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Perkins County Jr/Sr High

STUDENT-PARENT HANDBOOK

2019-2020

Dear Students and Parents:

On behalf of the faculty, administration, and board of education, we welcome you to another school year. We are looking forward to helping your children reach their learning potential and achieve their educational goals in the upcoming year. Please read this handbook carefully. Students and their parents are responsible for knowing the rules, regulations, and procedures covered in this handbook. The student handbook is an extension of school policies and has the force and effect of board policy when

approved by the board of education. There are several forms at the end of this handbook that you must

read, sign, and return no later than 8/16/2019. This handbook contains information of value to every student and parent. It contains explanations of school regulations and procedures necessary for our school to run smoothly and efficiently. If you are ever in doubt about what is the right thing to do, ask a classroom teacher, speak with the building principal, or contact my office.

Sincerely,

Phillip Picquet, Superintendent

Section 1 Intent of Handbook

This handbook is intended to be used by students, parents and staff as a guide to the rules, regulations, and general information about Perkins County Schools. 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.

Although the information found in this handbook is detailed and specific on many topics, the handbook is not intended to be all encompassing so as to cover every situation and circumstance that may arise during any school day, or school year. This handbook does not create a “contract.” The administration reserves the right to make decisions and make rule revisions at any time to implement the educational program and to assure the well-being of all students and the educational program. The administration will be responsible for interpreting the rules contained in the handbook. Should a situation or circumstance arise that is not specifically covered in this handbook, the administration will make a decision based upon all applicable school district policies, and state and federal statutes and regulations.

Section 2 Members of the Board of Education

Jayson Bishop - President

Angela Gloy – Vice President

Amy Kroeker - Secretary

Chris Fryzek – Treasurer

Larry Pritchett

Angie Patrick

Section 3 Administrative Staff

Phillip Picquet	Superintendent	PC Jr/Sr High	Phillip.picquet@perkinscountyschools.org
Ben Jones	Secondary Principal	PC Jr/Sr High	Ben.jones@perkinscountyschools.org
Nicole Long	Elementary Principal	PC Elementary	Nicole.long@perkinscountyschools.org
Jeremy Struckman	Activities Director	PC Jr/Sr High	Jeremy.struckman@perkinscountyschools.org

Section 4 Teaching Staff

Doug Babbitt	Agriculture Education	7-12
Ronda Baumfalk	English	9-12
Deanne Bishop	Science	9-12
Ryan Boldt	Social Science	9-12
Seth Burge	Science/Agriculture Ed.	7-12
Shawn Cole	Health	9-12
Tanner Collins	PE	7-12
Katie Cross	Science	9-12
Penny Hite	Social Science	7-8
Jonathan Hunt	Social Science	9-12
Alex Johnson	Guidance	7-12
Troy Kemling	Math	9-12
Kriss Krutsinger	Industrial Arts	7-12
Brooke Lee	Math	9-12
Jasmine Lehl	Instrumental Music	7-12
Alex Linnerson	Math	7-8
Shelly Pollard	Special Education	7-12
Nicole Putnam	English	9-12
Renee Seiler	Business/Tech Coordinator	9-12
Tristan Stephenson	Art	7-12
Whitney Soper	Language Arts	7-8
Jeremy Struckman	Foreign Language	9-12
Alyssa Yapp	Vocal Music	7-12

Section 5 Support Staff

Tanya McArtor	PC Jr/Sr	Administrative Professional
Dana Lee	PC Jr/Sr	Administrative Professional
Ryan Putnam	PC Jr/Sr	Head Custodian
Julie Gorgen	PC Jr/Sr	Custodian
Connor McCormick	PC Jr/Sr	Custodian
Stacy Clark	PC Jr/Sr	Head Cook

Section 6 School Calendar 2019-2020

Aug. 12-15	Staff Work Days
Aug. 16	Students First Day
Sept. 2	No School – Labor Day
Oct. 2	PT Conferences
Oct. 11	End of 1 st Quarter
Oct. 14	No School – Teacher In-Service
Oct. 25	No School
Nov. 11	Veterans Day Program
Nov. 27	1:30 Dismissal
Nov. 28-29	No School – Thanksgiving
Dec. 2	No School – Teacher In-Service
Dec. 20	End of 2 nd Quarter
Dec. 20	1:30 Dismissal
Dec. 22-26	NSAA Moratorium
Dec. 27-28	Holiday Tournament
Jan. 6	Start of 3 rd Quarter
Feb. 17	No School – Teacher In-Service
Mar. 11	End of 3 rd Quarter
Mar. 12-13	No School – Spring Break
Mar. 21	Prom
April 10	No School – Easter Break
April 13	No School – Teacher In-Service
May 1	No School 7-12 – SPVA Track Meet
May 6	Last Day for Seniors
May 9	Graduation @ 1:00PM
May 15	Last Day for Students
May 15	End of 4 th Quarter
May 18	Last Day for Teachers

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Article 1 – Mission and Goals

Section 1 School Mission Statement

Welcome to Perkins County Schools. The Board of Education, administration and staff are committed to providing an environment where every child can grow and learn in a positive environment.

- 1) To develop capable, responsible, lifelong learners who demonstrate those skills necessary for academic and occupational success in a global society.

Section 2 Goals and Objectives

The goals and objectives of the Perkins County Schools are to provide:

- 1) A curriculum that is based on state standards; comprehensive, coordinated, and sequential and is directed toward locally approved goals and standards for student learning. It draws upon research, best practice, and reputable theory and provides the foundation for standards-based instruction. The instructional program focuses on achievement and provides for the diverse learning needs of all students including learners with disabilities and high ability learners. Curriculum and instruction help students develop content and skill mastery, analytical thinking, problem solving, work ethics, creativity, and respect for diversity.
- 2) An instructional program that focuses on achievement and provides for the needs of all students including learners with disabilities and high ability learners. It draws upon research, best practice, and reputable theory broad enough yet with sufficient depth to allow education for all of the students.
- 3) Assessment procedures and results that assist teachers in planning and providing appropriate instruction for all students. Assessment results also provide information for monitoring program success, and for reporting to parents, policy makers, and the community. The school periodically reviews procedures to improve assessment quality and increase student learning. The information assists schools in establishing and achieving improvement goals.
- 4) A library/media/technology program that provides a wide range of accessible print and electronic resources that expand opportunity for learning, contribute to information literacy, support the local curriculum, and enhance and enrich learning experiences for all students. The program provides materials through onsite and electronic access that complement, supplement, and enrich curriculum and instruction. It facilitates research, supports and encourages personal interest in reading and the study of current events, and develops technological and other skills for accessing, evaluating, and using resources.
- 5) Instructional staff who have appropriate training and preparation to work with the students assigned to them, who are knowledgeable of principles of child growth and development and of the curriculum content for which they are responsible, who use teaching strategies that engage students actively in learning, and who help students understand and apply content across subject areas. Staff development activities that support the school's efforts in curriculum development, instructional improvement, assessment, and general school improvement to achieve school improvement goals.
- 6) Administration that exercises leadership in the development and implementation of school goals and policies. Administrators who demonstrate leadership in management and operation of the school system and in the improvement of curriculum and instruction. Building administrators who provide leadership to curriculum, instruction, assessment, and school improvement. They guide staff and students in achieving goals and fulfill other functions supportive of quality learning.

- 7) A systematic ongoing process that guides planning, implementation, and evaluation and renewal of school improvement activities to meet local and statewide goals and priorities. The school improvement process focuses on improving student learning. The process includes a periodic review by visiting educators who provide consultation to the school/community in continued accomplishment of plans and goals.
- 8) A school system that demonstrates accountability to the school community. School staff periodically assesses and reports student progress toward accomplishment of academic content standards. Results are used to plan and make needed changes to improve instruction for all students.
- 9) School facilities and a general environment that supports quality learning. Facilities and grounds are safe, orderly, and well maintained, and facilities that have adequate space, lighting, and furnishings. The system has plans or provisions for climate-controlled buildings to the extent feasible. The environment is emotionally safe and supportive and promotes respect, trust, and integrity.
- 10) A Board of Education that governs through orderly procedures which focus efforts of the school upon quality learning, result in equitable opportunities for learning for all students, and insure accountability to the local community.
- 11) An activities program that is scheduled outside the regular school day, focuses on active participation of all students involved in the activity, and promotes a positive image of the school and community.
- 12) A welcoming environment for parents and the community.

Section 3 Mutual Respect

The Perkins County Schools expects every staff member and student to be treated with respect and dignity. A show of disrespect toward a staff member or insubordination on the part of students will not be tolerated.

Section 4 Complaint Procedures

The proper procedure for a parent or student to make complaints or raise concerns is to begin with the school employee who is most immediately or directly involved in the matter, as illustrated in the complaint procedure set forth below. There are specific procedures to address certain complaints or concerns, such as discrimination or harassment, bullying, disciplinary actions. Those procedures should be used where applicable.

1) Complaint procedure

- Step 1. Schedule a conference with the staff person most immediately or directly involved in the matter.
- Step 2. Address the concern to the Principal if the matter is not resolved at Step 1.
- Step 3. Address the concern to the Superintendent if the matter is not resolved at Step 2.
- Step 4. Address the concern to the Board of Education if the matter is not resolved at Step 3.

2) Conditions Applicable to All Levels of Complaint Procedure

All information to be considered at each step should be placed in writing in order to be most effective. Action or decisions will be expedited as quickly as possible, typically within ten (10) calendar days, depending on the nature of the complaint and the need for prompt resolution.

A preponderance of the evidence will be required to discipline a party accused of misconduct. This means that the investigator must conclude that it is more likely than not that misconduct occurred.

Complaint and Appeal Process.

1. The first step is for the complainant to speak directly to the person(s) with whom the complainant has a concern. For example, a parent who is unhappy with a classroom teacher should initially discuss the matter with the teacher. However, the complainant should skip the first step if complainant believes speaking directly to the person would subject complainant to discrimination or harassment.
2. The second step is for the complainant to speak to the building principal, Title IX/504 coordinator, superintendent of schools, or president of the board of education, as set forth below.
 - a) Complaints about the operation, decisions, or personnel within a building should be submitted to the principal of the building.
 - b) Complaints about the operations of the school district or a building principal should be submitted in writing to the superintendent of schools.
 - c) Complaints about the superintendent of schools should be submitted in writing to the president of the board of education.
 - d) Complaints involving discrimination or harassment on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, marital status, disability, or age may also be submitted, at any time during the complaint procedure to the School District's Title IX/504 coordinator. Complaints involving discrimination or harassment may also be submitted at any time to the Office for Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Education: by email at OCR.KansasCity@ed.gov; by telephone at (816) 268-0550; or by fax at (816) 268-0599.
3. When a complainant submits a complaint to an administrator or to the Title IX/504 coordinator, the administrator or Title IX/504 coordinator shall promptly and thoroughly investigate the complaint, and shall:
 - a) Determine whether the complainant has discussed the matter with the staff member involved. (I)If the complainant has not, the administrator or Title IX/504 coordinator will urge the complainant to discuss the matter directly with that staff member, if appropriate.
4. If the complainant refuses to discuss the matter with the staff member, the administrator or Title IX/504 coordinator shall, in his or her sole discretion, determine whether the complaint should be pursued further.
 - a) Strongly encourage the complainant to reduce his or her concerns to writing.
 - b) Interview the complainant to determine:
 - I) All relevant details of the complaint.
 - II) All witnesses and documents which the complainant believes support the complaint;
 - III) The action or solution which the complainant seeks.
 - c) Respond to the complainant. If the complaint involved discrimination or harassment, the response shall be in writing and shall be submitted within 180 days after the administrator or Title IX/504 coordinator received the complaint.
5. A complainant who If either the complainant or the accused party is not satisfied with the administrator's or the Title IX/504 coordinator's decision regarding a complaint, he or she may appeal the decision to the superintendent.
 - a) This appeal must be in writing.
 - b) This appeal must be received by the superintendent no later than ten (10) business days from the date the administrator or Title IX/504 coordinator communicated his/her decision to the complainant.
 - c) The superintendent will investigate as he or she deems appropriate. However, all matters involving discrimination or harassment shall be promptly and thoroughly investigated.
 - d) Upon completion of this investigation, the superintendent will inform the complainant in writing of his or her decision. If the complaint involved discrimination or harassment, the superintendent shall submit the decision within 180 days after the superintendent received complainant's written appeal.

6. A complainant who If either the complainant or the accused party is not satisfied with the superintendent's decision regarding a complaint, he or she may appeal the decision to the board.
 - a) This appeal must be in writing.
 - b) This appeal must be received by the board president no later than ten (10) business days from the date the superintendent communicated his/her decision to the complainant.
 - c) This policy allows but does not require the board to receive statements from interested parties and witnesses relevant to the complaint appeal. However, all matters involving discrimination or harassment shall be promptly and thoroughly investigated.
 - d) The board will notify the complainant in writing of its decision. If the complaint involved discrimination or harassment, the board shall submit its decision within 180 days after it received complainant's written appeal.
 - e) There is no appeal from a decision of the board.

7. When a formal complaint about the superintendent of schools has been filed with the president of the board, the president shall promptly and thoroughly investigate the complaint, and shall:
 - a) Determine whether the complainant has discussed the matter with the superintendent.
 - I) If the complainant has not, the board president will urge the complainant to discuss the matter directly with the superintendent, if appropriate.
 - II. If the complainant refuses to discuss the matter with the superintendent, the board president shall, in his or her sole discretion, determine whether the complaint should be pursued further.
 - b) Strongly encourage the complainant to reduce his or her concerns to writing.
 - c) Determine, in his or her sole discretion, whether to place the matter on the board agenda for consideration at a regular or special meeting.
 - d) Respond to the complainant. If the complaint involved discrimination or harassment, the response shall be in writing and shall be submitted within 180 days after the president received the complaint.

No Retaliation. The school district prohibits retaliation against any person for filing a complaint or for participating in the complaint procedure in good faith.

Special Rules Regarding Educational Services and Related Services to Students with Disabilities.

Students with disabilities and their families have specific rights outlined in state and federal law, including administrative processes by which they may challenge the educational services being provided by the school district. Therefore, the appeal process contained in this policy may not be used to challenge decisions made by a student's individualized education plan (IEP) team or 504 team.

Complaints about the educational services provided a student with a disability, including but not limited to services provided to a student with an IEP, access to curricular and extracurricular activities, and educational placement must be submitted to the school district's Director of Special Education. The Director of Special Education will address the complaint in a manner that he/she deems appropriate and will provide the complainant with a copy of the Notice of IDEA Parental Rights promulgated by the Nebraska Department of Education.

Complaints about the educational services provided a student with a disability pursuant to a Section 504 plan must be submitted to the school district's 504 Coordinator. The 504 Coordinator will address the complaint in a manner that he/she deems appropriate and will provide the complainant with a copy of the Notice of Section 504 Parental Rights adopted by the board of education.

Complaints about the educational services provided to a student who is suspected of having a disability must be submitted in writing to the school district’s Director of Special Education or to the district’s 504 Coordinator. The Director of Special Education or 504 Coordinator will either refer the student for possible verification as a student with a disability or will provide prior written notice of the district’s refusal to do so.

Bad Faith or Serial Filings. The purpose of the complaint procedure is to resolve complaints at the lowest level possible within the chain of command. Complaints filed (a) without a good faith intention to attempt to resolve the issues raised; (b) for the purpose of adding administrative burden; (c) at a volume unreasonable to expect satisfactory resolution; or (d) for purposes inconsistent with the efficient operations of the district may be dismissed by the superintendent without providing final resolution other than noting the dismissal. There is no appeal from dismissals made pursuant to this section.

Article 2 – School Day

Section 1 Bell Schedules

Regular Schedule		Friday Schedule	
Period 1	8:00 a.m. – 8:51 a.m.	Period 1	8:00 a.m. – 8:43 a.m.
Period 2	8:53 a.m. – 9:44 a.m.	Period 2	8:45 a.m. – 9:28 a.m.
Period 3	9:46 a.m. – 10:37 a.m.	Period 3	9:30 a.m. – 10:13 a.m.
Period 4	10:39 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.	Period 4	10:15 a.m. – 10:58 a.m.
Lunch A	11:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Period 5	11:00 p.m. – 11:43 a.m.
Period 5 A	11:32 a.m. – 12:23 p.m.	Lunch A	11:43 a.m. – 12:17 p.m.
Lunch B	12:23 p.m. – 12:55 p.m.	Period 6A	11:45 p.m. – 12:28 p.m.
Period 5 B	12:02 p.m. – 12:52 p.m.	Lunch B	12:28 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Period 6	12:55 p.m. – 1:46 p.m.	Period 6B	12:17 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Period 7	1:48 p.m. – 2:39 p.m.	Period 7	1:02 p.m. – 1:45 p.m.
Period 8	2:41 p.m. – 3:32 p.m.	Period 8	1:48 p.m. – 2:31 p.m.
1:30 Schedule		Late Start Schedule	
Period 1	8:00 a.m. – 8:36 a.m.	Period 1	10:00 a.m. – 10:36 a.m.
Period 2	8:38 a.m. – 9:14 a.m.	Period 2	10:38 a.m. – 11:14 a.m.
Period 3	9:16 a.m. – 9:52 a.m.	Period 3	11:16 a.m. – 11:52 a.m.
Period 4	9:54 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.	Lunch A	11:54 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
Period 5	10:32 p.m. – 11:08 a.m.	Period 4 A	11:54 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
Lunch A	11:08 a.m. – 11:40 p.m.	Lunch B	12:30 p.m. – 1:02 p.m.
Period 6A	11:10 a.m. – 11:46 a.m.	Period 4 B	12:30 p.m. – 1:02 p.m.
Lunch B	11:46 a.m. – 12:16 p.m.	Period 5	1:02 p.m. – 1:38 p.m.
Period 6B	11:42 p.m. – 12:16 p.m.	Period 6	1:40 p.m. – 2:16 p.m.
Period 7	12:18 p.m. – 12:54 p.m.	Period 7	2:18 p.m. – 2:54 p.m.
Period 8	12:56 p.m. – 1:32 p.m.	Period 8	2:56 p.m. – 3:32 p.m.

Section 2 Severe Weather and School Cancellations

The Superintendent may close public schools in case of severe weather. Representatives of the Superintendent’s staff will notify local news media when inclement weather warrants such action. The information is broadcast regularly by radio and television stations.

Decision to Close Schools. A decision to close school is made when forecasts by the weather service, law enforcement advisories or civil defense officials indicate that it would be unwise to hold school. If possible, a decision about the next school day will be made by 9 p.m. for announcement during the 10 p.m. news. An early decision is not always possible because of uncertain weather conditions. School officials will make periodic assessments of conditions during the night and will decide early in the morning (by 6 a.m. if possible). In any case, **an announcement will be made to the news media when schools will be closed.** In some instances, schools will be open, but certain services may be cancelled (bus transportation, kindergarten, student activities).

Every attempt will be made to avoid closing school once classes are in session. In some instances, closing school during the day is inevitable if children are to safely return home before the brunt of a major storm hits. In these cases, as much advance notice as possible will be given to parents using the district's instant notification and/or direct contact. When possible, local radio and television stations will also be notified and asked to broadcast school dismissal information. This information may also be posted on the district's website. **Perkins County Schools current notification system will also be used.**

After School Starts. Every attempt will be made to avoid closing school once classes are in session. In some instances, closing school during the day is inevitable if children are to safely return home before the brunt of a major storm hits. In these cases, as much advance notice as possible will be given to parents. If school is closed during the day the notice will be broadcast by the media. **Parents should have a plan in place to accommodate these circumstances.**

Parental Decisions. **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 during the school day. Students will not normally be dismissed from school during severe weather on the basis of a telephone request.

What Not to Do. Parents should not attempt to come to school during a tornado warning. **School officials are not permitted to release students from the school building during a tornado warning.** Tornado safety procedures are practiced regularly by students and staff members. Also, parents are urged not to call radio and television stations and school buildings during severe weather.

Emergency Conditions. The school has a signal which, when activated, includes the necessity to either evacuate the building or to move to safer areas of the building. Regular drills are held as required by law through the school year. There are plans for Emergency Exit system, Tornado Warning System, and Critical Incident Response.

Section 3 Open-Closed Campus

All students are required to remain on campus during the school day, except sophomores, juniors and seniors are allowed to leave campus during lunch. Students who are in a work-study program may also leave the building by following the necessary process to be excused from the building.

The student must have parent/guardian permission, by phone call or written note as specified to the office, to allow the student to leave the building before the end of the school day.

BEFORE LEAVING THE BUILDING, THE STUDENT MUST SIGN OUT ON THE FORM PROVIDED IN THE PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE OR THE MAIN OFFICE. THE STUDENT MUST INFORM THE OFFICE STAFF OF WHERE THEY ARE GOING AND CONFIRMATION OF PARENTAL CONTACT MUST BE CONFIRMED BEFORE STUDENT LEAVES THE BUILDING.

Not following building check out procedures will be considered truancy and the student will make up the time missed before or after school.

Section 4 Supervision Responsibility Before/After School

Arrival at School/Dismissal from School

Students are expected to arrive at school no more than 20 minutes prior to the first class or school program in which they are participating. **Prior to that time, the school is not responsible for supervision of the students.** Students will be admitted to the school building 20 minutes prior to the first class. Students may not be permitted to enter earlier unless the Principal determines it to be necessary due to inclement weather or other factors. Students are to enter through their assigned entrance and proceed to designated areas.

Students will be dismissed at the end of the last period of the school day unless there are other circumstances (early dismissal, detention etc.). Upon dismissal, students must leave the school grounds and proceed home or to a previously designated location unless participating in a school-sponsored activity. **The school is not responsible for supervision of students once the students are to have left school grounds.**

Certain days on the calendar are "shortened days," meaning that the school day starts or ends other than on the normal schedule. Parents are strongly encouraged to be aware of those days, so their children are not left in an unsupervised situation or without a means to get home upon dismissal.

Signing a Child in and Out of School

Parents are not to go directly to the classrooms. The schools will only release children to adults designated by the parent on the emergency card.

If there is a special circumstance, such as a court order limiting access to a student by a parent or guardian, affecting who a student can be released to, the parent must inform the Principal and provide the Principal with a copy of that order to maintain on file at the school.

Students leaving the building and arriving late must sign-out and/or sign-in on the sheets provided in the main office. Time left, destination, and reason must be recorded. Late arrivals need the time arrived and reason for the late arrival.

Emergency Closing Procedures

Parents are requested to provide an emergency contact telephone number to have on file in the event of an emergency closing or any other general or individual situation that requires the immediate presence of a parent/guardian. In the event that parents do not have such a number or cannot be contacted, it will be assumed that the parent has instructed their children concerning the procedure they are to follow should school be dismissed early. Realizing that the school might be unable to reach all parents, it is suggested that all children be advised as to what they are to do should they ever be dismissed early. It is recommended that parents give their children an alternate destination and that the building principal be made aware of this information.

If conditions allow and supervision is available in the event of an early dismissal, the child will be held in school until the normal dismissal time. If the parent or guardian has not arrived to pick up the child by the normal dismissal time, law enforcement or child protective services may be contacted to ensure the safety of the child.

Article 3 - Use of Building and Grounds

Section 1 Visitors

All visitors must report to the office, upon entering the main entrance, to sign in and receive a visitor's pass. Visits to classrooms during the first week of school and the last week of school may be limited to ensure a smooth transition. Visits by parents to classrooms are encouraged; provided that the visits do not disrupt the educational program, individual students, or create a safety concern.

- 1) Visitors may only be students registered in another Jr/Sr high school.
- 2) Visitors may only visit one (1) day.
- 3) Visitors must stay with the host student the entire day.
- 4) Visitors must stop in the central office to pick up a pass before going to a classroom.
- 5) No visitors will be allowed into a classroom unless they have a visitor pass to show the teacher.

Section 2 Smoke-Free Environment

All of our school buildings and grounds are smoke and tobacco-free. We would appreciate your help in meeting the goal of a smoke and tobacco-free environment for our children. When you attend school events, including athletic events, please abide by our District's policy.

Section 3 Care of School Property

- 1) Students are responsible for the proper care of all books, equipment, supplies and furniture supplied by the school.
- 2) Students who disfigure property, break windows or do other damage to school property or equipment will be required to pay for the damage done or replace the item.

Fines are determined on books according to the following criteria:

Lost Book:	Replacement cost
Missing one or both covers:	Same as lost book
Loose Cover:	\$1.00
Missing Page:	50 cents per page (up to replacement cost)
Torn Page:	20 cents per page (up to replacement cost)
Marks that cannot be erased:	20 cents per mark (up to replacement cost)

School-issued items that are stolen or damaged from unlocked lockers are the responsibility of the student to whom they were issued. Students must pay all fines before they can receive school publications and final grades.

Section 4 Lockers

Each student will be assigned a locker. Students must use their own lockers and are not to share lockers with other students except as assigned by school officials.

Students must keep locker doors closed and locked when not retrieving items from their locker. Each student is responsible for damage done to his/her locker. Damage to lockers must be repaid and a reasonable fine will be

assessed for such damage. Protect yourself and your property-- lock your locker and keep the combination to yourself. Lockers are assigned to students at the beginning of each year.

Students are responsible for the care and condition of their assigned lockers. Lockers are the property of PCS Schools and are therefore subject to inspection by authorized school personnel at any time.

Section 5 Searches of Lockers and Other Types of Searches

Student lockers, desks, computer equipment, and other such property are owned by the school. The school exercises exclusive control over school property. Students should not expect privacy regarding usage of or items placed in or on school property, including student vehicles parked on school property, because school property is subject to search at any time by school officials.

Periodic, random searches of lockers, desks, computers and other such property may be conducted in the discretion of the administration. The school does randomly use drug/sniffer dogs in accordance with Board Policy.

The following rules apply to searches of students and of a student's personal property and to the seizure of items in a student's possession or control:

- 1) 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 is to be conducted in a reasonable manner under the circumstances.
- 2) 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 practicable.
- 3) Items which have been or are reasonably expected to be used to disrupt or interfere with the educational process (that is, "nuisance items") may be removed from student possession.

Lockers are the property of the PCS school district and are made available to students for storage of books, coats, and other school related items. Student lockers, desks and other such properties are owned by the school. The school exercises exclusive control over school property, and students should not expect privacy regarding items placed in school property, because school property is subject to search at any time by school officials. Students are responsible for whatever is contained in desks and lockers issued to them by the school. Designated officials may, according to law and board policy, have access to and search student lockers, desks, and other such school-owned property when reasonable cause would justify such action. Lockers are not to be used to store any item considered illegal or inappropriate for student possession. Such items might include open cans or bottles of pop, tobacco, alcohol, weapons, pornography, stolen property, drugs, inhalants, contraband, or any other property or material that would materially disrupt the school process. Students are not to share or trade lockers. Students must keep lockers clean, orderly and free of writing and graffiti.

Section 6 Video Surveillance and Photographs

The Board of Education has authorized the use of video cameras on school district property to ensure the health, welfare, and safety of all staff, students and visitors, and to safeguard District facilities and equipment. Video cameras may be used in locations deemed appropriate by the Superintendent. If a video surveillance recording captures a student or other building user violating school policies or rules or local, state, or federal laws, it may be used in appropriate disciplinary proceedings against the student or other building user and may also be provided to law enforcement agencies.

Unless otherwise authorized by board policy or law, students are prohibited from making audio or video recordings during the school day on school grounds; when being transported to and from school activities or programs in a vehicle owned, leased, or contracted by a school being used for a school purpose by a school employee or by his or her designee; or at a school-sponsored activity or athletic event, unless the recording is made in a manner permitted by the school for members of the public. In such an instance, the students remain subject to the district's appropriate use and student discipline policies. For example, students are not prohibited from making recordings of an athletic event for their personal use similar to a parent or other patron are permitted, subject to other applicable board policy. However, this policy generally prohibits students from using smart-speakers or other devices which actively or passively create or transmit audio or video recordings, including Google Home, Amazon Alexa, Apple HomePod, and AngelSense devices.

An exception will be made to this policy if photographs or video recordings are necessary to accommodate a student's disability or are required by the student's Individualized Education Plan (IEP) or Section 504 Plan.

In no event shall photographs or video recordings be taken or made in restrooms, locker rooms, or other areas where there is a reasonable expectation of privacy. Students who violate this policy may be subject to discipline up to and including expulsion.

Section 7 Use of Telephone

USE OF THE OFFICE PHONE WILL ONLY BE ALLOWED IN AN EMERGENCY OR WHEN A STUDENT IS ILL

Section 8 Bicycles

Bicycles must be parked in the racks provided. The school is not responsible for damage or theft of parts while bicycles are on school property.

Section 9 Student Valuables

Students, not the school, are responsible for their personal property. Students are cautioned not to bring large amounts of money or items of value to school.

Section 10 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. If articles are lost at school, report that loss to office personnel. Articles of clothing not claimed by the end of the school year may be donated to local charities.

Section 11 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 immediately to the Principal and or the Activities Director. Accident forms can be found in the main office.

Section 12 Laboratory Safety Glasses

As required by law, approved safety glasses will be required of every student and teacher while participating in or observing vocational, technical, industrial technology, science, and art classes. All visitors to these areas must check out a pair of safety glasses when entering any of these areas.

Section 13 Insurance

Under Nebraska law the District may not use school funds to provide general student accident or athletic insurance. The District requires that all student participants in athletic programs have injury and accident insurance and encourages all students who are in classes with risk of personal injury or accident to have

insurance coverage. The District does not make recommendations nor handle the premiums or claims for any insurance company, agent or carrier. Information about student insurance providers will be available in the school office or on school bulletin boards.

Section 14 Bulletins and Announcements

Bulletin boards and display cases are available for school-related and approved materials to be posted and displayed. Posters to be used in the halls or materials for distribution will need to be approved by the Principal's office. Posters are not to be attached to any painted wall surfaces. Place posters on marble, glass, metal, brick and wood. The person or organization responsible for distributing the posters is responsible to see that all posters are removed within 48 hours after the event.

Section 15 Games

Electronic games, internet games, card games such as poker are not considered a benefit to the educational process and are not acceptable during class time.

Section 16 Detention Period Regulations

Detention periods will be assigned for those students who exhibit undesirable patterns of attendance, conduct, promptness, as well as other disciplinary problems.

The offenses which may result in the student being assigned to a detention period are but not limited to:

- 1) Tardiness - A detention period of 45 minutes will be assigned for every three (3) unexcused tardies.
- 2) Leaving school without following proper procedure.
- 3) Truancy. As a standard practice, detention periods will be assigned so that the total number of minutes of detention will equal the total number of minutes of truancy.
- 4) Other misconduct. Violations of accepted conduct in the hallways, over the noon hour, improper use of school equipment, etc., will receive detention periods.

The detention period may begin at 3:32 PM and may end at 4:30 PM each day when school is in session unless otherwise notified. 7:00-8:00 a.m. is an option as well.

Saturday School is an additional form of detention. Students who have violations of the following but not limited to excessive absences, tardies, failure to report for detentions, repeated violations, may be assigned to Saturday School.

- 1) Students who fail to comply with the detention period assigned them, will forfeit opportunities to be involved in extracurricular activities until the time is served.

FAILURE OF A STUDENT TO REPORT TO DETENTION ROOM WHEN ASSIGNED WILL RESULT IN THE NUMBER OF DETENTION PERIODS BEING DOUBLED.

A SECOND OFFENSE: THE STUDENT (S) WILL SERVE AN IN-SCHOOL SUSPENSION FOR ONE (1) DAY. SUBSEQUENT OFFENSES MAY LEAD TO OUT-OF-SCHOOL SUSPENSION (S) OR EXPULSION.

Section 17 Copyright and Fair Use Policy

The school district complies with federal copyright laws. Students must comply with copyright laws when using school equipment or working on school projects and assignments. Federal law prohibits the unauthorized reproduction of works of authorship, regardless of the medium in which they were created.

The “fair use” doctrine allows limited reproduction of copyrighted works for educational and research purposes. “Fair use” of a copyrighted work includes reproduction for purposes such as criticism, news reporting, teaching (including multiple copies for classroom use), scholarship, or research. Students who are unsure whether their proposed reproduction of copyrighted material constitutes “fair use” should consult with their teacher or building principal, review the school district’s copyright compliance policy, and review *Copyright for Students* found at <https://www.whoishostingthis.com/resources/student-copyright/>. You can find more information on copyright compliance requirements and permitted uses from the U.S. Copyright Office and the Library of Congress at the following

Section 18 School Dances

A school sponsored dance is a school activity subject to all provisions of the Student Activity Code and is a privilege available to students meeting all requirements for participation. Dances must be scheduled with the building principal at least 4 weeks in advance. The Superintendent may discontinue school dances for the remainder of any school year upon the recommendation of the building Principal.

Only PCHS students, faculty members/spouses, sponsors and Board members/spouses are allowed to attend school dances unless otherwise specified. High school dances at PCHS allow out-of-school dates; **those attending must currently be enrolled in high school or have attended high school and completed high school being only one year removed from graduation. Special circumstances may be taken into consideration.** Out of town dates will be required to fill out a form specified by the school. Students currently enrolled in middle school grades are not eligible to attend PCHS dances. Students are reminded that student conduct at all dances shall be in accordance with all student conduct policies and regulations. Students are reminded that not only the privilege of attending the dance may be suspended, but also students may be suspended from regular school for conduct in violation of these policies and regulations.

Inappropriate dancing, dress and behavior will see the student removed from the activity. Once a student leaves the facility, they are not allowed to return the dance.

JUNIOR/SENIOR PROM

Juniors, Seniors, their dates and specified guests may be admitted to the BANQUET and PROM. Everyone wanting to be admitted to the Junior/Senior Banquet/Prom shall be given a breath test and the test shall indicate negative for the presence of alcohol. Juniors or Seniors who invite outside dates to the Banquet shall be responsible to pay for the meal prior to the Banquet. Names of dates outside PCHS must be furnished to the office of the Principal one week before the date of the Prom. Guests to the Banquet and Prom may include the faculty, staff, Board of Education members and spouses of each. The Prom will be terminated by midnight. Anyone leaving the building before the dance is over will not be readmitted. Out of town dates will be required to fill out a form specified by the school.

HOMECOMING

Students of PCS High School may invite outside dates to Homecoming and Sweetheart Dance. Names of dates outside PCHS must be furnished to the office of the Principal one week before the date of the dance. The Homecoming Dance will be terminated by 11:00 but, when the dance is scheduled after a game, then the Administration may extend the dance up to one hour. Anyone leaving the building before the dance is over will not be readmitted. Out of town dates will be required to fill out a form specified by the school.

JUNIOR HIGH DANCES

Dances will last no longer than 2 hours and will end by 10:00 p.m. No outside dates are allowed.

General Rules of Student Conduct at Dances. In addition to all rules of student conduct in the Student handbook, students attending dances shall adhere to the following rules of conduct:

- 1) Who Can Attend: Only students of Perkins County Schools and their guests may attend
 - a) Students currently attending Perkins County Schools or another Nebraska high school who have not been restricted from attending extracurricular activities at Perkins County Schools or their own school are generally considered appropriate dates or invited guests (high school only).
 - b) High school dances at PCHS allow out-of-school dates; **those attending must currently be attending a high school or have attended high school and completed high school and only one year removed from graduation from high school.** Special circumstances may be taken into consideration.
 - c) Some school dances may be restricted to students attending specified grades levels at Perkins County JR/SR High. For any dances at the middle school level, only students attending Perkins County JR High in the grade(s) for which the dance is being held may attend (no outside dates).
 - d) Students who have been suspended from school or from extracurricular activities may not attend.
 - e) The school reserves the right to exclude persons who may or do cause a disruption or detract from the event. Dates or invited guests not attending our school are expected to follow the same rules of conduct which apply to our students.
 - f) Students or their guests who engage in inappropriate behavior, whether on or off of the dance floor, may be asked to leave. Students are reminded that student conduct at all dances shall be in accordance with all student conduct policies and regulations.

- 2) Prohibited Substances: The following, but not limited to are prohibited; Alcoholic beverages, illegal drugs, and tobacco. Anyone using prohibited substances or showing the effects of use will not be allowed admission or, if discovered after admission, be removed from the dance. Their parents may be contacted. Law enforcement may be contacted. If the student(s) is impaired, we will do what we can to prevent them from leaving the dance until parents or law enforcement arrive.

Students and their dates may be required to submit to a breathalyzer prior to gaining entrance. Those who choose not to submit to a breathalyzer will not gain entrance. Law enforcement will be contacted if there is reasonable suspicion that the student or a student's date is under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

- 3) Appropriate Attire: Students and their guests must meet the dress code requirements established for each dance. Teachers or administrators will make the final decision as to whether or not a student's attire is appropriate. Students will be asked to change unacceptable items, which may mean that the student may have to return home to change the inappropriate clothing. It is advisable to check in advance of the dance with the Principal or staff sponsor for the event if you are uncertain about your attire.

Section 19 Student Fees Policy

The Board of Education of Perkins County Schools 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 which 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.

Under the Public Elementary and Secondary Student Fee Authorization Act, the District is required to set forth in a policy its guidelines or policies for specific categories of student fees. The District does so by setting forth the following guidelines and policies. This policy is subject to further interpretation or guidance by administrative or Board regulations which may be adopted from time to time. The Policy includes Appendix "1," which provides further specifics of student fees and materials required of students for the current school year. Parents, guardians, and students are encouraged to contact their building administration or their teachers or activity coaches and sponsors for further specifics.

1) 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 radiations, or other similar hazards. Building administrators are directed to assure that such equipment is available in the appropriate classes and areas of the school buildings, 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.

2) Personal or consumable items & miscellaneous

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

b) Courses

l) 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, erasers, notebooks, trappers, protractors and math calculators. 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.

The school district will provide students with the materials necessary to complete all basic curricular projects. In courses where students choose to produce a project that requires materials beyond the basic materials provided by the district, the students will either furnish the materials, purchase the materials from the school, or purchase the materials from an outside vendor with an order form provided by the school.

- II) Damaged or Lost Items. Students are responsible for the careful and appropriate use of school property. Students and their parents 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.
 - III) Materials Required for Course Projects. Students are permitted to 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 any such materials for the project.
 - IV) Music Course Materials. Students will be required to furnish musical instruments for participation in optional music courses. 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.
 - V) Parking. Students may be required to pay for parking on school grounds or at school-sponsored activities and may be subject to payment of fines or damages for damages caused with or to vehicles or for failure to comply with school parking rules.
- 3) 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 bitted 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, softball gloves, 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.
- 4) Extracurricular Activities—Fees for participation. Any fees for participation in extra-curricular activities for the current school year are further specified in Appendix "1." Admission fees are charged for extracurricular activities and events.

- 5) Postsecondary education costs. Students are responsible for postsecondary education costs. The phrase “postsecondary education costs” means tuition and other fees only associated with obtaining credit from a postsecondary educational institution. For a course 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.
- 6) Transportation costs. Students are responsible for fees established for transportation services provided by the District as and to the extent permitted by federal and state laws and regulations.
- 7) Copies of student files or records. The Superintendent or the Superintendent's designee shall establish a schedule of fees representing a reasonable cost of reproduction for copies of a student's files or records for the parents or guardians of such student. A parent, guardian or student who requests copies of files or records shall be responsible for the cost of copies reproduced in accordance with such fee schedule. The imposition of a fee shall not be used to prevent parents of students from exercising their right to inspect and review the students' files or records and no fee shall be charged to search for or retrieve any student's files or records. The fee schedule shall permit one (1) copy of the requested records be provided for or on behalf of the student without charge and shall allow duplicate copies to be provided without charge to the extent required by federal or state laws or regulations.
- 8) Participation in before-and-after-school or prekindergarten services. Students are responsible for fees required for participation in before-and-after-school or prekindergarten services offered by the District, except to the extent such services are required to be provided without cost.
- 9) Participation in summer school or night school. Students are responsible for fees required for participation in summer school or night school. Students are also responsible for correspondence courses.
- 10) Breakfast and lunch programs. Students shall be responsible for items which students purchase from the District’s breakfast and lunch programs. 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.
- 11) 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 and (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.
- 12) Distribution of Policy. The Superintendent or the Superintendent's designee shall publish the District's student fee policy in the Student Handbook or the equivalent (for example, publication may be made in an addendum or a supplement to 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 (1) student resides, at no cost.

13) Student Fee Fund. The School Board hereby establishes a Student Fee Fund. The Student Fee Fund shall be a separate school district fund not funded by tax revenue, into which all money collected from students and subject to the Student Fee Fund shall be deposited and from which money shall be expended for the purposes for which it was collected from students. Funds subject to the Student Fee Fund consist of money collected from students for: (1) participation in extracurricular activities, (2) postsecondary education costs, and (3) summer school or night school.

Section 20 CAFETERIA

PCJSHS maintains a cafeteria as a service to the students. Students need to pre-pay for lunches in the main office. Students are assigned a number and are encouraged not to share that number with other students. When a balance falls below zero, students will not be served. We reserve the right to deny any students the privilege of eating in our cafeteria. Breakfast price is \$1.80 reduced .30, lunch price is \$3.50. Breakfast, reduced .40.

Article 4 – Attendance

Section 1 Attendance Policy

Regular and punctual student attendance is required. The Board's policies require such attendance. The administration is responsible for developing further attendance rules and regulations and staff is responsible for assisting in the enforcement of the rules and regulations. Students and parents are responsible for developing behaviors which will result in regular and punctual student attendance.

Section 2 Attendance and Absences

Excused and Unexcused Absences. An absence from school will be reported as: (a) an excused absence or (b) an unexcused absence.

- 1) Excused Absences. Absences should be cleared through the Principal's office in advance whenever possible. An absence or tardy, even by parental approval, may not be excused. All absences, except for illness and/or death in the family, require advance approval. An absence for any of the following reasons will be excused, provided the required procedures have been followed:
 - a) Attendance at a funeral for a member of the immediate family (parents, siblings, and grandparents).
 - b) illness which causes a student to be absent from school.
 - c) Doctor or dental appointment which require student to be absent from school.
 - d) Court appearances that are required by a court order and the student is not responsible for needing to be in court.
 - e) School sponsored activities which require students to be absent from school.
 - f) Family trips in which student accompanies parent(s)/legal guardian(s).
 - g) Other absences which have received prior approval from the Principal.

The Principal has the discretion to deny approval for the latter two (2) reasons, depending on circumstances such as the student's absence record, the student's academic status, the tests or other projects which may be missed, and in the case of a family trip, whether the trip could be taken during non-school time and the educational nature of the trip.

- 2) Unexcused Absences: An absence which is not excused is unexcused. If a student's absence is unexcused the student may receive zeros for any class work missed during the absence and may be required to make-up work and the time missed.
- 3) Students are allowed up to 10 absences per semester.

- 4) Absences outside the 10 are Activities, Dr. appointments with a note from the doctor, court dates, military obligations and bereavement.
- 5) Absences that fall within the 10 days are but not limited to: excused absences, unexcused absences, family requests, driver's license, college visits, blood mobile, Tharp's Sale, personal.
- 6) Attendance notifications will be sent periodically during the school year.
- 7) Students will need to have parents call or send a note by the following school day of having been absent in order for the absence to be considered excused. This may come into play if the student must go before the Attendance Committee.
 - a) Excused absences: Students who are absent shall have 2 school days to make up work missed for each day missed with a maximum of 10 days allowed to make up work.
 - b) Unexcused absences: The student will receive a failing mark in each class period missed.
 - c) Students must attend a minimum of 75% of the school days in a semester to earn credit.
 - d) Students who exceed the attendance policy will not be permitted to be involved in extracurricular activities, organizations or attend social functions such as dances etc. Once time is made up, the student will become eligible.

*Absence due to illness for the day or any part of the last half of the day (periods 5-8) will result in the students not participating in school sponsored activities that day. Special considerations will be taken into account by the principal and activities director.

*An absence the day before an all-day activity the following day will result in the student not participating in the activity. The student must be in attendance the last half of the previous day to be eligible to participate. Special considerations will be taken into account by the principal and activities director. This does not affect weekends. The intent of this guideline is to limit missed class time. Example: Student misses on Friday and has an activity on Saturday. Student may attend the activity.

Tardy to School. Students are tardy when they are not in their assigned area by the time the tardy bell rings. A student will have earned detention time on the accumulation of 3 or more unexcused tardies in a semester. The principal will conference with the student and notify the parents and detention time may be assigned. Oversleeping repeated or excessive car trouble, excessive morning appointments or chores, and missing a ride are a few examples of unacceptable reasons for tardies. The principal may excuse some of these tardies, as each will be handled on a case-by-case incident. Tardies will be determined to be excused or unexcused, however, it is the student's responsibility to provide a note or phone call to the office by the end of the next school day in order to excuse the tardy. Each unexcused tardy has a consequence of 15 minutes make up time. A tardy becomes an absence after 15 minutes.

Tardy to Class. Students have a sufficient time period between classes to make it to their next assigned class on time. Students will be considered tardy to class if they are not in their assigned classroom when the tardy bell rings, unless they have a pass from the teacher who detained them. Specific tardy guidelines once students are in the classroom doorway are at the discretion of the classroom teacher.

Leaving School or Class. Students who leave school for any reason during the school day must check out at the office before leaving. Students leaving the building must obtain permission from the Principal, Head Teacher or the Attendance Secretary to leave the building. Students leaving school must be cleared in advance by a note or phone call from the student's parent or legal guardian. Upon returning to school that same day, students are expected to sign in at the office. A sheet will be available on the office counter for this purpose.

Students who leave school without permission and without signing out in the proper manner, or who leave their assigned classroom without teacher permission, will be considered truant.

BEFORE LEAVING THE BUILDING, THE STUDENT MUST SIGN OUT ON THE FORM PROVIDED IN THE PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE OR THE MAIN OFFICE. THE STUDENT MUST INFORM THE OFFICE STAFF OF WHERE THEY ARE GOING AND CONFIRMATION OF PARENTAL CONTACT MUST BE CONFIRMED BEFORE STUDENT LEAVES THE BUILDING.

Not following building check out procedures will be considered truancy and the student will make up the time missed before or after school.

Section 3 Absence Procedures

Students are responsible to communicate with teachers when they have been absent. It is the student's responsibility to self-advocate and determine what work needs to be done and when it is due.

Section 4 Make-up Work

Written make-up work may be assigned for each day missed regardless of the type of absence. If make-up work is not completed, students will receive no credit for the work required.

The student has the responsibility to contact teachers, initially, regarding make-up assignments.

For excused absences, two school days will be allowed to make up the work for each day missed with a maximum of ten (10) days allowed to complete make up work. If requested, assignment sheets will be prepared for students who are ill. If parents or students request assignment sheets the school should be contacted by no later than 10:00 a.m.

For unexcused absences, the student may receive a failing mark for or in each class period missed.

Section 5 Attendance is Required to Participate in Activities

The Principal retains the right to grant participation should exceptional circumstances prevail.

*Absence due to illness for the day or any part of the last half (periods 5-8) of the day will result in the students not participating in school sponsored activities that day. Special considerations will be taken into account by the principal and activities director.

*An absence the day before an all-day activity the following day will result in the student not participating in the activity. The student must be in attendance the last half of the previous day to be eligible to participate. Special considerations will be taken into account by the principal and activities director. This does not affect weekends. The intent of this guideline is to limit missed class time. Example: Student misses on Friday and has an activity on Saturday. Student may attend the activity.

Section 6 Truancy

A student who engages in unexcused absences may be considered truant as per state law. Truancy is a violation of school rules. The consequence of truanancies may include disciplinary action up to expulsion and referral to the county attorney for compulsory attendance violations.

Reporting and Responding to Truant Behavior. Any administrator, teacher, or member of the board of education who knows of any failure on the part of any child age six (6) to eighteen (18) to attend school regularly without lawful reason, shall within three days report such violation to the Superintendent. The Superintendent shall

immediately cause an investigation into any such report to be made. The Superintendent shall also investigate any case when, based on the Superintendent's personal knowledge or based on a report or complaint from any resident of the district, the Superintendent believes that any child is unlawfully absent from school. The school shall render all services in its power to compel such child to attend some public, private, denominational, or parochial school, which the person having control of the child shall designate, in an attempt to remediate the child's truant behavior.

Excessive Absenteeism. Students who accumulate five (5) unexcused absences in a quarter shall be deemed to have "excessive absences." Such absences shall be determined on a per day basis for elementary students and on a per class basis for secondary students. When a student has excessive absences, the following procedures shall be implemented:

- 1) One or more meetings shall be held between a school attendance officer, school social worker, or other person designated by the school administration and the parent/guardian and the student to report and attempt to solve the truancy problem. If the parent/guardian refuses to participate in such meeting, the principal shall place in the student's attendance records documentation of such refusal.
- 2) Educational counseling to determine whether curriculum changes, including but not limited to, enrolling the child in an alternative education program that meets the specific educational and behavioral needs of the child.
- 3) Educational evaluation, which may include a psychological evaluation, to assist in determining the specific condition, if any, contributing to the truancy problem, supplemented by specific efforts by the school to help remedy any condition diagnosed.
- 4) Investigation of the truancy problem by the school social worker, or if such school does not have a school social worker, another person designated by the administration to identify conditions which may be contributing to the truancy problem. If services for the child and his or her family are determined to be needed, the person performing the investigation shall meet with the parent/guardian and the child to discuss any referral to appropriate community agencies for economic services, family or individual counseling, or other services required to remedy the conditions that are contributing to the truancy problem.

Reporting Habitual Truancy. Students who accumulate twenty (20) unexcused absences or the hourly equivalent per year shall be deemed to be habitually truant. If the student continues to be or becomes habitually truant, the principal shall serve a written notice to the person violating the Nebraska truancy laws (i.e., the person who has legal or active charge or control of the student) warning him or her to comply with the provisions of that law. If within one (1) week after the time the notice is given such person is still violating the school attendance laws or policies, the Principal shall file a report with the county attorney of the county in which such person resides.

Attendance Committee

Will consist of the Principal, Counselor and two classroom teachers. This Committee will meet to hear petitions of any student regarding his/her attendance record.

Forms to Petition the Attendance Committee

Forms are available in the Principal's office. Any student will have the right to appeal any decision of this Committee to the Superintendent of Schools and, if necessary, to the Board of Education of the school district.

Students Losing Credit Hours

A loss of credit for a class, due to absences, student/parent may request to remain in the class or may be removed from the class and placed in the supervision of the principal for that class period.

Article 5 - Scholastic Achievement

Section 1 Grading System

Students will receive percentage grades on report cards and transcripts. The following scale will be used to assign percentage grades and a grade point average from a percent:

- A 93-100
- B 86-92
- C 78-85
- D 70-77
- F 69 and Below

Each teacher will define the grading procedures to be used in their classes.

Grades are divided into two categories: Academic and Non-academic. Academic grades are the only grades that count for class rank. Non-academic classes include Physical Education, Band, Chorus, Internaut II, Work Study, Yearbook and TA. Students involved in Internaut II and Work Study need to carry an 86% cumulative average. TA will require the student to follow the NHS course requirements and maintain a 90% cumulative average. No Work Study assigned if the student has a study hall, the student must forfeit the study hall to do Work Study. Seniors who qualify can take 1 period of TA and 1 period of Work Study or 2 periods of Work Study.

Work Study is an opportunity for students to have work experience. Students must be in good academic standing and must have an 86% cumulative average. Good academic standing would include but not limited to on course to graduate with adequate credits and not failing any courses. Work Study students need to be passing all courses and not exceeding the attendance policy to participate in the program. Students who receive poor evaluations from their supervisor may be dismissed from Work Study at any time during the semester. TA will also follow this criteria for participation. The principal will determine who is eligible to participate.

Section 2 High School Yearly Course Requirements

High school students in all grade levels are required to register prior to school starting in the fall. Students will be guided in their course selection by the counselor and principal.

Parents need to be in contact with the counselor in regard to your child's plan for education during their high school years and for their education post-secondary. Requirements for a 4-year degree, two-year degree or job certification are all different. It is the parent and student's responsibility to make sure the correct course of study during high school is maintained to prepare the student for post-secondary education.

High school students are required to register in the following exploratory courses:

- 9th Grade Health, Computer Applications, Physical Education 9, Geography
- 10th Grade Beginning with the class of 2023, those students will be required to take Intro to Speech and Personal Finance during their Sophomore year.

Section 3 Graduation Requirements

To participate in commencement exercises or receive a Perkins County Schools' diploma a student must fully complete all requirements for graduation prior to the official commencement exercises, and complete other administrative requirements or conditions.

To be eligible for graduation from Perkins County High School, a student must have earned a minimum of 270 semester hours credit in grades 9 through 12 inclusive. Credit hours will be computed in accordance with the Nebraska Department of Education.

Satisfactory completion of the following courses must be presented in the candidate’s record:

English	40 semester hours
Social Sciences	30 semester hours
Science	30 semester hours
Math	30 semester hours
P.E. and Health	10 semester hours
Intro to Speech	5 semester hours
Computer Apps.	5 semester hours
Personal Finance	5 Semester hours
Foreign Language	Recommended 2 years, if planning to attend a 4-year post-secondary institution

Exceptions to these requirements may be made by the Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, who will support the recommendation with justifiable reasons. A complete record of the recommendation and of the action taken upon it by the Board shall be included in the minutes. The candidates for graduation shall be presented to the Board of Education for approval.

A student who has not met the requirements for graduation but who has attended school regularly may, with the recommendation of the Superintendent, be granted a Certificate of Attendance.

Section 4 Class Rank and GPA

The “Carnegie Scale” will be used to determine class rank and GPA. Each percentage grade is assigned a numeral value from 1.0 to 4.0. A senior who has a grade point average of 93.000 or higher will be recognized as graduating “With Distinction.”

Below is a definition of point values:

Grade	Regular Classes	Honor Roll based on this scale		
93-100	4.00	A	=	93-100
90-92	3.50	B	=	86-92
86-89	3.00	C	=	78-85
82-85	2.50	D	=	70-77
78-81	2.00	F	=	69 and Below
75-77	1.50			
70-74	1.00			
69 and below	0.00			

Section 5 Credits: Method of Awarding at PCHS

PCHS school employs the credit-hour method of awarding credit of all subject and extracurricular activities that student may take in this high school. A credit hour represents one hour of class work for a period of one semester, 18 weeks. Classes such as English, Mathematics, History, Social Science, Business, FCS, etc., which meet one period a day, five days per week for eighteen weeks, carry five credit hours.

Section 6 Commencement Ceremonies Participation in:

Students must have completed all requirements set forth by the Perkins County School Board in order to participate in the ceremony. If they have not met these requirements, they will not participate in the ceremony. Certificates of Attendance may be given to students who do not qualify for a regular diploma but have maintained a good attendance record throughout their high school years.

Section 7 Promotion and Retention

Students will be placed at the grade level and in the courses best suited to them academically, socially and emotionally as determined by the professional staff. 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 or program when such is determined in the judgment of the professional staff to be appropriate for the educational interests of the student and the educational program.

Section 8 Schedule Changes

With proper planning, there shouldn't be a need for any changes in student registration. However, changes are permissible by the end of the first week of each semester. If a schedule drop/add is necessary, the student will pick up a drop/add form from the Principal.

Section 9 Interim Reports

Various supplemental reports may be sent to parents throughout the school year concerning student's performance. These reports may describe student work of an exceptional nature or work which needs improving. These reports will be sent as the teacher determines appropriate.

Included in the academic improvement report will be a request from the teacher for parents to contact the teacher by phone to discuss the student's academic progress. Teachers will arrange with the parents for days when the student can meet with the teacher outside the regular class period until the student returns to satisfactory academic standing.

Section 10 Report Cards

Report cards are issued at the end of each quarter. Percentage grades are used to designate a student's progress. A grade of "F" (failing) carries no credit. A grade of "I" (incomplete) received at the end of a grading period must be made up within two weeks or missing assignments will receive grades of "0" and those grades will be averaged into the final grade. No in-completes will be given at the end of the fourth quarter, as all course work must be completed by the end of the fourth quarter.

Section 11 Parent-Teacher Conferences

Conferences with teachers, at any other time, are possible by calling the school office and making arrangements with the teachers.

Parent-teacher conferences will be held in the fall near the end of the 1st quarter.

Section 12 Honor Roll

PCJSHS Honor Roll is calculated each nine-week period. Students with 86% or higher in all classes will qualify for the "B" Honor Roll. Students with a 93% or higher in all classes will qualify for the "A" Honor Roll. Classes not calculated for the Honor Roll are Physical Education, Band, Choir, Yearbook, Internaut II. Students with a grade of 'C', 'D' or 'F' will not qualify for Honor Roll. Students earning all A's will receive special recognition. Quarter Honor Rolls are posted by the office with Semester Honor Rolls appearing in the Grant Tribune Sentinel.

Section 13 Academic Letters

THE OBJECTIVES OR AWARDING ACADEMIC LETTERS INCLUDE:

- 1) To reward and further recognize students for academic excellence.
- 2) To be used as an incentive to encourage students to take full advantage of the curriculum offered at PCHS.
- 3) To encourage students to take more upper level courses of study.
- 4) This award will be provided to all freshmen, sophomores, juniors and seniors based upon earning the "A" Honor Roll status for quarters 1-3 in that school year. Course criteria will match that of NHS and Honor Grads.

Section 14 Academic Eligibility

Purpose: To make the students aware that with responsibility comes the price of greatness in the classroom. While activities are extremely important to both the students and the school, the major purpose of the students should be to obtain an academic education. To have an eligibility policy that will attempt to keep the students in school on a long-term basis and not just until the end of the semester. To have a regulation that is reasonable to implement. To have a policy that is fair and attempts to retain the students rather than force them out.

1) ELIGIBILITY

Students must not be failing two or more subjects enrolled in the present semester. The student will not be allowed to participate in any public performance or competition on a weekly basis. Students who are failing two or more subjects for more than 10 school days will not be allowed to participate in activities, organizations or attend social functions such as dances. All students/ parents will be given notice using the "Progress Reports" when the student is failing a class.

Students that are failing two or more subjects will have 10 school days in which to raise their grade deficiency (students continue to practice and play). If one or more grades have not improved to a passing level (70% or higher) at the end of the 10 school days, the student will become ineligible on a weekly basis for public performances or competition (NO PRACTICE-NO PARTICIPATION). Failing more than 2 subjects at one time results in immediate ineligibility.

Students earn credits each semester with the intent of acquiring at a minimum of 270 by the end of their Senior year. Failure to meet the following minimum standards for each year may result in the student not being eligible for various grade level activities such as but not limited to: Prom, class field trips, class elections, homecoming royalty.

- Sophomore status equals 70 credits at the beginning of the school year
- Junior status equals 140 credits at the beginning of the school year
- Senior status equals 210 credits at the beginning of the school year

Section 15 Homework

Each student is expected to spend some time on the preparation of studies outside of school hours. The amount of the time needed depends upon the student's degree of efficiency. Normally, at least an hour a day should be spent in the preparation of the average assignment. Quality of work (passing grade) and having assignments done on time are two key responsibilities each student should master.

Section 16 Incomplete Grades

- 1) An "I" is given in accordance with the following procedures:
- 2) It should be given only when a student has been unable to complete the required work because of personal illness or serious illness of death in the family or conditions beyond the control of the student.

- 3) When a student receives an “I” at the end of the quarter/semester, he/she will have no longer than 2 weeks after the opening of the next quarter/semester to remove it. If it is not removed, it becomes an “F”. Instructor will notify the Principal at this time.

PARENTS AND ACADEMIC DECISIONS

Parents need to be in contact with the counselor in regard to your child’s plan for education during their high school years and for their education post-secondary. Requirements for a 4-year degree, two-year degree or job certification are all different. It is the parent and student’s responsibility to make sure the correct course of study during high school is maintained to prepare the student for post-secondary education.

Section 17 National Honor Society

The National Honor Society chapter of Perkins County Schools is a duly chartered and affiliated chapter of this prestigious national organization.

Admission to the National Honor Society

Membership is open to those students who meet the required standards in four (4) 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. Students are selected to be members by a five (5) member Faculty Council, recommended by the sponsor and approved by the principal which bestows this honor upon qualified students on behalf of the faculty of our school each semester.

Students in the 10th, 11th, or 12th grades are eligible for membership*. [*NOTE: Eligibility can be altered according to your local guidelines, thus limiting the year or years of eligibility – see the national handbook for clarification.] For the scholarship criterion, a student must have a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or better on a 4.0 scale* [see NOTE above]. Those students who meet this criterion are invited to complete a Student Activity Information Form that provides the Faculty Council with information regarding the candidate’s leadership and service. A history of leadership experiences and participation in school or community service is required. [NOTE: Schools with specific minimal requirements for leadership or service, e.g., “participation in at least two (2) student activity organizations each year” or “ten (10) hours of documented community service,” should include such specific requirements based on the rubrics used by the selection committee in reaching their decisions.]

To evaluate a candidate’s character, the faculty council uses two forms of input: first, school disciplinary records are reviewed; second, members of the faculty are solicited for input regarding their professional reflections on a candidate’s service activities, character, and leadership. [Note: These evaluations from faculty are not required and are options for chapters at the local level.] These forms and the Student Activity Information Forms are reviewed by the Faculty Council to determine membership. A majority vote of the council is necessary for selection. Candidates are notified regarding selection or non-selection according to a predetermined schedule.

Following notification, a formal induction ceremony is held at the school to recognize all the newly selected members. Once inducted, new members are required to maintain the same level of performance in all four criteria (or better) that led to their selection. This obligation includes regular attendance at chapter meetings when and as scheduled and participation in the chapter service projects(s).

Students or parents who have questions regarding the selection process or membership obligations can contact the chapter adviser.

Removal from National Honor Society

A student may be removed from the NHS by action of the sponsor upon a determination by the sponsor that the student:

- 1) Prior Conduct. Engaged in conduct prior to induction which was not known at the time of induction and which, if known, would have caused denial of induction;
- 2) Post-Induction Conduct. Engaged in conduct after induction which is grounds for a student to be long-term suspended or expelled from school under the student code of conduct; which is grounds for suspension or removal from any extracurricular activity of the school, or which would cause denial of induction if such conduct had taken place prior to the time of induction.

The student may appeal the sponsor's decision to the principal by giving written notice of appeal to the principal within ten calendar days of receipt of the sponsor's removal decision. The appeal procedures shall be established in the discretion of the principal such as to allow a fair opportunity for the student's views and information to be considered. The decision of the principal on the appeal shall be final.

The national constitution (Article IX, Section 4) indicates that, "A description of the selection procedure shall be published in an official school publication that is widely available in a timely fashion to all students and parents of the school."

The National Honor Society chapter of PCHS is duly chartered and affiliated chapter of this national organization. Membership is open to those students who meet the required standards in four areas of evaluation: scholarship, leadership, leadership, service, and character. Standards for selection are established by the national office and have been revised to meet our local chapter needs.

Students are selected to be members by Faculty Council, recruited by the sponsor and approved by the principal, which bestows this honor upon qualified students on behalf of the faculty of our school each fall semester. Students in the eleventh or twelfth grades are eligible for membership. For the scholarship criterion, a student must have a cumulative grade point average of 90% (3.50). Those students who meet the criterion are invited to complete a Student Activity Information Form that provides the Faculty Council with information regarding the candidate's leadership and service. A history of leadership experiences and participation in school or community service is required.

To evaluate a candidate's character, the Faculty Council uses two forms of input: first, school records are reviewed; second, members of the faculty are solicited for input regarding their professional reflections on a candidate's character and leadership. These forms and the Student Activity Information Forms are reviewed by the Faculty Council to determine the membership. A majority vote of the Council is necessary for selection. Candidates are notified regarding selection or non-selection according to a predetermined schedule.

Following notification, a formal induction ceremony is held at the school to recognize all newly selected members. Once inducted, new members are required to maintain the same level of performance in all four criteria (or better) that led to their selection. This obligation includes participation in the chapter service project(s). Students or parents who have questions regarding the selection process or membership obligations can contact the chapter adviser at PCHS. Exceptions to the above information may be taken into consideration by the faculty council in cases of special circumstances.

NHS/Honor Grads/Graduating with Distinction

In order to qualify for NHS and Honor Graduate/Graduating with Distinction, students will need to take the following course work.

English 9	Algebra I	Science 9
English 10	Algebra II	Biology 10
English 11	Geometry	Chemistry, Physics or Anatomy
World Literature	Geography	American History
Government		

*1 of the following World History, Economics, Social Issues, Psychology, Street Law or Recent History.

Suspension or Expulsion of NHS Members

Section A

A member of this organization may be suspended or expelled for conduct derogatory to the welfare of the organization by a two-thirds vote of the members of the NHS Faculty Council including the sponsor.

Section B

Members who become involved in illegal activities, or violation of school policies, or while participating at a NHS event, or members found to be in violation of the NHA code of conduct including the core values of scholarship, leadership, service and character, may be suspended or expelled by the NHS advisor. This applies to the entire year. All NHS members will comply with general school rules regarding behavior while attending NHS functions.

Members may be expelled for the following but not limited to:

- 1) In possession of illegal substances or paraphernalia.
- 2) Testing positive for any level of controlled or illegal substance.
- 3) Physical harm or bullying of anyone associated or coming in contact with the chapter.
- 4) Failure to report or attempting to cover up illegal activities or actions of other members of the chapter or school.

Section C

If a senior member is expelled, they will not be able to reapply for membership before high school graduation. If a junior member is expelled, they still have the opportunity to reapply for membership during their senior year.

Section 18 Academic Integrity

1) Policy Statement

Students are expected to abide by the standards of academic integrity established by their teachers and school administration. Standards of academic integrity are established in order for students to learn as much as possible from instruction, for students to be given grades which accurately reflect the student's level of learning and progress, to provide a level playing field for all students, and to develop appropriate values.

Cheating, Plagiarism, and Academic Dishonesty

Students may not cheat, plagiarize, or otherwise participate in any academic dishonesty in any form.

Prohibited behavior includes:

- Obtaining, attempting to obtain, or aiding another person to obtain credit for work by any dishonest or deceptive means.
- Lying.
- Copying another person's work or answers.

- Discussing the answers or questions on a test or assignment unless specifically authorized by the teacher.
- Taking or receiving copies of a test without the permission of the teacher.
- Using or displaying notes, “cheat sheets,” or other sources of unauthorized information.
- Using the ideas or work of another person as if they were your own without giving proper credit to the source.
- Submitting work or any portion of work completed by another person.
- Failing to give credit for ideas, statements, facts, or conclusions which rightfully belong to another person.
- Failing to use quotation marks or other appropriate means of attribution when quoting directly from another person or source.
- A student who cheats, plagiarizes, or otherwise participates in any academic dishonesty is subject to discipline, up to and including expulsion.
- Cheating and plagiarism violate the standards of academic integrity. Sanctions will be imposed against students who engage in such conduct.

2) Definitions

The following definitions provide a guide to the standards of academic integrity:

- a) "Cheating" means intentionally to misrepresent the source, nature, or other conditions of academic work so as to accrue undeserved credit, or to cooperate with someone else in such misrepresentation. Such misrepresentations may, but need not necessarily, involve the work of others.

Cheating includes, but is not limited to:

- I) Tests (includes tests, quizzes and other examinations or academic performances):
 - 1) Advance Information: Obtaining, reviewing or sharing copies of tests or information about a test before these are distributed for student use by the instructor. For example, a student engages in cheating if, after having taken a test, the student informs other students in a later section of the questions that appear on the test.
 - 2) Use of Unauthorized Materials: Using notes, textbooks, pre-programmed formulae in calculators, or other unauthorized material, devices or information while taking a test except as expressly permitted. For example, except for “open book” tests, a student engages in cheating if the student looks at personal notes or the textbook during the test.
 - 3) Use of Other Student Answers: Copying or looking at another student’s answers or work, or sharing answers or work with another student, when taking a test, except as expressly permitted. For example, a student engages in cheating if the student looks at another student’s paper during a test. A student also engages in cheating if the student tells another student answers during a test or while exiting the testing room, or knowingly allows another student to look at the student’s answers on the test paper.
 - 4) Use of Other Student to Take Test. Having another person take one's place for a test, or taking a test for another student, without the specific knowledge and permission of the instructor.
 - 5) Misrepresenting Need to Delay Test. Presenting false or incomplete information in order to postpone or avoid the taking of a test. For example, a student engages in cheating if the student misses’ class on the day of a test, claiming to be sick, when the student’s real reason for missing class was because the student was not prepared for the test.
- II) Papers (includes papers, essays, lab projects, and other similar academic work):
 - 1) Use of Another’s Paper: Copying another student’s paper, using a paper from an essay writing service, or allowing another student to copy a paper, without the specific knowledge and permission of the instructor.

- 2) Re-use of One's Own Papers: Using a substantial portion of a piece of work previously submitted for another course or program to meet the requirements of the present course or program without notifying the instructor to whom the work is presented.
- 3) Assistance from Others: Having another person assist with the paper to such an extent that the work does not truly reflect the student's work. For example, a student engages in cheating if the student has a draft essay reviewed by the student's parent or sibling, and the essay is substantially re-written by the student's parent or sibling. Assistance from home is encouraged, but the work must remain the students.
- 4) Failure to Contribute to Group Projects. Accepting credit for a group project in which the student failed to contribute a fair share of the work.
- 5) Misrepresenting Need to Delay Paper. Presenting false or incomplete information in order to postpone or avoid turning in a paper when due. For example, a student engages in cheating if the student misses' class on the day a paper is due, claiming to be sick, when the student's real reason for missing class was because the student had not finished the paper.

III) Alteration of Assigned Grades. Any unauthorized alteration of assigned grades by a student in the teacher's grade book or the school records is a serious form of cheating.

- b) "Plagiarism" means to take and present as one's own a material portion of the ideas or words of another or to present as one's own an idea or work derived from an existing source without full and proper credit to the source of the ideas, words, or works.

Plagiarism includes, but is not limited to:

- I) Failure to Credit Sources: Copying work (words, sentences, and paragraphs or illustrations or models) directly from the work of another without proper credit. Academic work frequently involves use of outside sources. To avoid plagiarism, the student must either place the work in quotations or give a citation to the outside source.
- II) Falsely Presenting Work as One's Own: Presenting work prepared by another in final or draft form as one's own without citing the source, such as the use of purchased research papers or use of another student's paper.

- c) "Contributing" to academic integrity violations means to participate or assist another in cheating or plagiarism. It includes but is not limited to allowing another student to look at your test answers, to copy your papers or lab projects, and to fail to report a known act of cheating or plagiarism to the instructor or administration.

3) Sanctions

The following sanctions will occur for academic integrity offenses:

- a) Academic Sanction. The instructor will refuse to accept the student's work in which the cheating or plagiarism took place, assign a grade of "F" or zero for the work, and require the student to complete a test or project in place of the work within such time and under such conditions as the instructor may determine appropriate. In the event the student completes the replacement test or project at a level meeting minimum performance standard, the instructor will assign a grade which the instructor determines to be appropriate for the work. Credit for the class may be withheld pending successful completion of the replacement test or project.
- b) Report to Parents and Administration. The instructor will notify the Principal of the offense and the instructor or Principal will notify the student's parents or guardian.
- c) Student Discipline Sanctions. Academic integrity offenses are a violation of school rules. The Principal may recommend sanctions in addition to those assigned by the instructor, up to and including

suspension or expulsion. Such additional sanctions will be given strong consideration where a student has engaged in a serious or repeated academic integrity offense or other rule violations, and where the academic sanction is otherwise not a sufficient remedy, such as for offenses involving altering assigned grades or contributing to academic integrity violations.

Any individual found cheating in any form may be given a '0' for the for that assignment. Additional infractions may result in a '0' for the assignment as well as other discipline deemed reasonable such as but not limited to loss of credit or dismissal from the class. Copying other student's assignments would carry the same consequence. Texting, emailing or other forms of electronic transfer of information to another students is considered cheating as well.

Section 19 Part Time Students

Part time students will mean students who are taking fewer than 8 courses at Perkins County Schools. Part time students will be limited on what they are eligible to receive recognition for and participate in including but not limited to the following:

- No eligible for Honor Roll
- Not eligible for NHS
- Not eligible for Honor Grad status
- Not eligible for class rank
- Not eligible for Graduation (must meet all district criteria)
- Part time/home school students may receive home school credit if they have been enrolled in an accredited program and can and do provide an official transcript to PCS

Article 6 - Support Services

Section 1 Special Education Services

What Does Special Education Mean?

Special education means specially designed instruction and related services adapted as appropriate to the needs of an eligible student with a disability. Special education is provided at no cost to the parent to meet the unique needs of a child with a disability.

Students Who May Benefit

A student verified as having autism, behavior disorders, deaf-blindness, developmental delay, hearing impairments, mental handicaps, multiple disabilities, orthopedic impairments, other health impairments, specific learning disabilities, speech-language impairments, traumatic brain injury or visual impairments, who because of these impairments need special education and related services.

How are Students with Disabilities Identified?

Referrals are made by teachers or parents to a Student Assistance Team. If the student assistance team or comparable problem-solving team feels that all viable alternatives have been explored, a referral for multidisciplinary evaluation is completed. An evaluation is conducted to assist in the determination of whether a student has a disability and the nature and extent of the special education and related services the student needs. The evaluation is conducted only with written consent of a parent or guardian. A multidisciplinary evaluation team (MDT) will then meet to determine whether the student is eligible for special education.

Independent Evaluation

If a parent disagrees with an evaluation completed by the school district, the parent has a right to request an independent educational evaluation at public expense. Parents should direct inquiries to school officials to

determine if the school district will arrange for further evaluation at public expense. If school district officials feel the original evaluation was appropriate and the parents disagree, a due process hearing may be initiated. If it is determined that the original evaluation was appropriate, parents still have the right to an independent educational evaluation at their own expense.

Reevaluation

Students identified for special education will be reevaluated at least every three (3) years by the IEP team. The IEP team will review existing evaluation data on the student and will identify what additional data, if any, are needed. The school district will obtain parental consent prior to conducting any reevaluation of a student with a disability.

Individual Education Program (IEP)

Upon a student being verified as having a disability, a conference will be held with parents. At the conference, an Individualized Education Program (IEP) will be developed specifying programs and services which will be provided by the schools. Parent consent will be obtained prior to a student being placed for the first time in a program providing special education and related services or early intervention services to infant and toddlers. Once in place, the IEP is reviewed on an annual basis, or more frequently as needed. Parents are given a copy of the IEP.

Special Education Placement

The student's placement in a special education program is dependent on the student's educational needs as outlined in the Individual Education Program (IEP). To the maximum extent appropriate, students with disabilities are educated with students who are not disabled. Special classes, separate schooling, or other removal of children with disabilities from the regular educational environment occurs only when the nature or severity of the disability is such that education in regular classes with the use of supplementary aids and services cannot be achieved satisfactorily. Determination of a student's educational placement will be made by the IEP team.

Written notice shall be given to parents a reasonable time before the school district: 1. Proposes to initiate or change the identification, evaluation, verification or educational placement of a child or the provision of a free appropriate public education; or 2. Refuses to initiate or change the identification, evaluation, or educational placement of the child or the provision of a free appropriate public education to the child.

More Information

Anyone interested in obtaining a copy of the District's special education policy, the Parental Rights in Special Education brochure, or a copy of the Nebraska Department of Education Rule 51 (special education regulations and complaint procedures) or Rule 55 (special education appeal procedures) may contact the Superintendent. A notice of parental rights, Rules 51 and 55 and more information about special education are also available at the Nebraska Department of Education's website: [http:// www.nde.state.ne.us/SPED/sped.html](http://www.nde.state.ne.us/SPED/sped.html).

Section 2 Students with Disabilities: Section 504

Accommodations and related services are made available to students with disabilities under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. Under Section 504, parents have the following rights:

- 1) Have your child take part in, and receive benefits from, public education programs without discrimination because of your child's disability.
- 2) Have the school district advise you of your rights under federal law.
- 3) Receive notice with respect to identification, evaluation or placement of your child.

- 4) Have your child receive a free appropriate public education. This includes the right to be educated with non-disabled students to the maximum extent appropriate. It also includes the right to have the school district make reasonable accommodations to allow your child an equal opportunity to participate in school and school-related activities.
- 5) Have your child receive services and be educated in facilities which are comparable to those provided to students without disabilities.
- 6) Have your child receive an individualized evaluation and receive special education and related services if your child is found eligible under Section 504.
- 7) Have evaluation, eligibility, educational and placement decisions made based on a variety of information sources and by persons who know your child and who are knowledgeable about the evaluation data and placement options.
- 8) Have transportation provided to and from an alternative placement setting at no greater cost to you than would be incurred if your child were placed in a program operated by the school district.
- 9) Have your child be given an equal opportunity to participate in nonacademic and extracurricular activities offered by the school district.
- 10) Examine all relevant records relating to decisions regarding your child's identification, evaluation and placement. Obtain copies of educational records at a reasonable cost on the same terms as records are provided students without a disability unless the fee would effectively deny you access to the records.
- 11) Receive a response from the school district to reasonable requests for explanations and interpretations of your child's records.
- 12) Request amendment of your child's educational records if there is reasonable cause to believe that they are inaccurate, misleading or otherwise in violation of the privacy rights of your child. If the school district refuses this request, it shall notify you within a reasonable time, and advise you of the right to a hearing.
- 13) File a local grievance in accordance with school policy.
- 14) Request an impartial hearing related to decisions regarding your child's identification, eligibility, and educational program or placement with opportunity for participation by the person's parents or guardian and representation by counsel, and a review procedure. This is provided in the local grievance procedure.

Section 3 Guidance Services

Perkins County Jr/Sr High employs counselor(s) for the purpose of assisting with the District's testing program, to assist with scheduling, for students to discuss problems and resolve conflicts and to assist with post-secondary planning and scholarships. If you wish to see a counselor, stop by a counselor's office and make arrangements for an appointment.

Section 4 Health Services

Student Illnesses

School health personnel will notify parents when a student needs to be sent home from school due to illness. Conditions requiring a student be sent home include: Temperature greater than 100°F., vomiting, diarrhea, unexplained rashes, live head lice, or on determination by the school nurse that the child's condition prevents meaningful participation in the educational program, presents a health risk to the child or others, or that medical consultation is warranted unless the condition resolves.

Please include emergency daytime phone numbers on your child's enrollment card so that you can be reached if your child becomes ill or injured while at school. Please also inform your school health office staff of health-related information you feel is important for your student's success in the classroom and/ or safety at school.

Guidelines for Administering Medication

Whenever possible your child should be provided medications by you outside of school hours. In the event it is necessary that your child take or have medication available at school, the parents/guardians must provide a signed written consent for the child to be given medication at school. A consent form is available at the school health office. If your child has asthma or diabetes and is capable of self-managing his or her health condition, contact the health office to develop a self-management plan.

Medications must be provided to the school by the parent/guardian in the pharmacy-labeled or manufacturer-labeled bottle. Repackaged medications will not be accepted. All medications also require a physician's authorization to be given at school. The school nurse may limit medications to those set forth in the Physician's Desk Reference (PDR). Please limit the amount of medication provided to the school to a two-week supply.

School Health Screening

Children in Preschool and Kindergarten through third grade, as well as children in sixth and ninth grades are screened for vision, hearing, dental defects, height and weight. The screening program also incorporates scoliosis and blood pressure at the sixth and ninth grades. Students entering the Student Assistance Process at any grade level, and those about whom health concerns are identified to the school nurse, may also be screened. Parents who do not wish their child to participate in the school screening program must communicate this in writing to the school health office at the start of the school year. Because Nebraska statutes require school-age screening, parents who remove their child from the screening program must submit bindings from an alternate medical provider to the school by December 1.

Physical and Visual Examination

Evidence of a physical examination and a visual evaluation is required within six (6) months prior to entrance into kindergarten and, in the case of transfer from out of state, to any other grade. A physical examination is also required prior to entrance into the seventh grade. The physical examination is to be completed by a physician, a physician's assistant, or an advanced practice registered nurse; the visual evaluation is to be completed by any of the forgoing or an optometrist. A parent or guardian who objects to the physical examination and/or visual evaluation may submit a written statement of refusal for his or her child. Waiver forms are available in the school health office. Additional physical examination requirements exist for students participating in athletic participation.

Immunizations

Students must show proof of immunization. A student who does not comply with the immunization requirements will not be permitted to continue in school. Students with medical conditions or sincerely held religious beliefs which do not allow immunizations must complete a waiver statement or affidavit. Forms are available in school health offices.

Un-immunized students may be excluded from school in the event of a disease outbreak.

Communicable Diseases

Any student who has contracted a contagious disease may be restricted from attendance at school until the student is no longer contagious. The school district uses the Title 173- Nebraska Health and Human Services/Control of Communicable Disease, Chapter 3 of the Nebraska Administrative Code as a "best practice" guideline for contagious and infectious diseases. If there are questions regarding the communicability of your child's health condition or if you know your child has contracted a contagious or communicable disease or condition not otherwise specified in board policy or this handbook, please call.

Summary of the School Immunization Rules and Regulations For 2019-2020 School Year

Student Age Group	Required Vaccines
Ages 2 through 5 years enrolled in a school-based program not licensed as a child care provider	4 doses of DTaP, DTP, or DT vaccine 3 doses of Polio vaccine 3 doses of Hib vaccine or 1 dose of Hib given at or after 15 months of age 3 doses of pediatric Hepatitis B vaccine 1 dose of MMR or MMRV given on or after 12 months of age 1 dose of varicella (chickenpox) or MMRV given on or after 12 months of age. Written documentation (including year) of varicella disease from parent, guardian, or health care provider will be accepted. 4 doses of pneumococcal or 1 dose of pneumococcal given on or after 15 months of age
Students entering school (Kindergarten or 1st Grade depending on the school district's entering grade)	3 doses of DTaP, DTP, DT, or Td vaccine, one given on or after the 4th birthday 3 doses of Polio vaccine 3 doses of pediatric Hepatitis B vaccine or 2 doses of adolescent vaccine if student is 11-15 years of age 2 doses of MMR or MMRV vaccine, given on or after 12 months of age and separated by at least one month 2 doses of varicella (chickenpox) or MMRV given on or after 12 months of age. Written documentation (including year) of varicella disease from parent, guardian, or health care provider will be accepted. If the child has had varicella disease, they do not need any varicella shots.
Students entering 7th grade	Must be current with the above vaccinations AND receive 1 dose of Tdap (contain Pertussis booster)
Students transferring from outside the state at any grade	Must be immunized appropriately according to the grade entered.

Source: Nebraska Immunization Program, Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services.
For additional information, call 402-471-6423.

The School Rules & Regulations are available on the internet:
<http://www.hhs.state.ne.us/reg/t173.htm> (Title 173: Control of Communicable Diseases - Chapter 3;
 revised and implemented 2011) **Updated 5/2015**

Birth Certificate Requirements

State law requires that a certified copy of a student's birth certificate be provided within 30 days of enrollment of a student in school for the first time. You may obtain a certified copy from the Bureau of Vital Statistics in the state in which your 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 copy. A certified copy has the raised seal of the state of Nebraska on it and is signed by the director of vital statistics.

If a birth certificate is unavailable, other reliable proof of a student's identity may be used. These documents could include naturalization or immigration documents showing date of birth or official hospital birth records, a passport, or a translation of a birth certificate from another country. The documents must be accompanied by an affidavit explaining the inability to produce a copy of the birth certificate.

Guidelines for Head Lice

The following guidelines are in place to: better control a nuisance condition; reduce absenteeism due to head lice; and involve parents as partners with the school in control efforts:

- 1) Children will be sent home from school for live head lice. In the event a child has two (2) cases of live lice in a semester, the child will be sent home until free of both live lice and nits (eggs).
- 2) Health office staff will provide written treatment information and instructions, including how to check and identify head lice*.
- 3) A child who is sent home from school for head lice should miss no more than two (2) school days.
- 4) A child who has been sent from school due to head lice must come to the health office for inspection before returning to class.
- 5) A child who returns to class with nits (eggs) will be checked again in 7-10 days.
- 6) Families are encouraged to report head lice to the school health office.
- 7) Classroom-wide or school-wide head checks will be conducted as needed in order to control the condition at school.

*Nit removal will be emphasized for effective management of the condition. For more information call the nurse at your child's school.

Section 5 Transportation Services

Transportation to and from school is provided to students in accordance with law and Board policy. Students may also be provided transportation on field trips and when participating in school activities. Students are expected to follow the behavioral expectations for riding school buses.

Behavior on School Buses

- 1) **General Conduct Rules Apply:** While riding school buses you are expected to follow the same student conduct rules which apply when you are on school property or attending school activities, functions or events. There are also special conduct rules for riding school buses. These rules also apply to riding other school vehicles.
- 2) **Special Conduct Rules for Riding School Buses.**
 - a) Rules for Getting on and Off the Bus

- I) Be on time to be picked up. As a general rule, get to your bus stop five (5) minutes before your scheduled pick up time. If you miss the bus, immediately return to your home and tell your parents so they can get you to school.
- II) While waiting for the bus, stay at least five (5) feet away from the street, road or highway. Wait until the bus comes to a complete stop before approaching the bus.
- III) You may exit the bus only at your approved destination (your school or your approved bus stop). Exit the bus as directed by the driver. Do not run.
- IV) If you must cross the street after exiting the bus, always cross in front of the bus where the driver can see you. Wait for the driver to signal to you before crossing the street.

b) Rules on the Bus

- i. Be respectful of the bus driver. Immediately follow all directions of the driver and any para-educator or adult on the bus.
- ii. Sit in your seat facing forward. Use seat belts in vehicles in which they are available.
- iii. Talk quietly and use appropriate language.
- iv. Keep all parts of your body inside the bus.
- v. Keep your arms, legs and belongings to yourself.
- vi. No bighting, harassment, bullying, intimidation or horseplay.
- vii. Do not throw any object.
- viii. No eating, drinking, use of tobacco, alcohol, drugs or flammables.
- ix. Do not bring any weapon (real or imitation) or dangerous objects on the school bus.
- x. Do not damage the school bus.

3) **Getting the Driver’s Assistance:** If you need assistance from the driver, wait until the bus is at a full stop. If you are close enough, tell the driver what you need. If you are too far away for the driver to hear you, ask a student in front of you to get the driver’s attention. If necessary, walk up to the driver, while the bus is at a full stop. If you need immediate assistance for an emergency, take all action needed to safely get the help of the driver.

4) **Consequences for Rule Violations:** Consequences for school bus misconduct may include restriction or suspension of bus privileges and other disciplinary measures, up to and including expulsion from school.

Article 7 - Drugs, Alcohol and Tobacco

Section 1 Drug-Free Schools

The District implements regulations and practices which will ensure compliance with the federal Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act and all regulations and rules promulgated pursuant thereto. The District’s safe and drug-free schools’ program is established in accordance with principles of effectiveness as required by law to respond to such harmful effects. The consistent message of the program is that the use of illicit drugs and the unlawful possession and use of alcohol is wrong and harmful.

Section 2 Education and Prevention

The District promotes comprehensive, age appropriate, developmentally based drug and alcohol education and prevention programs. The curriculum includes the teaching of both proper and incorrect use of drugs and alcohol for all students in all grades. The District provides in-service orientation and training for staff with regard to drug and alcohol education and prevention programs.

Drug and Alcohol Use and Prevention. Each student of the District is hereby provided a copy of the standards of conduct for student behavior in the District which prohibit the unlawful possession, use, or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol on school premises or as a part of any of the school's activities.

Drug and Alcohol Education and Prevention Program of the District Pursuant to the Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities Laws and Regulations. Students are provided an age appropriate, developmentally based drug and alcohol education and prevention program. The program educates on the adverse effects of the use of illicit drugs and alcohol, with the primary objective being the prevention of illicit drug and alcohol use by students.

Drug and Alcohol Counseling, Rehabilitation and Re-entry Programs. Information concerning available drug and alcohol counseling, rehabilitation, and re-entry programs is available to all of the students upon request of the Counselor. In the event of disciplinary proceedings against a student for any District policy pertaining to the prohibition against the unlawful possession, use, or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol, appropriate school personnel will confer with the student and the student's parents or guardian concerning available drug and alcohol counseling, rehabilitation, and re-entry programs that appropriate school personnel consider to be of benefit.

Safe and Drug-Free Schools—Parental Notice. Pursuant to the provisions of the No Child Left Behind Act, if upon receipt of information regarding the content of safe and drug free school programs and activities other than classroom instruction a parent objects to the participation of their child in such programs and activities, the parent may notify the District of such objection in writing. Upon the receipt of such notice the student will be withdrawn from the program or activity to which parental objection has been made.

Section 3 Standards of Student Conduct Pertaining to Drugs, Alcohol and Tobacco

These standards are in addition to standards of student conduct elsewhere adopted by board policy or administrative regulation. The District's standards prohibit the possession, use, or distribution of illicit drugs or alcohol on school premises, in school vehicles, or as a part of any of the school's activities on or off school premises. Conduct prohibited at places and activities as here-in-above described shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

- 1) Possession, use, distribution or being under the influence of any controlled substance, including but not limited to marijuana, any narcotic drug, any hallucinogen, any stimulant, or any depressant.
- 2) Possession of any prescription drug in an unlawful fashion.
- 3) Possession, use, distribution or being under the influence of alcohol.
- 4) Possession, use, distribution, or being under the influence of any abusable glue or aerosol paint or any other chemical substance for inhalation, including but not limited to lighter fluid, whiteout, and reproduction fluid, when such activity constitutes a substantial interference with school purposes, including vaping devices.
- 5) Possession, use, or distribution of any look-alike drug or look-alike-controlled substance when such activity constitutes a substantial interference with school purposes, including vaping devices;
- 6) Possession use or distribution of any tobacco product.

Disciplinary Sanctions

Violation of any of the above prohibited acts will result in disciplinary sanction being taken within the bounds of applicable law, up to and including expulsion and referral to appropriate authorities for criminal prosecution. In particular, students should be aware that:

1. Violation of these standards may result in suspension or expulsion.
2. Prohibited substances will be confiscated and unlawful substances will be turned over to law enforcement authorities.
3. The student may be referred for counseling or treatment.

4. Parents or legal guardian will be notified.
5. Law enforcement will be notified.
6. If it appears there is imminent danger to the student, other students, school personnel, or students involved, emergency medical services will be contacted.

Intervention

The District does not have the authority or responsibility to make medical or health determinations regarding chemical dependency. However, when observed behavior indicates that a problem exists which may affect the student's ability to learn or function in the educational environment, the school has the right and responsibility to refer the student for a formal chemical dependency diagnosis based on behavior observed by school staff.

Administration

The administration is authorized to adopt such administrative rules, regulations or practices necessary to properly implement this policy. Such regulations, rules or practices may vary the procedures set forth herein to the extent necessary to fit the circumstances of an individual situation. Such rules, regulations and practices may include administrative forms, such as checklists to be used by staff to record observed behavior and to determine the proper plan of action.

Article 8 - Student Conduct Rules

Section 1 Purpose of Student Conduct Rules

These student conduct rules are established to maintain a school atmosphere which is conducive to learning, to aid student development, to further school purposes, and to prevent interference with the educational process. Violations of the rules will result in disciplinary action.

Section 2 Forms of School Discipline

- 1) **Short-Term Suspension:** Students may be excluded by the Principal or the Principal's designee from school or any school function for a period of up to five (5) school days (short-term suspension) on the following grounds:
 - a) Conduct that constitutes grounds for expulsion, whether the conduct occurs on or off school grounds; or,
 - b) Other violations of rules and standards of behavior adopted by the Perkins County Schools Board of Education or the administrative or teaching staff of the school, which occur on or off school grounds, if such conduct interferes with school purposes or there is a nexus between such conduct and school.

The following process will apply to short-term suspensions:

- a) The Principal or the Principal's designee will make a reasonable investigation of the facts and circumstances. A short-term suspension will be made upon a determination that the suspension is necessary to help any student, to further school purposes, or to prevent an interference with school purposes.
- b) Prior to commencement of the short-term suspension, the student will be given oral or written notice of the charges against the student. The student will be advised of what the student is accused of having done, an explanation of the evidence the authorities have, and be afforded an opportunity to explain the student's version of the facts.
- c) Within 24 hours or such additional time as is reasonably necessary following the suspension, the Principal or administrator will send a written statement to the student and the student's parent or guardian describing the student's conduct, misconduct or violation of the rule or standard and the reasons for the action taken.

- d) An opportunity will be given to the student, and the student's parent or guardian, to have a conference with the Principal or administrator ordering the short-term suspension before or at the time the student returns to school. The Principal or administrator shall determine who in addition to the parent or guardian is to attend the conference.
 - e) A student on a short-term suspension shall not be permitted to be on school grounds without the express permission of the Principal.
- 2) **Long-Term Suspension:** A long-term suspension means an exclusion from school and any school functions for a period of more than five (5) school days but less than twenty (20) school days. A student who on a long-term suspension shall not be permitted to be on school grounds without the express permission of the Principal. A notice will be given to the student and the parents/guardian when the Principal recommends a long-term suspension. The notice will include a description of the procedures for long-term suspension. The procedures will be those set forth in the Student Discipline Act.
- 3) **Expulsion:**
- a) **Meaning of Expulsion.** Expulsion means exclusion from attendance in all schools, grounds and activities of or within the system for a period not to exceed the remainder of the semester in which it took effect unless (a) the misconduct occurred within ten (10) school days prior to the end of the first semester, in which case the expulsion shall remain in effect through the second semester, or (b) the misconduct occurred within ten (10) school days prior to the end of the second semester, in which case the expulsion shall remain in effect for summer school and the first semester of the following school year, or the expulsion is for conduct specified in these rules or in law as permitting or requiring a longer removal, in which case the expulsion shall remain in effect for the period specified therein. Such action may be modified or terminated by the school district at any time during the expulsion period.
 - b) **Suspensions Pending Hearing.** When a notice of intent to discipline a student by long-term suspension, expulsion, or mandatory reassignment is filed with the superintendent, the student may be suspended by the principal 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 superintendent. The suspension pending hearing may be imposed if the principal 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 or (b) a personal injury to the student himself or herself, other students, school employees, or school volunteers.
 - c) **Summer Review.** Any expulsion that will remain in effect during the first semester of the following school year will be automatically scheduled for review before the beginning of the school year in accordance with law.
 - d) **Alternative Education.** Students who are expelled may be provided an alternative education program that will enable the student to continue academic work for credit toward graduation. In the event an alternative education program is not provided, a conference will be held with the parent, student, the Principal or another school representative assigned by the Principal, and a representative of a community organization that assists young people or that is involved with juvenile justice to develop a plan for the student in accordance with law.
 - e) **Suspension of Enforcement of an Expulsion.** Enforcement of an expulsion action may be suspended (i.e., “stayed”) for a period of not more than one (1) full semester in addition to the balance of the semester in which the expulsion takes effect. As a condition of such suspended action, the student and parents will be required to sign a discipline agreement.
 - f) **Students Subject to Juvenile or Court Probation.** Prior to the readmission to school of any student who is less than 19 years of age and who is subject to the supervision of a juvenile probation officer or an adult probation officer pursuant to a court order, who chooses to meet conditions of probation by

attending school, and who has previously been expelled from school, the Principal or the Principal's designee shall meet with the student's probation officer and assist in developing conditions of probation that will provide specific guidelines for behavior and consequences for misbehavior at school (including conduct on school grounds and conduct during an educational function or event off school grounds) as well as educational objectives that must be achieved. If the guidelines, consequences, and objectives provided by the Principal or the Principal's designee are agreed to by the probation officer and the student, and the court permits the student to return to school under the agreed to conditions, the student may be permitted to return to school. The student may with proper consent, upon such return, be evaluated by the school for possible disabilities and may be referred for evaluation for possible placement in a special education program. The student may be expelled or otherwise disciplined for subsequent conduct as provided in Board policy and state statute.

- 4) Other Forms of Student Discipline. Administrative and teaching personnel may take actions regarding student behavior, other than removal of students from school, which are reasonably necessary to aid the student, further school purposes, or prevent interference with the educational process. Such actions may include, but are not be limited to, counseling of students, parent conferences, rearrangement of schedules, requirements that a student remain in school after regular hours to do additional work, restriction of extracurricular activity, or requirements that a student receive counseling, psychological evaluation, or psychiatric evaluation upon the written consent of a parent or guardian to such counseling or evaluation. The actions may also include in-school suspensions. When in-school suspensions, after-school assignments, or other disciplinary measures are assigned, the student is responsible for complying with such disciplinary measures. A failure to serve such assigned discipline as directed will serve as grounds for further discipline, up to expulsion from school.

Section 3 Student Conduct Expectations

Students are not to engage in conduct which causes, or which creates a reasonable likelihood that it will cause a substantial disruption in or material interference with any school function, activity or purpose or interfere with the health, safety, well-being or rights of other students, staff or visitors.

1) Grounds for Short-Term Suspension, Long-Term Suspension, Expulsion or Mandatory Reassignment

The following conduct has been determined by the Board of Education to have the potential to seriously affect the health, safety or welfare of students, staff and other persons or to otherwise seriously interfere with the educational process. Such conduct constitutes grounds for long-term suspension, expulsion, or mandatory reassignment, and any other lesser forms of discipline. The conduct is subject to the consequence of long-term suspension, expulsion, or mandatory reassignment where it occurs on school grounds, in a vehicle owned, leased, or contracted by the school and being used for a school purpose or in a vehicle being driven for a school purpose by a school employee or an employee's designee, or at a school-sponsored activity or athletic event.

- a) Willfully disobeying any reasonable written or oral request of a school staff member, or the voicing of disrespect to those in authority.
- b) Use of violence, force, coercion, threat, intimidation, harassment, or similar conduct in a manner that constitutes a substantial interference with school purposes or making any communication that reasonable recipient would interpret as a serious expression of an intent to harm or cause injury to another;
- c) Willfully causing or attempting to cause substantial damage to property, stealing or attempting to steal property of substantial value, repeated damage or theft involving property, or setting or attempting to set a fire of any magnitude;

- d) Violation of the districts computer acceptable computer use policy are subject to discipline, up to and including expulsion;
- e) Causing or attempting to cause personal injury to any person, including any school employee, school volunteer, or student. Personal injury caused by accident, self-defense, or other action undertaken on the reasonable belief that it was necessary to protect some other person shall not constitute a violation of this subdivision;
- f) Threatening or intimidating any student for the purpose of or with the intent of obtaining money or anything of value from such student or making a threat which causes or may be expected to cause a disruption to school operations;
- g) Knowingly possessing, handling, or transmitting any object or material that is ordinarily or generally considered a simulated or "look-a-like" weapon; or bringing or possessing any explosive device, including fireworks;
- h) Using any object to simulate possession of a weapon;
- i) Selling, using, possessing or dispensing of alcohol, tobacco, narcotics, drugs, drug paraphernalia, an electronic nicotine delivery system, controlled substance, a tobacco imitation or an inhalant; being under the influence of any of the above; possession of drug paraphernalia, or the selling, using, possessing, or dispensing of an imitation controlled substance as defined in section 28-401 of the Nebraska statutes, or material represented to be alcohol, narcotics, drugs, a controlled substance or inhalant. Tobacco means any tobacco product (including but not limited to cigarettes, cigars, and chewing tobacco), vapor products (such as e-cigarettes), alternative nicotine products, tobacco product look-alikes, and products intended to replicate tobacco products either by appearance or effect. Use of a controlled substance in the manner prescribed for the student by the student's physician is not a violation. The term "under the influence" has a less strict meaning than it does under criminal law; for school purposes, the term means any level of impairment and includes even the odor of alcohol or illegal substances on the breath or person of a student; also, it includes being impaired by reason of the abuse of any material used as a stimulant;
- j) Public indecency or sexual conduct;
- k) Engaging in bullying, which includes any ongoing pattern of physical, verbal, or electronic abuse on school grounds, in a vehicle owned, leased, or contracted by a school being used for a school purpose by a school employee or a school employee's designee, or at school-sponsored activities or school-sponsored athletic events;
- l) Sexually assaulting or attempting to sexually assault any person. This conduct may result in an expulsion regardless of the time or location of the offense if a complaint alleging such conduct is filed in a court of competent jurisdiction;
- m) Engaging in any activity forbidden by law which constitutes a danger to other students or interferes with school purposes. This conduct may result in an expulsion regardless of the time or location of the offense if the conduct creates or had the potential to create a substantial interference with school purposes, such as the use of the telephone or internet off-school grounds to threaten; or
- n) Repeated violation of any rules established by the school district or school officials if such violations constitute a substantial interference with school purposes;
- o) Truancy or failure to attend assigned classes or assigned activities; or tardiness to school, assigned classes or assigned activities;
- p) The use of language, written or oral, or conduct, including gestures, which is profane or abusive to students or staff members. Profane or abusive language or conduct includes, but is not limited to, that which is commonly understood and intended to be derogatory toward a group or individual based upon race, gender, disability, national origin, or religion;
- q) Dressing or grooming in a manner which is dangerous to the student's health and safety or a danger to the health and safety of others or repeated violations of the student dress and grooming standards; dressing, grooming, or engaging in speech that is lewd or indecent, vulgar or plainly offensive; dressing,

grooming, or engaging in speech that school officials reasonably conclude will materially and substantially disrupt the work and discipline of the school; dressing, grooming, or engaging in speech that a reasonable observer would interpret as advocating illegal drug use.

- r) Willfully violating the behavioral expectations for those students riding Public Schools' buses.
- s) A student who engages in the following conduct shall be expelled for the remainder of the school year in which it took effect if the misconduct occurs during the first semester, and if the expulsion for such conduct takes place during the second semester, the expulsion shall remain in effect for the first semester of the following school year, with the condition that such action may be modified or terminated by the school district during the expulsion period on such terms as the administration may establish:
 - I) The knowing and intentional use of force in causing or attempting to cause personal injury to a school employee, school volunteer, or student, except if caused by accident, self-defense, or on the reasonable belief that the force used was necessary to protect some other person and the extent of force used was reasonably believed to be necessary, or
 - II) The knowing and intentional possession, use, or transmission of a dangerous weapon other than a firearm.
- t) Knowingly and intentionally possessing, using, or transmitting a firearm on school grounds, in a school-owned or utilized vehicle, or during an educational function or event off school grounds, or at a school-sponsored activity or athletic event. This conduct shall result in an expulsion for one (1) calendar year. "Firearm" means a firearm as defined in 18 U.S.C. 921, as that statute existed on January 1, 1995. That statute includes the following statement: "The term 'firearm' means (a) any weapon (including a starter gun) which will or is designed to or may readily be converted to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive; (b) the frame or receiver of any such weapon; (c) any firearm muffler or firearm silencer; or (d) any destructive device." The Superintendent may modify such one (1) year expulsion requirement on a case-by-case basis, provided that such modification is in writing.

Bringing a firearm or other dangerous weapon to school for any reason is discouraged; however, a student will not be subject to disciplinary action if the item is brought or possessed under the following conditions:

- I) Prior written permission to bring the firearm or other dangerous weapon to school is obtained from the student's teacher, building administrator and parent.
- II) The purpose of having the firearm or other dangerous weapon in school is for a legitimate educational function.
- III) A plan for its transportation into and from the school, its storage while in the school building and how it will be displayed must be developed with the prior written approval by the teacher and building administrator. Such plan shall require that such item will be in the possession of an adult staff member at all times except for such limited time as is necessary to fulfill the educational function.
- IV) The firearm or other dangerous weapon shall be in an inoperable condition while it is on school grounds.

2) **Additional Student Conduct Expectations and Grounds for Discipline**

The following additional student conduct expectations are established. Failure to comply with such rules is grounds for disciplinary action. When such conduct occurs on school grounds, in a vehicle owned, leased, or contracted by a school being used for a school purpose or in a vehicle being driven for a school purpose by a school employee or by his or her designee, or at a school-sponsored activity or athletic event, the conduct is grounds for long-term suspension, expulsion or mandatory reassignment.

- a) **Student Appearance:** Students at Perkins County Jr/Sr High are expected to dress in a way that is appropriate for the school setting. Students should not dress in a manner that is dangerous to the health and safety of anyone or interferes with the learning environment or teaching process in our school.

Shoes and shirts must be worn at all times to meet Federal Health Guidelines. Any dress and or accessories that disrupts classes or is an interference to the smooth operation of the classroom and/or school shall be prohibited. Following is a list of examples of attire that will not be considered appropriate, such list is not exclusive and other forms of attire deemed inappropriate by the administration may be deemed inappropriate for the school setting:

- I) Clothing that shows an inappropriate amount of bare skin or underwear (midriffs, spaghetti straps, sagging pants, tank tops) or clothing that is too tight, revealing or baggy, or tops and bottoms that do not overlap or any material that is sheer or lightweight enough to be seen through, or otherwise of an appropriate size and fit so as to be revealing or drag on the ground.
- II) Shorts, skirts, or skorts that do not reach mid-thigh or longer.
- III) Clothing or jewelry that advertises or promotes (but not limited to) beer, alcohol, tobacco, or illegal drugs.
- IV) Clothing or jewelry that could be used as a weapon (chains, spiked apparel) or that would encourage “horse-play” or that would damage property (e.g. cleats).
- V) Head wear including hats, caps, bandannas, and scarves;
- VI) Clothing or jewelry which exhibits nudity, makes sexual references or carries lewd, indecent, or vulgar double meaning.
- VII) Clothing or jewelry that is gang related

Consideration will be made for students who wear special clothing as required by religious beliefs, disability, or to convey a particularized message protected by law. The final decision regarding attire and grooming will be made by the Principal or Superintendent. In the event a student is uncertain as to whether a particular item or method of grooming is consistent with the school’s guidelines, the student should contact the Principal for approval, and may also review such additional posting of prohibited items or grooming which may be available in the Principal’s office.

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.

Common sense and discretion are invaluable when determining what is appropriate or inappropriate. Students will be asked to correct inappropriate attire. Repeated violations will be treated as insubordination. All staff members have the discretion to send students they believe to be in violation of the dress code to the office. Administrative staff will have the final authority in determining the appropriateness of student attire.

On a first offense of the dress code, the student may call home for proper apparel. If clothes cannot be brought to school, the student will be assigned to in-school suspension for the remainder of the day. Students will not be allowed to leave campus to change clothes. Continual violations of the dress code will result in more stringent disciplinary actions, up to expulsion. Further, in the event the dress code violation is determined to also violate other student conduct rules (e.g., public indecency, insubordination, expression of profanity, and the like), a first offense of the dress code may result in more stringent discipline, up to expulsion.

The administration has the final decision as to the appropriate style of chains and all wearing apparel. Accessories such as, but not limited to, bracelets, armbands and jewelry, must be school appropriate.

b) **Electronic Devices**

- I) Philosophy and Purpose. Perkins County Jr/Sr High strongly discourages students from bringing and/or using electronic devices at school. The use of electronic devices can be disruptive to the educational process and are items that are frequently lost or stolen. In order to maintain a secure and orderly learning environment, and to promote respect and courtesy regarding the use of electronic devices, the District hereby establishes the following rules and regulations governing student use of electronic devices, and procedures to address student misuse of electronic devices.
- II) Definitions.
 - a) "Electronic devices" include, but are not limited to, cell phones, Mp3 players, iPods, portable game consoles, cameras, digital scanners, lap top computers, iWatches and Fitbits and other electronic or battery powered instruments which transmit voice, text, or data from one person to another.
 - b) "Sexting" means generating, sending or receiving, encouraging others to send or receive, or showing others, through an electronic device, a text message, photograph, video or other medium that:
 - (i) Displays sexual content, including erotic nudity, any display of genitalia, unclothed female breasts, or unclothed buttocks, or any sexually explicit conduct as defined at Neb. Rev. Stat. § 28-1463.02; or
 - (ii) Sexually exploits a person, whether or not such person has given consent to creation or distribution of the message, photograph or video by permitting, allowing, encouraging, disseminating, distributing, or forcing such student or other person to engage in sexually explicit, obscene or pornographic photography, films, or depictions; or,
 - (iii) Displays a sexually explicit message for sexual gratification, flirtation or provocation, or to request or arrange a sexual encounter.
- III) Possession and Use of Electronic Devices.
 - a) Students are not permitted to possess or use any electronic devices during class time or during passing time except as otherwise provided by this policy. Cell phone usage is strictly prohibited during any class period; including voice usage, digital imaging, or text messaging. Students are allowed to have cell phones in the building. The cell phones need to remain in their lockers until their lunch-time. The students may also use them during passing periods at their lockers. Students are not to take electronic devices into the bathrooms or locker rooms. A cell phone that is confiscated in the classroom, hallway or during any time that it should be in the locker, will be confiscated until the end of the day and the student will receive detention time. The detention will be served that day after school if the principal is available. If not, arrangements will be made to serve the time. Three violations in a school year and the student will not be allowed to bring a phone into the building. Further disciplinary action will result if the student continues to bring a cell phone. Calls can be made during the school day on the student's cell phone in the main office with a pass from the classroom teacher and permission from office staff.
 - b) Students are permitted to possess and use electronic devices before school hours, at lunch time, and after school hours, provided that the student not commit any abusive use of the device (see paragraph (4)(a)). Administrators have the discretion to prohibit student possession or use of electronic devices on school grounds during these times in the event the administration determines such further restrictions are appropriate; an announcement will be given in the event of such a change in permitted use. Electronics such as ipods, gaming devices, headphones (self-contained) etc. are not allowed in the classroom. Headphones are not permitted during class time.
 - c) Electronic devices may be used during class time when specifically approved by the teacher or a school administrator in conjunction with appropriate and authorized class or school

activities or events (i.e., student use of a camera during a photography class; student use of a lap top computer for a class presentation).

- d) Students may use electronic devices during class time when authorized pursuant to an Individual Education Plan (IEP), a Section 504 Accommodation Plan, or a Health Care Plan, or pursuant to a plan developed with the student's parent when the student has a compelling need to have the device (e.g., a student whose parent is in the hospital could be allowed limited use of the cell phone for family contacts, so the family can give the student updates on the parent's condition).

IV) Violations

- a) Prohibited Use of Electronic Devices: Students shall not use electronic devices for: (a) activities which disrupt the educational environment; (b) illegal activities in violation of state or federal laws or regulations; (c) unethical activities, such as cheating on assignments or tests; (d) immoral or pornographic activities; (e) activities in violation of Board or school policies and procedures relating to student conduct and harassment; (f) recording others (photographs, videotaping, sound recording, etc.) without direct administrative approval and consent of the person(s) being recorded, other than recording of persons participating in school activities that are open to the public; (g) "sexting;" or (h) activities which invade the privacy of others. Such student misuses will be dealt with as serious school violations, and immediate and appropriate disciplinary action will be imposed, including, but not limited to, suspension and expulsion from school.
- b) Disposition of Confiscated Electronic Devices: Electronic devices possessed or used in violation of this policy may be confiscated by school personnel and returned to the student or parent/guardian at an appropriate time. If an electronic device is confiscated, the electronic device shall be taken to the school's main office to be identified, placed in a secure area, and returned to the student and/or the student's parent/guardian in a consistent and orderly way.
 - (i) First Violation: Depending upon the nature of the violation and the imposition of other appropriate disciplinary action, consequences at a minimum may include a relinquishment of the electronic device to the school administration and a conference between the student and school principal or assistant principal. The electronic device shall remain in the possession of the school administration until such time as the student personally comes to the school's main office and retrieves the electronic device.
 - (ii) Second Violation: Depending upon the nature of the violation and the imposition of other appropriate disciplinary action, consequences at a minimum may include a relinquishment of the electronic device to the school administration and a conference between the student and his/her parent/guardian and the school principal or assistant principal. The electronic device shall remain in the possession of the school administration until such time as the student's parent/guardian personally comes to the school's main office and retrieves the electronic device.
 - (iii) Third Violation: Depending upon the nature of the violation and the imposition of other appropriate disciplinary action, consequences at a minimum may include a relinquishment of the electronic device to the school administration, a conference between the student and his/her parent/guardian and the school principal or assistant principal, and suspension of the student from school. The electronic device may remain in the possession of the school administration until such time as the student's parent/guardian personally comes to the school's main office and retrieves the electronic device.

V) Penalties for Prohibited Use of Electronic Devices:

Students who receive a “sexting” message are to report the matter to a school administrator and then delete such message from their electronic device. Students shall not participate in sexting or have any “sexting” message on their electronic devices regardless of when the message was received while on school grounds or at a school activity. Students who violate the prohibitions of this policy shall be subject to the imposition of appropriate disciplinary action, up to and including expulsion, provided that at a minimum the following penalties shall be imposed:

- a) Students found in possession of a “sexting” message may be subject to a minimum of one (1) day suspension from school.
- b) Students who send or encourage another to send a “sexting” message may be subject to a five (5) day suspension from school.

VI) Reporting to Law Enforcement.

Violations of this policy regarding the prohibited use of electronic devices that may constitute a violation of federal or state laws and regulations, including, but not limited to, the Nebraska Child Protection Act or the Nebraska Child Pornography Prevention Act shall be reported to appropriate legal authorities and law enforcement.

VII) Responsibility for Electronic Devices.

Students or their parents/guardians are expected to claim a confiscated electronic device within ten (10) days of the date it was relinquished. The school shall not be responsible, financially or otherwise, for any unclaimed electronic devices. By bringing such devices to school, students and parents authorize the school to dispose of unclaimed devices at the end of each semester. The District is not responsible for the security and safekeeping of students’ electronic devices and is not financially responsible for any damage, destruction, or loss of electronic devices.

- c) **Harassment and Bullying Policy:** One of the missions of Perkins County Jr/Sr High is to provide safe and secure environments for all students and staff. Positive behaviors (non-violence, cooperation, teamwork, understanding, and acceptance of others) are encouraged in the educational program and required of all students and staff. Inappropriate behaviors (bullying, intimidation and harassment are to be identified and corrected. Students and staff are to avoid such behaviors. Strategies and practices are implemented to reinforce positive behaviors and to discourage and protect others from inappropriate behaviors.

“Bullying” is behavior where one person or group engages in harmful action towards another person or group acting on a real or perceived imbalance of power or view of superiority. The behavior typically includes verbal (e.g. teasing or name-calling) and physical aggression (e.g., hitting, pushing), threatening, excluding or ignoring, spreading rumors, or taking, defacing or destroying the others’ property. “Harassment” includes the same actions, though not necessarily from a standpoint of perceived power. Harassment is prohibited. Bullying and harassment is a violation of student conduct rules and appropriate disciplinary measures, up to expulsion, will be enforced. When bullying or harassment is done on the basis of gender, disability, race, or other protected status, it is considered a very serious offense for which expulsion may be a likely consequence depending on the severity of the conduct.

Students who are the victim of bullying or harassment or who observe such occurring are to promptly report the problem to their teacher or to the Principal so the problem can be addressed. Students who make reports of bullying activity will not be retaliated against for making the report.

Students are prohibited from engaging in any form of bullying. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention defines bullying as “any unwanted aggressive behavior(s) by another youth or group of youths who are not siblings or current dating partners that involves an observed or perceived power imbalance and is repeated multiple times or is highly likely to be repeated.” Nebraska statute defines

bullying as “an ongoing pattern of physical, verbal or electronic abuse.” The District’s administrators are authorized to use both of these definitions to determine whether any specific situation constitutes bullying. Both of these definitions include both in-person and cyberbullying behaviors.

“Bullying” means any ongoing pattern of physical, verbal, or electronic abuse on school grounds, in a vehicle owned, leased, or contracted by a school being used for a school purpose by a school employee or his or her designee, or at school-sponsored activities or school-sponsored athletic events. The disciplinary consequences for bullying will depend on the severity, frequency, duration, and effect of the behavior and may result in sanctions up to and including suspension or expulsion. Students who believe they are being bullied should immediately inform a teacher or the building principal.

d) **Dating Violence**

Dating violence, as that term is defined by Nebraska law, will not be tolerated by the school district. Students who engage in dating violence on school grounds, in a school vehicle or at a school activity or that otherwise violates the Nebraska Student Discipline Act will receive consequences consistent with the Act and the district’s student discipline policies.

The school district shall provide dating violence training to staff deemed appropriate by the administration and in accordance with Nebraska law.

e) **Inappropriate Public Displays of Affection (IPDA)**: Students are not to engage in inappropriate public displays of affection on school property or at school activities. Such conduct includes kissing, touching, fondling or other displays of affection that would be reasonably considered to be embarrassing or a distraction to others. Students will face the following consequences for IPDA:

- I) 1st Offense: Student will be confronted and directed to cease.
- II) 2nd Offense: Student will be confronted, directed to cease, and parents will be notified.
- III) 3rd Offense: Student may be suspended from school for a minimum of one (1) day, and parents and student will need to meet with Administrator(s) and/or counselor.
- IV) If this type of behavior continues, or if the IPDA is lewd or constitutes sexual conduct, the student could face long-term suspension or expulsion.

f) **Specific Rule Items**: The following conduct may result in disciplinary action which, in the repeated violations, may result in discipline up to expulsion.

Pass - Students must have a pass when not in class during class time. Students are to use the pass only for the purpose requested. For example, if given a pass to use the restroom, the student must promptly proceed to and use the nearest restroom and promptly return to class.

Food/Drink - Students are not allowed to have pop in the school building during school hours. Items such as chips, cookies and other packaged goods are restricted to consumption during the lunch period and in the lunchroom. Hard candy such as Jolly Ranchers and gum may be permitted with the individual teacher’s approval. Special occasions involving snacks/meals during the day need to be cleared with the classroom teacher and administration. Students may have a water bottle during the school day, must contain water only, bottle must be clear. Staff may not allow students to have a bottle during class for safety reasons such as a Science class.

Class preparedness - Students are expected to bring all books and necessary materials to class. This includes study halls. Students are to be in their seats and ready for class on the tardy bell.

Assignments - Assignments for all classes are due as assigned by the teacher.

Class Dismissal - Classes are ended by the teacher. Students are not to begin to pack up or leave the class until the dismissal bell has rung or the teacher has dismissed the class. **Electives/special classes** - Special classes such as Industrial Technology, Art, P.E., and computer courses will have other safety or clean-up rules that will be explained to students by that teacher which must be followed.

Nuisance Items - Students are not to bring “nuisance items” to school. A nuisance item is something that is not required for educational purposes and which would cause a distraction to the student or others. Items considered a nuisance or distraction such as a laser light pen, noise makers, or other items as deemed by the administration that deter from the educational process or school mission, are strictly prohibited, will be confiscated, and may or may not be returned to a parent or guardian.

Snow - Snow handling is prohibited.

Meetings - There shall be no meetings in the high school unless they have been properly scheduled with the Principal, Activities Director and sponsor. Sponsors must be present and involved with the planning of these meetings. Class meetings before and after school are encouraged. Noon meetings are acceptable if cleared with administration.

Backpacks - Backpacks are allowed in the building but are not allowed in the classroom due to excessive clutter and potential hazards in case of an emergency. Backpacks are to be placed in the locker prior to attending classes. Backpacks that are made of a clear/see-through material may be used but are not allowed in the classroom. Students are issued lockers to store their belongings therefore it is not necessary for them to carry several classes worth of materials with them. Administration will determine what is considered to be a backpack.

Parking - Student parking should be on the oiled streets east of the high school and the adjacent curbed area south of the school building. The school owns the two parking lots east of the school and students are encouraged to park there as well. Please, no parking in the faculty stalls in the south lot or the yellow marked areas in front of the school. Correct parking procedures should be used. Please do not park in front of any home driveway. No parking in handicapped zones. To comply with state law pupils driving cars on school permits must drive directly to and from school and school activities. Administration reserves the right to deny parking to students who abuse the privilege.

Skip Day - There will not be a ‘SNEAK DAY’ for any student, school group or school organization. Any student involved in such activities will be considered unexcused and will be required to make up missed school time in accordance with established procedures.

Study Hall - A study period is conducted for students who qualify for a study hall. A small number of regulations or policies is necessary in study halls in order to avoid confusion and to create an atmosphere conducive to a fair and equitable situation for all students involved. All passes from the study hall must be signed by the teacher that originates the pass and also by the individual in charge that the student contacted away from the study hall. Passes to the library/media center to do research must be initiated by the teacher making the assignment and must be made out in advance of the time the study hall meets.

g) **Network, E-Mail, Internet and Other Computer Use Rules:**

l) **General Rules:**

- a) The network is provided to staff and students to conduct research and communicate with others. Access to network services is given to staff and students who have agreed to act in a responsible manner. Parental permission is required for student use. Access for all staff and students is a privilege and not a right.
- b) Individual users of the district network are responsible for their behavior, actions, problems, and communications involving and over the network. Users will comply with district rules and will honor the agreements they have signed. Beyond clarification of such rules, the district is not responsible for restricting, monitoring, editing, or controlling the information, equipment or communications of individuals utilizing the network or the end product or result of such utilization.
- c) Network storage areas shall be treated like school lockers for students. Network administrators may review files, information, equipment, messages and communications of staff and students to maintain system integrity and ensure that users are using the network system responsibly. Users should not expect that files or any information stored

or otherwise used or retained on the network, district servers, or in computers, will be private. No reasonable expectation of privacy shall exist in relation to network use.

- d) Users should not expect, and the district does not warrant, any information or products obtained from the network, that files or information stored, obtained or used on the network will be private, and use of the network waives and relinquishes all such privacy rights, interests or claims to confidentiality the user may have under state or federal law.
 - e) The district will not be liable for, and does not warrant in any way, purchases made by any user over the network. Users shall not make purchases of goods and/or services via the district's network.
- II) Policy and Rules for Acceptable Use of Computers and the Network: The following policy and rules for acceptable use of computers and the network, including Internet, shall apply to all district administrators, faculty, staff and students. The term "Users", as contained herein, shall apply to all such individuals. The Superintendent, or the Superintendent's designee, is hereby delegated all authority and is the ultimate person in charge of the district network and technology resources or equipment, and the same shall also be under the direct supervision of the site or building administrator where located, sometimes herein called "network administrators."
- a) Users shall not erase, remake, or make unusable anyone else's computer, information, files, programs or disks. In addition to any other disciplinary action or legal action that may occur, any user violating this rule shall be liable for any and all damages to the computer, information, files, programs or disks.
 - b) Users shall not let other persons use their name, account, log-on password, or files for any reason (except for authorized staff members).
 - c) Users shall not use or try to discover another user's account or password.
 - d) Users shall not use the computers or network for non-instructional or non-administrative purposes (e.g., games or activities for personal profit).
 - e) Users shall not use the computer for unlawful purposes, such as illegal copying or installation of unauthorized software.
 - f) Users shall not copy, change, or transfer any software or documentation provided by teachers, or other students without permission from the network administrators.
 - g) Users shall not write, produce, generate, copy, propagate, or attempt to introduce any computer code, software or information designed to self-replicate, damage, or otherwise hinder the performance of the network or any computer's memory, file system, or software. Such software is often called a bug, virus, worm, Trojan horse, or similar name.
 - h) Users shall not use the computer to annoy or harass others with language, images, or threats. Users shall not access, accept, create or send any obscene, vulgar, lewd, tasteless, or objectionable messages, information, language, or images.
 - i) Users shall not damage the network or equipment, damage information belonging to others, misuse network resources, or allow others to misuse network resources. In addition to any other disciplinary action or legal action that may occur, any user violating this, or any other rule shall be liable for any and all damages to the computer, network, information, files, programs or disks.
 - j) Users shall not tamper with computers, networks, printers, or other associated equipment except as directed by the teacher or network administrator. Users shall not deface or alter the appearance of the computer or bags.
 - k) Users shall not take technology equipment (hardware or software) from the school grounds or remove such from computer work areas without written permission of the network administrator.

III) Etiquette and Rules for Use of Computers and the Network: All users of computers and the network are expected to abide by the generally accepted rules of network etiquette. Informal rules of behavior have evolved for the use of and communication on the network, Internet and other on-line services. Breaches can result in harsh criticism by others. These rules of behavior include (but are not limited to) the following:

- a) Be polite. Do not become abusive in your messages to others.
- b) Use appropriate language. Do not swear, use vulgarities or any other inappropriate language, message, information or images.
- c) Do not reveal your personal account, address or phone numbers, or that of other students or colleagues.
- d) Note that electronic mail (e-mail) is specifically not guaranteed to be private. People who operate the system do have access to mail. Messages relating to or in support of illegal activities may be reported to the authorities. Messages which violate the rules will result in disciplinary action.
- e) All communications and information accessible via the network should be assumed to be private property of others.
- f) Do not place unlawful information on any network system.
- g) Keep paragraphs and messages short and to the point. Focus on one subject per message.
- h) Include your signature at the bottom of e-mail messages. Your signature footer should include your name, position, affiliation, and network or Internet address.
- i) Other rules may be established by the network administrators or teachers from time to time.

IV) Computer Network Use by Students

- a) Education About Appropriate On-Line Behavior
 - (i) School district staff will educate students about appropriate online behavior, both in specific computer usage units and in the general curriculum.
- b) Staff will specifically educate students on
 - (i) Appropriate interactions with other individuals on social networking websites and in chat rooms.
 - (ii) Cyberbullying awareness and response.
- c) The School District's technology coordinator shall inform staff of this educational obligation and shall keep records of the instruction which occurs in compliance with this policy

V) Penalties for Violation of Rules: All of the policies, rules, and procedures for acceptable use of computers and the network are intended to make the computers and the network more reliable for users. They are also intended to minimize the burden of administrating the networks so that more time can be spent on education and enhancing services. Use of the computer and access to telecommunications resources is a privilege and not a right. Violation of the policies, rules, and procedures concerning the use of computers and the network may result in disciplinary action up to, and including, loss of access, suspension and/or expulsion of students from school and loss of access, suspension, termination, non-renewal or cancellation of the contract of administrators, teachers, or other school employees.

VI) Student and Parent Agreements: Students and parents may be required to sign a computer and network use agreement as a condition of the student being permitted to use such equipment.

f) Risks of Facebook and other Social Networking:

The purpose of this message is to give our students information about the risks of using Facebook and other social networking sites.

These sites are public sources of information. The information may be seen by your school administrators, your parents, and law enforcement. It is also accessible to people who you don't even know now but may later want to impress—such as university admissions and scholarship officials and prospective employers. In fact, many large companies now search the internet as a means of conducting background checks on job applicants. What you say now on social networks may affect you years later.

What you say now on social networks may also affect you right now. Pictures or writings that show that you have violated student conduct rules may result in school discipline. A picture of a student drinking a beer may very well lead to a suspension from activities if the school learns about it. Criminal charges may be filed against you based on information posted on social networks.

Here are some common sense guidelines that you should follow when using social networks and the Internet in general:

- I) Don't forget that your profile and social networks forums are public spaces. Don't post anything you wouldn't want the world to know (e.g., your phone number, address, IM screens name, or specific whereabouts).
- II) Avoid posting anything that would make it easy for a stranger to find you, such as where you hang out every day after school.
- III) People aren't always who they say they are. Be careful about adding strangers to your friends list. It's fun to connect with new social network friends from all over the world but avoid meeting people in person whom you do not fully know.
- IV) Harassment hate speech and inappropriate content should be reported. If you feel someone's behavior is inappropriate, react. Talk with a trusted adult or report it to the social networks or the authorities.
- V) Don't post anything that would embarrass you later. Think twice before posting a photo or info you wouldn't want your parents or boss to see!

We urge all students to following these common sense guidelines.

Section 4 Reporting Student Law Violations:

- 1) Cases of law violations or suspected law violations by students will be reported to the police and to the student's parents or guardian as soon as possible.
- 2) When a Principal or other school official releases a minor student to a peace officer (e.g., police officer, sheriff, and all other persons with similar authority to make arrests) for the purpose of removing the minor from the school premises, the Principal or other school official will take immediate steps to notify the parent, guardian, or responsible relative of the minor regarding the release of the minor to the officer and regarding the place to which the minor is reportedly being taken. An exception applies when a minor has been taken into custody as a victim of suspected child abuse; in that event the Principal or other school official shall provide the peace officer with the address and telephone number of the minor's parents or guardian.

Reporting Requirement to Law Enforcement

- 1) Violations of this section will result in a report to law enforcement if:
 - a) The violation includes possession of a firearm;
 - b) The violation results in child abuse;
 - c) It is a violation of Nebraska Criminal Code that the administration believes cannot be adequately addressed by discipline from the school district;
 - d) It is a violation of Nebraska Criminal Code that endangers the health and welfare of staff or students; or
 - e) It is a violation of Nebraska Criminal Code that interferes with school purposes.

Section 5 Protection of Student Rights

The Board of Education respects the rights of parents and their children and has adopted a Protection of Pupil Rights policy in consultation with parents to comply with the Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA). The policy is available on the district's website or upon request from the district's administrative office. Parents may opt their child out of participation in activities identified by the Protection of Pupil Rights policy by submitting a written request to the superintendent. The approximate dates during the school year when a survey requesting personal information as defined in the Protection of Pupil Rights policy is scheduled are as follows: January to May of the current school year. Parents may have access to any survey or other material described in the Protection of Pupil Rights policy by submitting a written request to the superintendent.

ACT Exam

Students taking the ACT Exam will be prompted to complete a short, optional questionnaire addressing a number of topics. If you wish to review this questionnaire prior to the administration of the exam, please submit a written request to the superintendent.

Article 9 - State and Federal Programs

Section 1 Notice of Nondiscrimination

Perkins County School does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, religion, age, pregnancy, childbirth or related medical condition, or other protected status in the admission, access to its facilities or programs or activities, treatment, or employment.

: or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity in any program or activity conducted or funded by USDA. To file a program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, (AD-3027) found online at: http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_biling_cust.html, and at any USDA office, or write a letter addressed to USDA and provide in the letter all of the information requested in the form. To request a copy of the complaint form, call (866) 632-9992. Submit your completed form or letter to USDA by:

- 1) Mail: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410
- 2) Fax: (202) 690-7442; or
- 3) Email: program.intake@usda.gov

Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication for program information (e.g. Braille, large print, audiotape, American Sign Language, etc.), should contact the school district. Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing or have speech disabilities may contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339. Additionally, program information may be made available in languages other than English.

Section 2 Designation of Coordinators

Any person having concerns or needing information about the District's compliance with anti-discrimination laws or policies should contact the District's designated Coordinator for the applicable anti-discrimination law.

The Coordinator may be contacted at: Office of the Superintendent 740 Sherman Ave., Grant, Nebraska 69140 telephone number 308-352-4735

Law, Policy or Program	Issue or Concern	Coordinator
Title VI	Discrimination or harassment based on race, color, or national origin; harassment	Superintendent
Title IX	Discrimination or harassment based on sex; gender equity	Superintendent
Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and the Americans with Disability Act (ADA)	Discrimination, harassment or reasonable accommodations of persons with disabilities	Superintendent
Homeless student laws	Children who are homeless	Superintendent
Safe and Drug Free Schools and Communities	Safe and drug free schools	Superintendent

Section 3 Anti-discrimination & Harassment Policy

Elimination of Discrimination. The Perkins County Schools hereby gives this statement of compliance and intent to comply with all state and federal laws prohibiting discrimination or harassment and requiring accommodations. This school district intends to take necessary measures to assure compliance with such laws against any prohibited form of discrimination or harassment or which require accommodations.

Preventing Harassment and Discrimination of Students.

Purpose: Perkins County Schools is committed to offering employment and educational opportunities to its employees and students in a climate free of discrimination. Accordingly, unlawful discrimination or harassment of any kind by administrators, teachers, co-workers, students or other persons is prohibited. In addition, Perkins County Schools will try to protect employees and students from reported discrimination or harassment by non-employees or others in the work place and educational environment.

For purposes of this policy, discrimination or harassment based on a person's race, color, national origin, sex, disability, religion, age, pregnancy, childbirth or related medical condition, or other protected status, is prohibited. The following are general definitions of what might constitute prohibited harassment.

In general, ethnic or racial slurs or other verbal or physical conduct relating to a person's race, color, national origin, sex, disability, religion, age, pregnancy, childbirth or related medical condition, or other protected status constitute harassment when they unreasonably interfere with the person's work performance or create an intimidating work, instructional or educational environment.

Age harassment (40 years of age and higher) has been defined by federal regulations as a form of age discrimination. It can consist of demeaning jokes, insults or intimidation based on a person's age.

Sexual harassment is defined by federal and state regulations as a form of sex discrimination. It can consist of unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, or physical or verbal conduct of a sexual nature by supervisors or others in the work place, classroom or educational environment.

Sexual harassment may exist when:

Submission to such conduct is either an explicit or implicit term and condition of employment or of participation and enjoyment of the school's programs and activities;

Submission to or rejection of such conduct is used or threatened as a basis for employment related decisions, such as promotion, performance, evaluation, pay adjustment, discipline, work assignment, etc., or school program or activity decisions, such as admission, credits, grades, school assignments or playing time.

The conduct has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with an individual's work or educational performance or creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive working, class room or educational environment.

Sexual harassment may include explicit sexual propositions, sexual innuendo, suggestive comments, sexually oriented "kidding" or "teasing", "practical jokes", jokes about gender-specific traits, foul or obscene language or gestures, displays of foul or obscene printed or visual material, and physical contact, such as patting, pinching or brushing against another's body.

Complaint and Grievance Procedures:

Employees or students should initially report all instances of discrimination or harassment to their immediate supervisor or classroom teacher. However, if the employee or student is uncomfortable in presenting the problem to the supervisor or teacher, or if the supervisor or teacher is the problem, the employee or student is encouraged to go to the next level of supervision. In the case of a student, the Principal would be the next or alternative person to contact.

If the employee or student's complaint is not resolved to his or her satisfaction within five (5) to ten (10) calendar days, or if the discrimination or harassment continues, or if as a student you feel you need immediate help for any reason, please report your complaint to the Superintendent of Perkins County Schools. If a satisfactory arrangement cannot be obtained through the Superintendent, the complaint may be processed to the Board of Education.

The supervisor, teacher or the Superintendent will thoroughly investigate all complaints. These situations will be treated with the utmost confidence, consistent with resolution of the problem. Based on the results of the investigation, appropriate corrective action, up to and including discharge of offending employees, and disciplinary action up to expulsion against a harassing student, may be taken. Under no circumstances will any threats or retaliation be permitted to be made against an employee or student for alleging in good faith a violation of this policy.

Section 4 Multicultural Policy

The philosophy of the District's multicultural education program is that students will have improved ability to function as productive members of society when provided with: (a) an understanding of diverse cultures and

racess, the manner in which the existence of diverse cultures and races have affected the history of our Nation and the world, and of the contributions made by diverse cultures and races (including but not be limited to African Americans, Hispanic Americans, Native Americans, Asian Americans and European Americans) and (b) with the ability and skills to be sensitive toward and to study, work and live successively with persons of diverse cultures and races. The mission shall also include preparing students to eliminate stereotypes and discrimination or harassment of others based on ethnicity, religion, gender, socioeconomic status, age, or disability.

Section 5 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 inform you of your rights if you 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.
- 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 6 Communication with the Public about Reported Threats - (Team Assessment Team)

To the extent possible, the team will keep members of the school community informed about possible threats and about the team's response to those threats. This communication may include oral announcements, written communication sent home with students, and communication through print or broadcast media. However, the team will not reveal the identity of the individual of concern or of any target(s) of threatened violence.

Section 7 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. They are:

- 1) The right to inspect and review the student's education records within 45 days of the day the District receives a request for access.

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

- 2) The right to request the amendment of the student's education records that the parent or eligible student believes are inaccurate or misleading.

Parents or eligible students may ask the School District to amend a record that they believe is inaccurate or misleading. They should write the school principal; clearly identify the part of the record they want changed and specify why it is inaccurate or misleading. If the District decides not to amend the record as requested by the parent or eligible student, the District will notify the parent or eligible student of the decision and advise them of their right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment. Additional information regarding the hearing procedures will be provided to the parent or eligible student when notified of the right to a hearing.

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

One exception which permits disclosure without consent is disclosure to school officials with legitimate educational interests. A school official is a person employed by the District as an administrator, supervisor, instructor or support staff member (including health or medical staff and law enforcement unit personnel); a person serving on the School Board; a person or company with whom the District has contracted to perform a special task (such as an attorney, auditor, medical consultant or therapist); or a parent or student serving on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee or assisting another school official in performing his or her tasks.

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

Upon request, the District discloses education records without consent to officials of another School District in which a student seeks or intends to enroll.

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

Family Policy Compliance Office U.S. Department of
Education 400 Maryland Avenue, S.W. Washington,
D.C. 20202-4605

Notice Concerning Directory Information

The District may disclose directory information. The types of personally identifiable information that the District has designated as directory information are as follows:

- 1) Student's Name, address, telephone listing, and the name, address, telephone listings (if not unlisted), e-mail address and work or other contact information of the student's parent/guardian or other adult acting in loco parentis or with authority to act as parent or guardian in educational matters for the student;
- 2) School and dates of attendance;
- 3) Student's current grade;
- 4) Student's enrollment status (e.g. full-time or part-time);
- 5) Student's date of birth and place of birth;

- 6) Student's extra-curricular participation;
- 7) Student's achievement awards or honors;
- 8) Student's weight and height if a member of an athletic team;
- 9) Student's photograph; and
- 10) School or school district the student attended before he or she enrolled in Perkins County Schools.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, the District does not designate as directory information personally identifiable information from students' education records where the District determines that the disclosure to the potential recipient poses a risk to student safety or well-being, including but not limited to circumstances where the potential recipient is a registered sex offender and the personally identifiable information would permit the potential recipient to communicate with or otherwise contact the student.

A parent or eligible student has the right to refuse to let the District designate information about the student as directory information. The period of time within which a parent or eligible student has to notify the District in writing that he or she does not want information about the student designated as directory information is as follows: two (2) weeks from the time this information is first received. Please contact the Superintendent's office to indicate your refusal to have your child's information designated as directory information.

The District may disclose information about former students without meeting the conditions in this section.

The District's policy is for education records to be kept confidential except as permitted by the FERPA law, and the District does not approve any practice which involves an unauthorized disclosure of education records. In some course's student work may be displayed or made available to others. Also, some teachers may have persons other than the teacher or school staff, such as volunteers or fellow students, assist with the task of grading student work and returning graded work to students. The District does not either approve or disapprove such teaching practices and designates such student work as directory information and/or as non-education records. Each parent and eligible student shall be presumed to have accepted this designation in the absence of the parent or eligible student giving notification to the District in writing in the manner set forth above pertaining to the designation of directory information. Consent will be presumed to have been given in the absence of such a notification from the parent or eligible student.

Non-Directory Information

All of the other personally identifiable information about students that is maintained in the school district's education records will generally not be disclosed to anyone outside the school system except under one of two circumstances: (1) in accordance with the provisions of the FERPA statutes and related administrative regulations, or (2) in accordance with the parent's written instructions.

One FERPA exception permits disclosure to school officials with legitimate educational interests without consent. A school official includes, but is not necessarily limited to, a teacher or other educator, administrator, supervisor, instructor, or support staff member (including health or medical staff and law enforcement unit personnel); school board member; volunteer; contractor or consultant who, while not employed by the school, performs an institutional service or function for which the school would otherwise use its own employees and who is under the direct control of the school with respect to the use and maintenance of PII from education records, such as an attorney, representative of the district's insurance providers, auditor, medical consultant, therapist, or a third-party website operator who has contracted with the school district or its agent to offer online programs for the benefit of students and/or the district; members of law enforcement acting on behalf of the school district; a parent or student volunteering to serve on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee; or a parent, student, or other volunteer assisting another school official in performing his or her tasks. A school official typically has a "legitimate educational interest" if the official needs to review

an education record in order to fulfill a school-related professional, contractual, statutory, or regulatory responsibility.

The district will share information with the Department of Education necessary to comply with the requirement of state law that all third- year high school students take a college entrance exam. Any redisclosure of information related to the administration of this exam shall be governed by the agreement between the Nebraska Department of Education and the third-party testing company.

Notice Concerning Designation of Law Enforcement Unit:

The District designates the Perkins County Police Department as the District's "law enforcement unit" for purposes of (1) enforcing any and all federal, state or local law, (2) maintaining the physical security and safety of the schools in the District, and (3) maintaining safe and drug free schools.

Section 8 Notice Concerning Disclosure of Student Recruiting Information

Federal law requires school districts to provide military recruiters and institutions of higher education with the names, addresses, and telephone listings of high school students unless parents have notified the school district in writing that they do not want this information disclosed without prior written parental consent. Military recruiters will be granted the same access to a student in a high school grade as is provided to postsecondary educational institutions or to prospective employers of such students.

Parents who *OBJECT* to the disclosure of any directory information about their student should write a letter to the principal. This letter should specify the particular categories of directory information that the parents do not wish to have released about their child or the particular types of outside organizations to which they do not wish directory information to be released. This letter must be received by the school district no later than the first full week of school.

Section 9 Notice Concerning Staff Qualification's

Federal regulations give parents/guardians the right to get information about the professional qualifications of their child's classroom teachers. Upon request, the District will give parents/guardians 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. We will also, upon request, tell parents/guardians whether their child is being provided services by a paraprofessional and, if so, the qualifications of the paraprofessional. 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, the District will give timely notice to you if your child has been assigned or has been taught for four (4) or more consecutive weeks by a teacher who does not meet the requirements of the Act.

Section 10 Student Privacy Protection Policy

It is the policy of Perkins County Schools to develop and implement policies which protect the privacy of students in accordance with applicable laws. The District's policies in this regard include the following:

Right of Parents to Inspect Surveys Funded or Administered by the United States Department of Education or Third Parties: Parents shall have the right to inspect, upon the parent's request, a survey created by and

administered by either the United States Department of Education or a third party (a group or person other than the District) before the survey is administered or distributed by the school to the parent's child.

Protection of Student Privacy in Regard to Surveys of Matters Deemed to be Sensitive: The District will require, for any survey of students which contain one or more matters deemed to be sensitive (see section headed "Definition of Surveys of Matters Deemed to be Sensitive"), that suitable arrangements be made to protect student privacy (that is, the name or other identifying information about a particular student). For such surveys, the District will also follow the procedures set forth in the section entitled: "Notification of and Right to Opt-Out of Specific Events."

Right of Parents to Inspect Instructional Materials: Parents have the right to inspect, upon reasonable request, any instructional material used as part of the educational curriculum for their child. Reasonable requests for inspection of instructional materials shall be granted within a reasonable period of time after the request is received. Parents shall not have the right to access academic tests or academic assessments, as such are not within the meaning of the term "instructional materials" for purposes of this policy. The procedures for making and granting a request to inspect instructional materials are as follows: the parent shall make the request, with reasonable specificity, directly to the building principal. The building principal, within five (5) school days, shall consult with the teacher or other educator responsible for the curriculum materials. In the event the request can be accommodated, the building principal shall make the materials available for inspection or review by the parent, at such reasonable times and place as will not interfere with the educator's intended use of the materials. In the event there is a question as to the nature of the curriculum materials requested or as to whether the materials are required to be provided, the building principal shall notify the parent of such concern, and assist the parent with forming a request which can reasonably be accommodated. If the parent does not formulate such a request, and continues to desire certain curriculum materials, the parent shall be asked to make their request to the Superintendent.

Rights of Parents to be Notified of and to Opt-Out of Certain Physical Examinations or Screenings. The general policy and practice of the District is to not administer physical examinations or screenings of students which require advance notice or parental opt-out rights under the applicable federal laws, for the reason that the physical examinations or screenings to be conducted by the District will usually fit into one of the following exceptions: (1) hearing, vision, or scoliosis screenings; (2) physical examinations or screenings that are permitted or required by an applicable State law; and (3) surveys administered to students in accordance with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. For physical examinations or screenings which do not fit into the applicable exceptions, the District will follow the procedures set forth in the section entitled: "Notification of and Right to Opt-Out of Specific Events."

Protection of Student Privacy in Regard to Personal Information Collected from Students: The general policy and practice of the District is to not engage in the collection, disclosure, or use of personal information collected from students for the purpose of marketing or for selling that information. The District will make reasonable arrangements to protect student privacy to the extent possible in the event of any such collection, disclosure, or use of personal information. "Personal information" for purposes of this policy means individually identifiable information about a student including: a student or parent's first and last name, home address, telephone number, and social security number. The term "personal information," for purposes of this policy, does not include information collected from students for the exclusive purpose of developing, evaluating, or providing educational products or services for, or to, students or educational institutions. This exception includes the following examples: (i) college or postsecondary education recruitment, or military recruitment; (ii) book clubs, magazines, and programs providing access to low-cost literary products; (iii) curriculum and instructional materials used by elementary schools and secondary schools; (iv) tests and assessments used by elementary schools and secondary schools to provide cognitive, evaluative, diagnostic, clinical, aptitude, or achievement

information about student, or to generate other statistically useful data for the purpose of securing such tests and assessments, and the subsequent analysis and public release of the aggregate data from such tests and assessments; (v) the sale by student of products or services to raise funds for school-related or education-related activities; (vi) student recognition programs.

Parental Access to Instruments used in the Collection of Personal Information: While the general practice of the District is to not engage in the collection, disclosure, or use of personal information collected from students for the purpose of marketing or for selling that information, parents shall have the right to inspect, upon reasonable request, any instrument which may be administered or distributed to a student for such purposes. Reasonable requests for inspection shall be granted within a reasonable period of time after the request is received. The procedures for making and granting such a request are as follows: the parent shall make the request, with reasonable specificity, directly to the building principal and shall identify the specific act and the school staff member or program responsible for the collection, disclosure, or use of personal information from students for the purpose of marketing that information. The building principal, within five (5) school days, shall consult with the school staff member or person responsible for the program which has been reported by the parent to be responsible for the collection, disclosure, or use of personal information from students. In the event such collection, disclosure, or use of personal information is occurring or there is a plan for such to occur, the building principal shall consult with the Superintendent for determination of whether the action shall be allowed to continue. If not, the instrument for the collection of personal information shall not be given to any students. If it is to be allowed, such instrument shall be provided to the requesting parent as soon as such instrument can be reasonably obtained.

Annual Parental Notification of Student Privacy Protection Policy: The District provides parents with reasonable notice of the adoption or continued use of this policy and other policies related to student privacy. Such notice shall be given to parents of students enrolled in the District at least annually, at the beginning of the school year, and within a reasonable period of time after any substantive change in such policies.

Notification to Parents of Dates of and Right to Opt-Out of Specific Events: The District will directly notify the parents of the affected children, at least annually at the beginning of the school year, of the specific or approximate dates during the school year when any of the following activities are scheduled, or are expected to be scheduled:

The collection, disclosure, or use of personal information collected from students for the purpose of marketing or for selling that information. (Note: the general practice of the District is to not engage in the collection, disclosure, or use of personal information collected from students for the purpose of marketing or for selling that information).

Surveys of students involving one or more matters deemed to be sensitive in accordance with the law and this policy; and,

Any non-emergency, invasive physical examination or screening that is required as a condition of attendance; administered by the school and scheduled by the school in advance; and not necessary to protect the immediate health and safety of the student or of other students.

(Note: the general practice of the District is to not engage in physical examinations or screenings which require advance notice, for the reason that the physical examinations or screenings to be conducted by the District will usually fit into one of the following exceptions to the advance notice requirement and parental opt-out right: (1) hearing, vision, or scoliosis screenings; (2) physical examinations or screenings that are permitted or required

by an applicable State law, and (3) surveys administered to students in accordance with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act).

Parents shall be offered an opportunity in advance to opt their child out of participation in any of the above listed activities.

In the case of a student of an appropriate age (that is, a student who has reached the age of 18, or a legally emancipated student), the notice and opt-out right shall belong to the student.

Definition of Surveys of Matters Deemed to be Sensitive: Any survey containing one or more of the following matters shall be deemed to be “sensitive” for purposes of this policy:

- 1) Political affiliations or beliefs of the student or the student’s parent;
- 2) Mental or psychological problems of the student or the student’s parent;
- 3) Sex behavior or attitudes;
- 4) Illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating or demeaning behavior;
- 5) Critical appraisals of other individuals with whom the student has close family relationships;
- 6) Legally recognized privileged or analogous relationships, such as those of lawyers, physicians, and ministers;
- 7) Religious practices, affiliations, or beliefs of the students or the student’s parent;
- 8) Income (other than that required by law to determine eligibility for participation in a program or for receiving financial assistance under such program).

Section 11 Parental Involvement Policies

1) General - Parental/Community Involvement in Schools:

Perkins County Schools welcomes parental involvement in the education of their children. We recognize that parental involvement increases student success. It is the District’s policy to foster and facilitate, to the extent appropriate and in their primary language, parental information about, and involvement in, the education of their children. Policies and regulations are established to protect the emotional, physical and social well-being of all students.

- a) Parental involvement is a part of the ongoing and timely planning, review and improvement of district and building programs.
- b) Parents are encouraged to support the implementation of district policies and regulations.
- c) Parents are encouraged to monitor their student’s progress by reviewing quarterly report cards and attending parent-teacher conferences.
- d) Textbooks, tests and other curriculum materials used in the district are available for review by parents upon request.
- e) Parents are provided access to records of students according to law and school policy.
- f) Parents are encouraged to attend courses, assemblies, counseling sessions and other instructional activities with prior approval of the proper teacher or counselor and administrator. Parents’ continued attendance at such activities will be based on the students’ well-being.
- g) Testing occurs in this school district as determined to be appropriate by district staff to assure proper measurement of educational progress and achievement.
- h) Parents submitting written requests to have their student excused from testing, classroom instruction and other school experiences will be granted that request when possible and educationally appropriate. Requests should be submitted to the proper teacher or administrator within a reasonable time prior to the testing, classroom instruction or other school experience and should be accompanied by a written explanation for the request. A plan for an acceptable alternative shall be approved by the proper teacher and administrator prior to, or as a part of, the granting of any parent request.

- i) Participation in surveys of students occurs in this district when determined appropriate by district staff for educational purposes. Parents will be notified prior to the administration of surveys in accordance with district policy. Timely written parental requests to remove students from such surveys will be granted in accordance with district policy and law. In some cases, parental permission must be given before the survey is administered.
- j) Parents are invited to express their concerns, share their ideas and advocate for their children's education with board members, administrators and staff.
- k) School district staff and parents will participate in an annual evaluation and revision, if needed, of the content and effectiveness of the parental involvement policy.

The school district recognizes the unique needs of students who are being served in its Title I program, and the importance of parent and family engagement in the Title I program. Parent and family engagement in the Title I Program shall include, but is not limited to:

- a) An annual meeting to which all parents of participating children will be invited to inform parents of their school's participation under this part, to explain the requirements of this part, and the right of the parents to be involved. Invitations may take the form of notes sent with students or announcements in the school newsletter. Additional meetings may be scheduled, based upon need and interest for such meetings.
- b) An explanation of the details for the child's and parents' participation, including but not limited to: curriculum objectives, the forms of academic assessment used to measure student progress and the achievement levels of the challenging State academic standards, type and extent of participation, parental input in educational decisions, coordination, and integration with other Federal, State, and district programs, and evaluations of progress.
- c) Opportunities for participation in parent involvement activities, such as training to help parents work with their children to improve achievement. A goal of these parent activities is to provide parents with opportunities to participate in decisions relating to the education of their students, where appropriate.
- d) The district will, to the extent practicable, provide parents of limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, parents with limited literacy, are economically disadvantaged, are of a racial or minority background or parents of migratory children with opportunities for involvement in the Title I Program. Communication to parents about student progress and the district's other Title I Program communications will be provided in the language used in the home to the extent practicable. Responses to parent concerns will be provided in a timely manner.
- e) Opportunities for parent-teacher conferences, in addition to those regularly scheduled by the school district, if requested by the parents or as deemed necessary by school district staff.
- f) The district will coordinate and integrate parental involvement programs and activities with other programs in the community. These may include cooperation with other community programs such as Head Start and preschools and other community services such as the public library.
- g) The district will educate teachers, specialized instructional support personnel, principals, and other school leaders, with the assistance of parents in the value and utility of contributions of parents, how to reach out to, communicate with and work with parents as equal partners.

2) Title I Parental Involvement Policy:

The District's Title I Parental Involvement Policy is established in compliance with the No Child Left Behind Act. The District has a parental involvement policy applicable to parents of all children. The parental involvement policy applicable to parents of all children is not replaced by this Title I Parental Involvement Policy and shall continue to be applicable to all parents, including parents participating in Title I programs.

It is the policy of the District to implement programs, activities, and procedures for the involvement of parents in Title I programs consistent with the Title I laws. Such programs, activities, and procedures shall be planned and implemented with meaningful consultation with parents of participating children.

Expectations for Parental Involvement: It is the expectation of the District that parents of participating children will have opportunities available for parental involvement in the programs, activities, and procedures of the District's Title I program. The term "parental involvement" means the participation of parents in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities, including ensuring—(A) that parents play an integral role in assisting their child's learning; (B) that parents are encouraged to be actively involved in their child's education at school; (C) that parents are full partners in their child's education and are included, as appropriate, in decision making and on advisory committees to assist in the education of their child; and (D) the carrying out of other activities, such as those described in this parental involvement policy. The District intends to meet this expectation through the following activities:

- a) Involving parents in the joint development of the District's Title I plan and the processes of school review and school improvement.
- b) Providing coordination, technical assistance, and other support necessary to assist participating schools in planning and implementing effective parental involvement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance.
- c) Building the schools' and parents' capacity for strong parental involvement.
- d) Coordinating and integrating parental involvement strategies under Title I with parental involvement strategies under other programs.
- e) Conducting, with the involvement of parents, an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness of the parental involvement policy in improving the academic quality of the schools served under the Title I program, including identifying barriers to greater participation by parents in Title I programs, with particular attention to parents who are economically disadvantaged, are disabled, have limited English proficiency, have limited literacy, or are of any racial or ethnic minority background, and use the findings of such evaluation to design strategies for more effective parental involvement, and to revise, if necessary, the parental involvement policies of the District.
- f) Involving parents in the activities of the schools served under Title I.

Policy Involvement: Each school served under the Title I program will:

- a) Convene an annual meeting, at a convenient time, to which all parents of participating children shall be invited and encouraged to attend, to inform parents of their school's participation under the Title I program and to explain the requirements of the Title I program.
- b) Offer a flexible number of meetings, such as meetings in the morning or evening. If sufficient funds are provided for this purpose, the District may assist parental involvement in such meetings by offering transportation, child care, or home visits.
- c) Involve parents, in an organized, ongoing, and timely way, in the planning, review, and improvement of Title I programs.
- d) Provide parents of participating children: (1) timely information about programs under Title I, (2) a description and explanation of the curriculum in use at the school, the forms of academic assessment used to measure student progress, and the proficiency levels students are expected to meet; and (3) if requested by parents, opportunities for regular meetings to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their children, and respond to any such suggestions as soon as practicably possible.
- e) If the District operates a school-wide program under Title I and such plan is not satisfactory to the parents of participating children, submit any parental comments on the plan when the school makes the plan available to the District.

Shared Responsibilities for High Student Academic Achievement: As a component of the District's parental involvement policy, each school served under the Title I program will jointly develop with parents for all children served under the Title I program a school-parent compact that outlines how parents, the entire school staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement and the means by which the school and parents will build and develop a partnership to help children achieve the State's high standards. Such compact shall: (1) describe the school's responsibility to provide high-quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment that enables the children served under Title I to meet the State's student academic achievement standards and the ways in which each parent will be responsible for supporting their children's learning, such as monitoring attendance, homework completion, and television watching; volunteering in their child's classroom; and participating, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their children and positive use of extracurricular time; and (2) address the importance of communication between teachers and parents on an ongoing basis through, at a minimum: (i) parent-teacher conferences in elementary schools, at least annually, during which the compact shall be discussed as the compact relates to the individual child's achievement; (ii) frequent reports to parents on their children's progress; and (iii) reasonable access to staff, opportunities to volunteer and participate in their child's class, and observation of classroom activities.

Building Capacity for Involvement: To ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the District, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, each school participating in the Title I program and the District: (1) shall provide assistance to participating parents, as appropriate, in understanding such topics as the State's academic content standards and State student academic achievement standards, State and local academic assessments, the requirements of Title I and how to monitor a child's progress and work with educators to improve the achievement of their children; (2) shall provide materials and training to help parents work with their children to improve their children's achievement, such as literacy training and using technology, as appropriate, to foster parental involvement; (3) shall educate teachers, student service personnel, principals, and other staff, with the assistance of parents, in the value and utility of contributions of parents, and in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners, implement and coordinate parent programs, and build ties between parents and the school; (4) shall, to the extent feasible and appropriate, coordinate and integrate parent involvement programs and activities with Head Start, Reading First, Early Reading First, Even Start, the Home Instruction Programs for Preschool Youngsters, the Parents as Teacher Program, and public preschool and other programs, and conduct other activities, such as parent resource centers, that encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children; (5) shall ensure that information related to school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities is sent to the parents of participating children in a format, and to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand; (6) may involve parents in the development of training for teachers, principals, and other educators to improve the effectiveness of such training; (7) may provide necessary literacy training from funds received under Title I if the District has exhausted all other reasonably available sources of funding for such training; (8) may pay reasonable and necessary expenses associated with parental involvement activities, including transportation and child care costs, to enable parents to participate in school-related meetings and training sessions; (9) may train parents to enhance the involvement of other parents; (10) may arrange school meetings at a variety of times, or conduct in-home conferences between teachers or other educators, who work directly with participating children, with parents who are unable to attend such conferences at school, in order to maximize parental involvement and participation; (11) may adopt and implement model approaches to improving parental involvement; (12) may establish a district-wide parent advisory council to provide advice on all matters related to parental involvement in programs supported under Title I; (13) may develop appropriate roles for community-based organizations and businesses in parent involvement activities; and (14) shall provide such other reasonable support for parental involvement activities under Title I as parents may request.

Accessibility: In carrying out the parental involvement activities for this Title I Parental Involvement policy, the District shall provide full opportunities for the participation of parents with limited English proficiency, parents with disabilities, and parents of migratory children, including providing information and school reports required under Title I in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language such parents understand.

Use, Distribution, and Updating of this Policy: This Title I Parental Involvement Policy shall be incorporated into the District's Title I plan, shall be distributed to parents of participating children, shall be made available to the local community, and shall be updated periodically to meet the changing needs of the parents and the school.

Section 12 Homeless Students Policy

Homeless children for purposes of this Policy generally include children who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence, as further defined by applicable federal and state law.

No Stigmatization or Segregation of Homeless Students: It is the District's policy and practice to ensure that homeless children are not stigmatized or segregated by the District on the basis of their status as homeless.

Homeless Coordinator: The Homeless Coordinator shall serve as the school liaison for homeless children and youth and shall ensure that: (1) homeless children are identified by school personnel; (2) homeless children enroll in, and have a full and equal opportunity to succeed in, school; (3) homeless children and their families receive educational service for which they are eligible and referrals to health, dental, and mental health services and other appropriate services; (4) the parents or guardians of homeless children are informed of the educational and related opportunities available to their children and provided with meaningful opportunities to participate in the education of their children; (5) public notice of the educational rights of homeless children is disseminated where such children receive services under the federal homeless children laws, such as schools, family shelters, and soup kitchens; (6) enrollment disputes are mediated in accordance with law; and (7) the parents or guardians of homeless children, and any unaccompanied youth, are fully informed of transportation services available under law. The Homeless Coordinator shall coordinate with State coordinators and community and school personnel responsible for the provisions of education and related services to homeless children. The Homeless Coordinator may designate duties hereunder as the Homeless Coordinator determines to be appropriate.

Enrollment of and Services to Homeless Children: A homeless child shall be enrolled in compliance with law and be provided services comparable to services offered to other students in the school in which the homeless child has been placed. Placement of a homeless child is determined based on the child's "school of origin" and the "best interests" of the child. The "school of origin" means the school that the child attended when permanently housed or the school in which the child was last enrolled. Placement decisions shall be made according to the District's determination of the child's best interests, and shall be at either: (1) the child's school of origin for the duration of the child's homelessness (or, if the child becomes permanently housed during the school year, for the remainder of that school year) or (2) the school of the attendance area where the child is actually living. To the extent feasible, the placement shall be in the school of origin, except when such is contrary to the wishes of the homeless child's parent or legal guardian. If the placement is not in the school of origin or a school requested by the homeless child's parent or legal guardian, the District shall provide a written explanation of the placement decision and a statement of appeal rights to the parent or guardian as provided in Nebraska Rule 19.

If the homeless child is an unaccompanied youth, the Homeless Coordinator shall assist in the placement decision, consider the views of the unaccompanied youth, and provide the unaccompanied youth with notice of the right to appeal. The process to resolve disputes concerning the enrollment or placement of a homeless child or youth is as follows:

- a) The district shall provide a written response and explanation of a decision regarding any complaint or dispute of a parent, guardian or other person having legal or actual charge or control of a homeless child or youth within thirty (30) calendar days of the time such complaint or dispute is brought;
- b) The enrollment of the homeless child or youth in the school where enrollment is sought during the time such dispute is being considered;
- c) And notice of the right to appeal as provided in Nebraska Rule 19.

Any parent, guardian or other person having legal or actual charge or control of a homeless child or youth that is dissatisfied with the decision of a school district after the dispute resolution process may file an appeal with the Commissioner of the Nebraska Department of Education within thirty (30) calendar days of receipt of the decision. Such appeals are informal and shall be submitted to the Commissioner in writing, as outlined in Nebraska Department of Education Rule 19, Section 005.03. The District shall immediately contact the school last attended by the homeless child to obtain relevant academic and other records. If the homeless child needs to obtain immunizations or medical records, the District shall immediately refer the parent or guardian of the homeless child to the Homeless Coordinator, who shall assist in obtaining necessary immunizations or medical records. The District may nonetheless require the parent or guardian of the homeless child to submit contact information.

Transportation will be provided to homeless students, to the extent required by law and comparable to that provided to students who are not homeless, upon request of the parent or guardian of the homeless child, or by the Homeless Coordinator in the case of an unaccompanied youth, as follows: (1) if the homeless child's school of origin is in the District, and the homeless child continues to live in the District, transportation to and from the school of origin shall be provided by the District; and (2) if the homeless child lives in a school other than the District, but continues to attend the [Name] Public Schools based on it being the school of origin, the new school and [Name] Public Schools shall agree upon a method to apportion the responsibility and costs for providing the child with transportation to and from the school of origin and, if they are unable to agree, the responsibility and cost for transportation shall be shared equally.

Section 13 Breakfast and Lunch Programs

The District has agreed to participate in the National School Lunch Program and accepts responsibility for providing free and reduced-price meals to eligible children in the schools under its jurisdiction. The District provides the United States Department of Agriculture's required nondiscrimination statement:

In accordance with Federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture policy, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, religion, age, pregnancy, childbirth or related medical condition, or other protected status.

To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, One Petting Lane, 1010 Walnut Street, 3rd Floor, Suite 320, Kansas City, Missouri 64106, (816) 268-0550 (voice), Fax (816) 268-0599, (800) 877-8339 (telecommunications device for the deaf), or ocr.kansascity@ed.gov. USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

The school food authority assures the State Department of Education that the school system will uniformly implement the following policy to determine children's eligibility for free and reduced-price meals in all National School Lunch Programs. In fulfilling its responsibilities, the school food authority:

- 1) Agrees to serve meals free to children from families whose income meets eligibility guidelines.
- 2) Agrees to serve meals at a reduced price to children from families whose income falls between free meal scale and the poverty guidelines.

- 3) Agrees to provide these benefits to any child whose family's income falls within the criteria in Attachment A after deductions are made for the following special hardship conditions which could not reasonably be anticipated or controlled by the household: Unusually high medical expenses; shelter costs in excess of 30 percent of reported income; special education expenses due to the mental or physical condition of a child; disaster or casualty losses.
- 4) In addition, agrees to provide these benefits to children from families who are experiencing strikes, layoffs and unemployment which cause the family income to fall within the criteria set forth in federal guidelines.
- 5) Agrees there will be no physical segregation of, nor any other discrimination against, any child because of his inability to pay the full price of the meal. The names of the children eligible to receive free and reduced-price meals shall not be published, posted or announced in any manner and there shall be no overt identification of any such children by use of special tokens or tickets or any other means. Further assurance is given that children eligible for free or reduced price meals shall not be required to: Work for their meals; use a separate lunch room; go through a separate serving line; enter the lunchroom through a separate entrance; eat meals at a different time; or eat a meal different from the one sold to children paying the full price.
- 6) Agrees in the operation of child nutrition programs, no child shall be discriminated against because of race, sex, color, or national origin.
- 7) Agrees to establish and use a fair hearing procedure for parental appeals to the school's decisions on applications and for school officials' challenges to the correctness of information contained in an application or to be continued eligibility of any child for free or reduced-price meals. During the appeal and hearing the child will continue to receive free or reduced priced meals. A record of all such appeals and challenges and their dispositions shall be retained for three (3) years. Prior to initiating the hearing procedures, the parent or local school official may request a conference to provide an opportunity for the parent and school official to discuss the situation, present information, and obtain an explanation of data submitted in the application and decisions rendered. Such a conference shall not in any way prejudice or diminish the right to a fair hearing. The hearing procedure shall provide the following:
 - A publicly-announced, simple method for making an oral or written request for a hearing.
 - An opportunity to be assisted or represented by an attorney or other person.
 - An opportunity to examine, prior to and during the hearing, the documents and records presented to support the decision under appeal.
 - Reasonable promptness and convenience in scheduling a hearing and adequate notice as to the time and place of the hearing.
 - An opportunity to present oral or documentary evidence and arguments supporting a position without undue interference.
 - An opportunity to question or refute any testimony or other evidence and to confront and cross-examine any adverse witnesses.
 - The hearing be conducted, and the decision made by a hearing official who did not participate in the decision under appeal or in any previous conference.
 - The parties concerned and any designated representative thereof be notified in writing of the decision of the hearing official.
- 8) Agrees to designate the Superintendent to review applications and make determinations of eligibility. This official will use the criteria outlined in this policy to determine which individual children are eligible for free or reduced-price meals.
- 9) Agrees to develop and send to each child's parent or guardian a letter as outlined by State Department of Education including an application form for free or reduced-price meals at the beginning of each school year. Applications may be filed at any time during the year. All children from a family will receive the same benefits.

The following information will be available in the office of the Superintendent:

- Eligibility criteria for free and reduced meals
- Parent letter and application
- Public release
- Collection procedure

PARENTAL AUTHORIZATION AND RELEASE FORM
ADMINISTRATION OF NON- PRESCRIPTION DRUGS TO STUDENTS

While the administration of medications to students should be scheduled outside of school hours whenever possible, occasionally it may be necessary for school personnel to administer nonprescription drugs to a student as authorized by the student’s parents, guardians, or medical professionals and state law. School personnel will only dispense those nonprescription drugs which have been approved by state and federal law for use as a drug and meet the definition of nonprescription drugs in Nebraska’s Medication Aide law which states:

Nonprescription drugs means nonnarcotic medicines or drugs which may be sold without a medical order and which are prepackaged for use by the consumer and labeled in accordance with the requirements of the laws and regulations of this state and the federal government.

In order for students to be administered nonprescription medication by school personnel, a parent or guardian must:

- Complete and return this authorization form.
- Provide the district with any nonprescription drugs you wish to be administered in its original container from the manufacturer, which must include legible, unadulterated manufacturer instructions. The container must be labeled with the student’s name.
- Provide the district with specific written instructions regarding the requested nonprescription drug’s administration, including the date(s) the student is to be administered the drug, the dosage to be administered, the frequency of administration, and any other details or conditions relevant to administration.

School personnel will not administer nonprescription drugs in a manner inconsistent with the manufacturer instructions or state law. School personnel will not administer non-prescription drugs that is expired.

The undersigned are the parent(s), guardian(s), or person(s) in charge of

(name of the student)

I authorize and request school personnel to administer nonprescription drugs to my student. I release the school district, its officials, and employees from any and all liability concerning the administration of nonprescription drugs to my student.

DATED this ____ day of _____, 20__.

Parent/Guardian

RECORD OF SELF-ADMINISTRATED MEDICINE

Parent's Phone _____

Student Name _____ Grade _____

Date to Begin _____ Date to End _____

Name of Medication _____

Dosage of Medication _____ Time _____

Doctor _____ Phone #1 _____

Phone # _____

Possible Adverse Reaction: _____

**RECEIPT OF 2019-2020 STUDENT - PARENT HANDBOOK
OF Perkins County Jr/Sr High School**

This signed receipt acknowledges receipt of the 2019-2020 Student-Parent Handbook of Perkins County Jr/Sr High School. It is understood that the handbook contains student conduct and discipline rules and information about Safe and Drug-Free Schools and that the undersigned, as student, agrees to follow such conduct and discipline rules. This receipt also serves to acknowledge that it is understood that the District's policies of non-discrimination and equity, and that specific complaint and grievance procedures exist in the handbook which should be used to respond to harassment or discrimination.

Date: _____

Date: _____

Student's Signature

Parent or Legal Guardian's Signature

Return to:

Perkins County Jr/Sr High School

AVAILABILITY OF HANDBOOKS

The 2019-2020 Student-Parent Handbook of Perkins County Schools is available on the internet at <http://www.perkinscountyschools.org/>.

Because of the expense of printing the handbooks, we are asking that you consider using the internet to access and review the 2019-2020 Student Parent Handbook. Using the internet to access the handbook will allow the district to direct printing dollars to instructional needs and eliminate the need for you to search for your handbook when you have questions throughout the year. Thank you for considering this new use of technology to improve school-home communication.

Please return to the Principal's Office by **August 16, 2019**. This will allow us time to get the Handbook to all students and parents before school starts while avoiding the necessity of printing more copies of the Handbooks than necessary.

Thank you for providing the 2019-2020 Student-Parent Handbook online. I will review it on the internet. My signed receipt below acknowledges receipt of the Handbook in a satisfactory manner via the internet.

I prefer a paper copy of the Handbook.

Name