variety of extracurricular activities for both young men and women who desire to participate in school activities.

Hay Springs Public School students have the privilege of participating, practicing and competing in any approved extracurricular program. Coaches will determine playing time in games based on their professional determination of each athlete's abilities. A varsity head coach will communicate to the players who will suit up for varsity games and this includes seniors who might not suit up for games based upon the coach's professional judgment.

It is the desire of the school system to instill in each student the desire to promote the activity program and good sportsmanship in Hay Springs Public Schools. In order for students to do this they should be willing to:

1. Consider all opponents as guests at Hay Springs and treat them with all the courtesy due friends and guests.
2. Accept the decision of the officials and judges without question.
3. Never use abusive or irritating remarks from the sidelines.
4. Applaud good sportsmanship from opponents and teammates.
5. Strive for victory through fair play according to the rules of the activity.
6. Love the activity for its own sake, not for what winning may bring them through publicity.
7. Do everything possible to encourage enthusiasm for the activity and courtesy and respect for the participants, directors, judges, coaches, officials and fans.
8. Win without boasting and lose without excuses.
9. Do all within their power to make the entire activities program something to be proud of.

Any student is welcome to try out for any of the interscholastic activities available to them provided they meet the requirements established by the State Activities Association and the school and they agree to follow the guidelines established in the student handbook.

EXTRACURRICULAR EVENTS -This list may not be all inclusive:

All Athletic Events	Homecoming Dance
Non-Academic Field Trips	Prom Royalty
Choir	Prom Dance
Band Activities	Prom Server
Vocal Music	Usher for Graduation
Speech Activities	Inter-Scholastic Quiz Bowl
One Act Play	CSC Scholastic Day
Homecoming Royalty	FBLA
Homecoming Usher	FFA

Activities that are required as part of a class grade and are approved by the Administration may be exempt.

Sportsmanship

Coaches and athletes shall conduct themselves in accordance with the playing rules of the sport contest and refrain from unsportsmanlike conduct during interscholastic competition. Failure to fulfill this obligation will subject the individual(s) to the penalties as provided in Article 2, Section 2.11, NSAA Bylaws Governing All Activities.

Unsportsmanlike conduct shall include the following: fighting, verbal abuse or dissent directed toward an official or opponent, racial or ethnic slurs, inappropriate comments or actions that may be construed as sexual harassment, profanity, obscene gestures, flagrant and violent fouls, taunting, trash talk, baiting, cheating, throwing or abusing equipment, inappropriate posters, physical intimidation or abuse of an official or opponent, and unauthorized leaving of a team bench area.

Transportation

The Activities Director/Transportation Director is responsible for the transportation of students to all activities. The Activities Director/Transportation Director will make decisions on travel after consultation with those whose input is considered essential in making the decision. Those who will be involved in the decision making process will include the Administration, the Activities Director, the Transportation Director, government agencies and others whose information is deemed necessary to make a decision. Student safety is the first and foremost consideration in making travel decisions. Once student activity groups leave the school, decisions regarding travel are at the discretion of the driver.

All members of a group must ride together as a team to the event (unless, due to extenuating circumstances, prior arrangements are made with the athletic director) and will return from a contest by the same transportation provided for taking them to the contest. (Exception: A participant may continue on a trip or return home only if the parent signs them out at the activities event or the parent has made arrangements with the Administration or Coach.) Coaches/Sponsors will ride to and from events with the team.

Student Managers/Videographers

Only ONE student manager for each team (girls' basketball, boys' basketball, etc). Student managers/videographers must be eligible. Managers must attend regular practices, attend games on weekends and evenings, and have specific job duties. Only ONE videographer per sport not per team.

Managers/ videographers are allowed to ride with the team if there is sufficient room – we will not take an extra vehicle to accommodate these positions. Middle Level managers cannot travel with High School teams.

Activities on Church Night and Sundays

According to the Nebraska School Activities Association, no activities may be scheduled on Sunday. In addition to this, the school wishes to work cooperatively with the churches of the community. Wednesday night is observed as church night in our community and every effort is made to have students out of the building in time to participate in these activities, or no later than 6:00 p.m.

Equipment

The athletic department tries to furnish the athlete with the equipment needed. We are confident that we have good equipment and in the case of contact sports, our athletes are well protected.

All equipment will be checked out to individuals at the beginning of the season by the coach in charge. The athlete will be responsible for this equipment and should be prepared to pay for the cost of replacement if it is not checked in at the end of the season in reasonable condition. All school equipment shall remain the property of the school. Any school equipment observed being worn outside of an activity will be confiscated. (Exception: Football jerseys may be worn as a team on game days and Homecoming week to show school spirit.)

It is the responsibility of the athlete to check in the equipment at the end of the season or immediately should he/she quit a sport. If an athlete fails to check in their equipment at the designated time or immediately should he/she quit a sport, he/she will be expected to pay for the cost of replacement and will be placed on the ineligible list until all equipment is returned or the appropriate fine is paid. All collections for lost equipment will be handled by the activities director.

At no time should the athlete wear equipment checked out to him/her except for practices and contests.

Activity and Sponsorship Guidelines

All school related activities must be scheduled through the office. The office should be notified of the following: times of meetings, pep rallies, and other school related activities.

Fund Raising

All fund raising activities must be approved by the office prior to beginning the fundraiser.

HSPS Activities/Athletics Fundraising Guidelines

- One fundraiser per group/team where students are selling products
- Can take on additional fund raisers if the additional opportunities are community service based... ex. Flyover, Santa Soup...
- Groups can take on concession stands and tailgates. ** Must be approved by Activities Director
- Can hold additional fundraisers for National Competitions (FBLA, FFA, Music etc.) if students have earned an opportunity to compete.
- Students and organizations cannot solicit monetary donations.

Nationals guidelines

- HSPS will provide transportation to and from the airport (Denver, Rapid) if flying.
- HSPS will provide entry fees, hotel and travel expenses for national qualifiers and one sponsor.
- HSPS will provide \$35.00 per diem for food for sponsor and qualified students
 - Supplemental or additional food costs will be borne by the student organization
- Students who do not qualify for competition but are accompanying the team to take part in training, experience, etc. - Those fees will be borne 100% by the students organization/team.

***The Superintendent and School Board reserve the right to change or deny compensation for national trips due to adverse economic situations.

State Guidelines

- HSPS will provide transportation to and from State Competitions
- HSPS will provide entry fees, hotel and travel expenses for State Competitions for students and sponsors who qualify for the competition.
- HSPS will provide \$35.00 per diem for food for sponsor and qualified students
 - Supplemental or additional food costs will be borne by the student organization/team
- Students who do not qualify for competition but are accompanying the team to take part in training, experience, etc. - Those fees will be borne 100% by the students organization/team.

Purchases of Team or Organization Apparel

All purchases of apparel to be worn by team members or organizations must be approved by the Activity Director and the Administration and meet school dress codes and school guidelines. Our groups represent our school in the public and our team clothing and purchases are to promote pride and class at all times.

Role of Middle School Athletics

The Hay Springs Middle School athletic program is for the purpose of introducing the sports offered to as many students who wish to become acquainted with the sports of the school. The athletes will be made aware of the rules and will be taught the fundamentals of the sport, or sports, they choose to participate in. In giving them that opportunity they will then be able to determine if they wish to continue on in that sport.

The coach/coaches will encourage all Middle School athletes to participate to the best of their ability and to continue to participate in the athletic program. At the same time the coach/coaches should not pressure them to do so.

Participation at the Middle School and Junior Varsity Levels

Participation at the Junior High and Junior Varsity levels is extremely important for the building of a program. At Hay Springs, we feel that if an athlete is suited up for a Junior High or JV contest, they will be expected to play. Circumstances may arise that make it unavoidable to enforce this policy but for the most part it will be adhered to.

Lettering/Award Protocol

Lettering Requirements for all Activities

Student must be recommended for a letter award by the head coach/sponsor, assistant coach and/or Activities Director.

Participation requirement will be as follows:

Football & Basketball

Participate in as many quarters as regular season varsity games.

Cross Country

Participate in ½ the varsity meets.

Volleyball

Compete in as many sets as there are volleyball matches.

Wrestling & Track

Score team points in (2) two varsity meets

Golf

Participate in ½ of the varsity meets.

Band & Chorus

Must participate in a small group activity at the district contest and be in good standing all year or be in their second year of band or chorus and participate in the district contest and all other scheduled activities and be in good standing.

Speech Team

Must be in good standing all year.

One-Act, & Play

Must be in good standing during the season. Should a participation ending injury/sickness occur, lettering will be left to the discretion of the Head Coach, Assistant Coach, and Activities Director.

Coaches and sponsors have reserved the right to award letters to seniors, student managers (9-12 only) and others giving major contributions to the team or activity.

You will not letter if you have committed any of the following during the season in which the violation occurred:

1. Suspension or expulsion from activity/contest by officials or coach.
2. Suspension/expulsion from team for violation of team/school rules (example:alcohol).
3. Failure to complete the season (if not due to injury or illness.)

Letters

First year letter winner will receive a chenille letter, one certificate with those athletic events noted and a gold pin symbolizing that sport lettered in. 2nd, 3rd, and 4th year letter winners will receive ONE certificate with those athletic events noted and a gold bar for each sport.

Subsequent letter winners will receive a gold bar for each sport and ONE certificate with sports lettered in noted. (This includes lettering in Music and Band each year the requirements are met.)

Other Rules Applicable to Activities Participants

1. Participants are required to attend all scheduled practices, rehearsals, and meetings. If circumstances arise to prevent that participant's attendance, the validity of the reason will be determined by the coach or activity supervisor. Every reasonable effort should be made to notify the coach or sponsor prior to missing practices, rehearsals, or meetings.
2. All other reasonable rules or regulations adopted by the coach or sponsor of a school activity will be publicized through written handouts prior to the beginning of the season.
3. Student participants must be in attendance a full day of school to participate in any contest, practice, or activity on the same day; unless excused by the administration prior to the day.
4. Students under suspension from school shall not be allowed to participate in any school activities during the term of the suspension.
5. Students will be allowed to participate in any school activities the day following the completion of the term of the suspension.

Dressing Room Rules

For student privacy, all use of cell phones is strictly prohibited at all times in all locker rooms. All students shall be under the supervision of the staff member in charge. A student shall not linger in the dressing room, be rowdy, or endanger the safety of others. All cases of misconduct while dressing will be dealt with by the staff member in charge.

Students are always to respect all equipment and supplies in the training room. Coaches' offices and equipment rooms are off-limits to all students except student managers. Exception: The student is asked to enter for a conference by the staff member.

Procedure for handling any parent/player concerns

In order to resolve any conflicts or potential problems it is encouraged that anybody connected to the school program follow the following line of authority:

1. Coach/Sponsor
2. Activity Director
3. The Administration
4. Board of Education

The administration and coaches will be professional in their demeanor in order to resolve any conflicts or potential problems.

National Honor Society

The National Honor Society chapter of the school is a duly chartered and affiliated chapter of this prestigious national organization.

Admission to the National Honor Society

Membership is open to those students in the 10th, 11th, & 12th grades who meet the required standards in four areas of evaluation: scholarship, leadership, service, and character. Standards for selection are established by the national office of NHS and have been revised to meet our local chapter needs. A complete copy of the National Honor Policy is available in the office.

Post Prom

Post Prom is run by junior parents. As such, school vehicles, tax ID numbers, buildings, etc. cannot be used for post prom. Students who miss school to solicit prizes will be considered truant.

SECTION 10: LEGAL NOTICES

Sexual Harassment

It is the policy of the school to provide an environment free from sexual advances, requests for sexual favors and other verbal or physical conduct or communications constituting sexual harassment. The purpose of this policy statement is to establish clearly and unequivocally that the Board of Education prohibits sexual harassment by and of its employees and students and to set forth procedures, by which allegations of sexual harassment may be filed, investigated, and adjudicated. A complete copy of the Sexual Harassment Policy is available upon request.

Parent Involvement Plan

Hay Springs Public Schools recognizes the importance of open and clear communication with parents and community members. A complete copy of the Parent Involvement Plan is available upon request.

Homeless Students

A complete copy of the Homeless Student Policy is available upon request.

Notice of Nondiscrimination

The school complies with all state and federal regulations concerning nondiscriminatory practices in educational programs and activities. Questions or grievances concerning discriminatory practices should be directed to the Title IX Director, Activities Director at The School District #3.

Tobacco Free Facilities

The school system shall be declared "Tobacco Free Facilities". As such, cigarette, cigar, chew/Zyn, pipe, vaping or any and all other types of tobacco shall be prohibited.

Student Privacy Protection

It is the policy of the school to develop and implement policies which protect the privacy of students in accordance with applicable laws. The Student Privacy Protection Policy is available upon request.

Notice Concerning Staff Qualifications

The No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 gives parents/guardians the right to get information about the professional qualifications of their child's classroom teachers. Upon request the school will give parents the following information about their child's classroom teacher:

1. Whether the teacher has met State qualifications and licensing criteria for the grade levels and subject areas in which the teacher provides instruction.
2. Whether the teacher is teaching under an emergency or provisional teaching certificate.
3. The baccalaureate degree/major of the teacher. You may also get information about other graduate certification or degrees held by the teacher, and the field of discipline of the certification or degree.

Parents will be given information if their child is being provided services by a paraprofessional and, if so, the qualifications of the paraprofessional will be provided upon request. The request for information should be made to an Administrator in your child's school building. The information will be provided to you in a timely manner.

Finally, Hay Springs Public Schools will give timely notice if your child has been assigned, or has been taught for four or more consecutive weeks, by a teacher who does not meet the requirements of the NCLB Act.

Notification of Rights under FERPA

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. A complete copy of FERPA is available upon request.

Asbestos

Hay Springs Public Schools has completed and has on file at the Office at 407 N. Baker the Building Asbestos Management Plan. This plan contains the results of the building inspections and the response action necessary to either abate or encapsulate any asbestos-containing material.

Notice to Parents of Rights Afforded by Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973

The following is a description of the rights granted to qualifying students with disabilities under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act. The intent of the law is to keep you fully informed concerning the decisions about your child and to disagree with any of these decisions. You have the right to:

1. Have your child take part in, and receive benefits from, public education programs without discrimination because of his/her disability.
2. Have the school district advise you of your rights under federal law. Article 10 – State and Federal Programs 87
3. Receive notice with respect to identification, evaluation or placement of your child.
4. Have your child receive a free appropriate public education.
5. Have your child receive services and be educated in facilities which are comparable to those provided to every student.
6. Have evaluation, educational and placement decisions made based on a variety of information sources and by persons who know the student and who are knowledgeable about the evaluation data and placement options.
7. Have transportation provided to and from an alternative placement setting (if the setting is a program not operated by the district) at no greater cost to you than would be incurred if the student were placed in a program operated by the district.
8. Have your child be given an equal opportunity to participate in nonacademic and extracurricular activities offered by the district.
9. Examine all relevant records relating to decisions regarding your child’s identification, evaluation and placement.
10. Request mediation or an impartial due process hearing related to decisions or actions regarding your child’s identification, evaluation, educational program or placement. (You and your child may take part in the hearing. Hearing requests are to be made to the Superintendent.)
11. File a local grievance.

SECTION 11: STUDENT FEES POLICY

Philosophy

The Board of Education of the school has adopted this student fees policy in accordance with the Public Elementary and Secondary Student Fee Authorization Act.

The District's general policy is to provide for the free instruction in school in accordance with the Nebraska Constitution and State and Federal law. This generally means that the District's policy is to provide free instruction for courses which are required by state law or regulation and to provide the staff, facility, equipment, and materials necessary for such instruction, without charge or fee to the students.

The District does provide activities, programs, and services to children that extend beyond the minimum level of constitutionally required free instruction. Students and their parents have historically contributed to the District's efforts to provide such activities, programs, and services. The District's general policy is to continue to encourage and, to the extent permitted by law, to require such student and parent contributions to enhance the educational program provided by the District.

Guidelines for Non-Specialized Attire Required for Specified Courses and Activities

Students have the responsibility to furnish and wear non-specialized attire meeting general District grooming and attire guidelines, as well as grooming and attire guidelines established for the building or programs attended by the students or in which the students participate. Students also have the responsibility to furnish and wear non-specialized attire reasonably related to the programs, courses and activities in which the students participate where the required attire is specified in writing by the administrator or teacher responsible for the program, course or activity.

The District will provide or make available to students such safety equipment and attire as may be required by law, specifically including appropriate industrial-quality eye protective devices for courses of instruction in vocational, technical, industrial arts, chemical or chemical-physical classes which involve exposure to hot molten metals or other molten materials, milling, sawing, turning, shaping, cutting, grinding, or stamping of any solid materials, heat treatment, tempering, or kiln firing of any metal or other materials, gas or electric arc welding or other forms of welding processes, repair or servicing of any vehicle, or caustic or explosive materials, or for laboratory classes involving caustic or explosive materials, hot liquids or solids, injurious radiation, or other similar hazards.

The Administration is directed to assure that such equipment is available in the appropriate classes and areas of the school building; teachers are directed to instruct students in the usage of such devices and to assure that students use the devices as required, and students have the responsibility to follow such instructions and use the devices as instructed.

Personal or Consumable Items and Miscellaneous

Extracurricular Activities' Students have the responsibility to furnish any personal or consumable items for participation in extracurricular activities.

General Course Materials

Items necessary for students to benefit from courses will be made available by the District for the use of students during the school day. Students may be encouraged, but not required, to bring items needed to benefit from courses including, but not limited to, pencils, paper, pens, and erasers. A specific class supply list will be published annually in a Board-approved student handbook or supplement or other notice. The list may include refundable damage or loss deposits required for usage of certain District property.

Damaged or Lost Items

Students are responsible for the careful and appropriate use of school property. Students and their parent or guardian will be held responsible for damages to school property where such damage is caused or aided by the student and will also be held responsible for the reasonable replacement cost of school property which is placed in the care of and lost by the student.

Materials Required for Course Projects

Students are permitted and may be encouraged to supply materials for course projects. Some course projects (such as projects in art and shop classes) may be kept by the student upon completion. In the event the completed project has more than minimal value, the student may be required, as a condition of the student keeping the completed project, to reimburse the District for the reasonable value of the materials used in the project. Standard project materials will be made available by the District. If a student wants to create a project other than the standard course project, or to use materials other than standard project materials, the student will be responsible for furnishing or paying the reasonable cost of such materials for the project.

Music Course Materials

Students will be required to furnish musical instruments for participation in music courses. A yearly \$20 fee will be charged to each band student. A \$20 deposit will be made for the use of district owned instruments (This will be returned at the end of the school year if the instrument is in good working order). Use of a musical instrument without charge is available under the District's fee waiver policy; The District is not required to provide for the use of a particular type of musical instrument for any student qualifying for the fee waiver.

In addition, students who may need items such as reeds, valve oil, etc may purchase those items from the school at a charge to the student.

Extracurricular Activities-Specialized Equipment or Attire

Extracurricular activities means student activities or organizations which are supervised or administered by the District, which do not count toward graduation or advancement between grades, and in which participation is not otherwise required by the District.

The District will generally furnish students with specialized equipment and attire for participation in extracurricular activities. The District is not required to provide for the use of any particular type of equipment or attire. Equipment or attire fitted for the student and which the student generally wears exclusively, such as dance squad, cheerleading, and music/dance activity (e.g. choir or show choir) uniforms and outfits, along with T-shirts for teams or band members, will be required to be provided by the participating student. The cost of maintaining any equipment or attire, including uniforms, which the student purchases or uses exclusively, shall be the responsibility of the participating student. Equipment which is ordinarily exclusively used by an individual student participant throughout the year, such as golf clubs, and the like, are required to be provided by the student participant. Items for the personal medical use or enhancement of the student (braces, mouth pieces, and the like) are the responsibility of the student participant. Students have the responsibility to furnish personal or consumable equipment or attire for participation in extracurricular activities or for paying a reasonable usage cost for such equipment or attire. For musical extracurricular activities, students may be required to provide specialized equipment, such as musical instruments, or specialized attire, or for paying a reasonable usage cost for such equipment or attire.

Extracurricular Activities-Fees for Participation

Extracurricular Activities fees must be paid prior to participation.

Postsecondary Education Costs

Students are responsible for postsecondary education costs. The phrase “postsecondary education costs” means tuition and other fees associated with obtaining credit from a postsecondary educational institution. For courses in which students receive high school credit and for which the student may also receive postsecondary education credit, the course shall be offered without charge for tuition, transportation, books, or other fees, except tuition and other fees associated with obtaining credits from a postsecondary educational institution.

Lunch Program

Students shall be responsible for items which students purchase from the District’s lunch program. The cost of items to be sold to students shall be consistent with applicable federal and state laws and regulations. Students are also responsible for the cost of food, beverages, and personal or consumable items which the students purchase from the District or at school, whether from a “school store,” a vending machine, a booster club or parent group sale, a book order club, or the like. Students may be required to bring money or food for field trip lunches and similar activities.

Students will not be allowed to drink pop during lunch on a day when school lunch is available, regardless of whether or not that student brings his/her own sack lunch.

Waiver Policy

The District's policy is to provide fee waivers in accordance with the Public Elementary and Secondary Student Fee Authorization Act. Students who qualify for free or reduced-price lunches under United States Department of Agriculture child nutrition programs shall be provided a fee waiver or be provided the necessary materials or equipment without charge for: (1) participation in extracurricular activities, (2) use of a musical instrument in optional music courses that are not extracurricular activities. Participation in a free-lunch program or reduced-price lunch program is not required to qualify for free or reduced-price lunches for purposes of this section. Students or their parents must request a fee waiver prior to participating in or attending the activity, and prior to purchase of the materials. A waiver request is included in the free & reduced lunch application packet.

Distribution of Policy

The Superintendent or the Superintendent's designee shall publish the District's student fee policy in the Student Handbook. The Student Handbook or the equivalent shall be provided to every student of the District, or to every household in which at least one student resides, at no cost.

SECTION 12: DUE PROCESS

Steps to Resolve Complaints and Concerns

If a parent or a student has concerns about a class or other school issue, they are asked to use the following chain of command:

1. Arrange a meeting with the teacher, counselor, coach, sponsor, etc
2. Arrange a meeting with the principal or activities director
3. Arrange a meeting with the Superintendent

Due Process Procedure for Long-Term Suspension, Expulsion, or Mandatory

Reassignment: The following procedures shall be followed with regard to any long-term suspension, expulsion or mandatory reassignment.

1. The Administration shall prepare a written summary of the alleged violation and the evidence supporting the alleged violation.
2. If the Administration determines that the student must be suspended immediately to prevent or substantially reduce the risk of:
 - a) interference with an educational function or school purpose
 - b) a personal injury to the student himself or herself, other students, school employees, or school volunteers, and a notice of intent to discipline the student by long-term suspension, expulsion, or mandatory reassignment is filed, the student may be suspended by the Administration until the date the long-term suspension, expulsion, or mandatory reassignment takes effect if no hearing is requested or, if a hearing is requested, the date the hearing examiner makes the report of his or her findings and a recommendation of the action to be taken to the Administration.
3. The Administration shall serve by registered or certified mail or by personal service the student and the student's parents or Parent with a written notice within two school days of the date of the decision to recommend long-term suspension or expulsion. Said notice shall include the following:
 - a) The rule or standard of conduct allegedly violated and the acts of the student alleged to constitute a cause for long-term suspension or expulsion including a summary of the evidence to be presented against the student as submitted by the Administration.
 - b) The penalties to which the student may be subjected and the penalty which the Administration has recommended in the charge.
 - c) A statement explaining the student's right to a hearing upon request on the specified charges.
 - d) A description of the hearing procedures provided by these policies along with procedures for appealing any decision rendered at the hearing.

e) A statement that the administrative representative, legal counsel for the school, the student, the student's parents, or the student's representative or Parent shall have the right to examine the student's academic and disciplinary records and any affidavits to be used at the hearing concerning the alleged misconduct, and the right to know the identity of the witnesses to appear at the hearing and the substance of their testimony.

f) A form or a request for hearing to be signed by such parties and delivered to the Administration in person or by registered or certified mail.

4. Nothing in this policy shall preclude the student, student's parents, Parent or representative from discussing and settling the matter with appropriate school personnel prior to the hearing stage.

5. In the event that the Administration has not received a request for hearing within five school days following receipt of the written notice, the punishment recommended in the charge by the Administration shall automatically go into effect.

6. If a hearing is requested more than five school days following the actual receipt of the written notice, but not more than thirty calendar days after actual receipt, the student shall be entitled to a hearing but the punishment imposed may continue in effect pending final determination.

7. If a request for hearing is not received within thirty calendar days following the mailing or delivery of the written notice, the student shall not be entitled to a hearing.