



Joliet Public Schools District 86
420 N. Raynor Avenue
Joliet, Illinois 60435
815-740-3196
www.joliet86.org

Theresa R. Rouse, Ed.D.
Superintendent

2024

-

2025

PARENT – STUDENT

HANDBOOK

JOLIET PUBLIC SCHOOLS DISTRICT 86

2024-2025 School Calendar / Calendario Escolar 2024-2025

July 2024						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

JULY/JULIO

4 Independence Day - No School / *Día de la Independencia - No hay clases*

AUGUST/AGOSTO

19-20 Teacher Institute Days - No Student Attendance
Día de Formación Docente - No hay clases

21 First Day of Student Attendance
Primer día de asistencia para los estudiantes

SEPTEMBER/SEPTIEMBRE

2 Labor Day - No School / *Día del Trabajo - No hay clases*

26 School Improvement Day - Early Release
Día de Mejoramiento Escolar - Salida temprana

OCTOBER/OCTUBRE

14 Columbus Day - No School / *Día de Cristobal Colón - No hay clases*

NOVEMBER/NOVIEMBRE

5 General Election Day - No School
Día de las Elecciones Generales - No hay clases

11 Veterans Day - No School / *Día de los Veteranos - No hay clases*

15 End First Trimester / *Finaliza el primer trimestre*

25 Teacher Institute - No Student Attendance
PM Parent/Teacher Conferences
Día de Formación Docente - No hay clases
Conferencias de padres y maestros por la tarde - No hay clases

26 Parent/Teacher Conferences - No Student Attendance
Conferencias de padres y maestros - No hay clases

27 No School / *No hay clases*

28-29 Thanksgiving Day and Day After - No School
Día de Acción de Gracias y el día después - No hay clases

DECEMBER/DICIEMBRE

20 School Improvement Day - Early Release
Día de Mejoramiento Escolar - Salida temprana

23 - Jan 3 Winter Break - No School / *Descanso de Invierno - No hay clases*

JANUARY/ENERO

6 Teacher Institute - No Student Attendance
Día de Formación Docente - No hay clases

7 Classes Resume / *Regreso a clases*

20 Martin Luther King Jr. Day - No School
Día de Martin Luther King Jr. - No hay clases

FEBRUARY/FEBRERO

13 School Improvement Day - Early Release
Día de Mejoramiento Escolar - Salida temprana

17 Presidents' Day - No School / *Día de los Presidentes - No hay clases*

28 End Second Trimester / *Finaliza el segundo trimestre*

MARCH/MARZO

3 Casimir Pulaski Day - No School / *Día de Casimir Pulaski - No hay clases*

21 Parent/Teacher Conferences - No Student Attendance
Conferencias de padres y maestros - No hay clases

24-28 Spring Break - No School / *Descanso de primavera*
31 Classes Resume / *Regreso a clases*

APRIL/ABRIL

18 No School / *No hay clases*

21 No School / *No hay clases*

MAY/MAYO

8 School Improvement Day - Early Release / *Día de Mejoramiento Escolar - Salida temprana*

21 School Improvement Day - Early Release / *Día de Mejoramiento Escolar - Salida temprana*

26 Memorial Day - No School / *Día de Conmemoración a los Caidos - No hay clases*

JUNE/JUNIO

4 School Improvement Day - Early Release / *Día de Mejoramiento Escolar - Salida temprana*

4 Tentative Last Day of School if no Emergency Days Used
Último día de clases provisional si no se usan días de emergencia

4 End of Third Trimester / *Finaliza el tercer trimestre*

5-6, 9-11 Emergency Days (if needed) / *Días de emergencia (si son necesarios)*

19 Juneteenth Holiday - No School / *Día de la Emancipación - No hay clases*

January 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

February 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	

March 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

April 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

May 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

June 2025						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

- Not in Attendance
No hay clases
- Emergency Days
Días de emergencia
- School Improvement Day
Mejoramiento Escolar
- Teacher Institute
Día de Formación
- Holiday
Día festivo
- Parent/Teacher
Padres y maestros

DISTRICT 86 SCHOOLS

SCHOOL	ADDRESS	PHONE	PRINCIPAL	GRADES
T. E. Culbertson Elementary	1521 E. Washington Street, Joliet, IL 60433	(815) 723-0035	Larry Tucker	K-5
M.J. Cunningham Elementary	500 Moran Street, Joliet, IL 60435	(815) 723-0169	Marysol Sandoval	K-5
Eisenhower Academy	406 Burke Drive, Joliet, IL 60433	(815) 723-0233	Nicole Bottigliero	1-5
Farragut Elementary	701 Glenwood Avenue, Joliet, IL 60435	(815) 723-0394	Joy Hopkins	K-5
Forest Park I.E.	1220 California Avenue, Joliet, IL 60432	(815) 723-0414	Jacob Darley	K-5
Thomas Jefferson Elementary	2651 Glenwood Avenue, Joliet, IL 60435	(815) 725-0262	Consuelo Ramirez	K-5
Edna Keith Elementary	400 Fourth Avenue, Joliet, IL 60433	(815) 723-3409	Laticha Walton	K-5
A. O. Marshall Elementary	319 Harwood Street, Joliet, IL 60432	(815) 727-4919	Dr. Emilia Herrera	K-5
Marycrest Early Childhood Center	303 Purdue Court, Joliet, IL 60436	(815) 725-1100	Melissa Crosby	Pre-K
Pershing Elementary	251 Midland Avenue, Joliet, IL 60435	(815) 725-0986	Carrie Busse	K-5
Sator Sanchez Elementary	1101 Harrison Avenue, Joliet, IL 60432	(815) 740-2810	Amy Mucha	K-5
Carl Sandburg Elementary	1100 Lilac Lane, Joliet, IL 60435	(815) 725-0281	Dr. Shawn Olson	K-5
Isaac Singleton Elementary	1451 Copperfield Avenue, Joliet IL 60432	(815) 723-0228	Jim Kikos	K-5
Taft Elementary	1125 Oregon Avenue, Joliet, IL 60435	(815) 725-2700	Doriane Henderson	K-5
Lynne Thigpen Elementary	207 S. Midland Avenue, Joliet, IL 60436	(815) 741-7629	Dr. Teresa Woodard	K-5
Thompson Instructional Center	1020 Rowell Avenue, Joliet, IL 60433	(815) 740-5458	Jennifer Braun	K-8
Woodland Elementary	701 Third Avenue, Joliet, IL 60433	(815) 723-2808	Ben Meinert	K-5
Dirksen Junior High	203 S. Midland Avenue, Joliet, IL 60436	(815) 729-1566	Rolland Jasper	6-8
Gompers Junior High	1501 Copperfield Avenue, Joliet, IL 60432	(815) 727-5276	Raul Gaston	6-8
Hufford Junior High	1125 N. Larkin Avenue, Joliet, IL 60435	(815) 725-3540	Kyle Sartain	6-8
Washington Junior High & Academy	402 Richards Street, Joliet, IL 60433	(815) 727-5271	Dr. Shavon Pittman	6-8

Table of Contents

SECTION 1 - INTRODUCTORY INFORMATION & GENERAL NOTICES	1
Section 1.10 General School Information	1
INTRODUCTION	1
MISSION STATEMENT	2
DISTRICT DEFINITION OF EQUITY	2
STATEMENTS OF BELIEFS, WE BELIEVE:.....	2
DISTRICT INFORMATION	3
BOARD OF SCHOOL INSPECTORS	3
ADMINISTRATION	3
IN-PERSON STUDENT SCHEDULE.....	5
Section 1.20 Handbook Acknowledgments and Authorizations	6
Student/Parent Handbook Acknowledgement and Pledge	6
Student Authorization for Access to the District’s Electronic Networks	7
Authorization for Access to the District’s Electronic Networks Form.....	7
Section 1.30 School Operations During a Pandemic or Other Health Emergency	9
Section 1.35 Student Registration, Residency, Custody, Fees, Attendance Areas, Transfers	10
Annual Registration	10
Admission Procedure	10
Admission to Kindergarten.....	10
Student Residency.....	10
Custody	11
Student Fees	11
Attendance Areas	11
Student Transfers	11
Transfers Within the District	12
Section 1.40 Visitors, Access to Schools and School Property, Video Monitoring	12
Building Visitors.....	12
NO TRESPASS NOTICE.....	13
VIDEO MONITORING	14
Section 1.50 Equal Opportunity and Sex Equity	14
Equal Opportunity.....	14
Sex Equity.....	14

Section 1.60 Animals On School Property	14
Section 1.70 Video Monitoring of District 86 Facilities	14
Section 1.80 Open	15
Section 1.85 Treats & Snacks	15
Section 1.90 Emergency School Closings	15
Section 1.100 Audio/Video Monitoring Systems On School Buses – Notification	15
Section 1.110 Accommodating Individuals with Disabilities	15
Section 1.120 Students with Life-Threatening Allergies or Chronic Illnesses	16
Section 1.130 Care of Students with Diabetes	16
Section 1.140 Suicide and Depression Awareness and Prevention	16
Section 1.150 Open	17
Section 1.160 Open	17
Section 1.170 Open	17
Section 1.180 Awareness and Prevention of Child Sexual Abuse, Grooming Behaviors and Boundary Violations	17
Warning Signs of Child Sexual Abuse	17
Warning Signs of Grooming Behaviors.....	18
Warning Signs of Boundary Violations	18
Section 1.185 Faith’s Law Notifications	19
Section 1.190 Prevention of Anaphylaxis	19
Section 1.200 Sexual Abuse Response and Prevention Resource Guide	20
SECTION 2- ATTENDANCE, PROMOTION AND GRADUATION	20
Section 2.10 Compulsory Attendance	20
Section 2.20 Student Absences	20
Expectations	20
Absenteeism.....	20
Notification of Absence	21
Diagnostic Procedures for Identifying Student Absences and Support Services to Truant or Chronically Truant Students	21
Tardiness.....	22
Tardiness Notification.....	22
Section 2.30 Release Time for Religious Instruction/Observance	22
Section 2.40 Make-Up Work	22
Section 2.50 Truancy	22
Excessive Absenteeism.....	22
Truancy	23

Chronic Truancy	23
Resources and Supportive Services	23
Chronic Truant Minor	23
Referral of Chronic Truants	23
Section 2.60 Student Academic Progress	24
Grading	24
Promotion, Retention, and Remediation	24
Reporting to Parents	25
Reporting Learning Behaviors to Parents	25
Elementary Learning Behaviors	26
Junior High Learning Behaviors	26
Section 2.70 Homework	26
Section 2.80 Exemption from Physical Education Requirement	27
Section 2.90 Accelerated Placement Program	27
Section 2.100 Home and Hospital Instruction	28
Section 2.110 Open	28
Section 2.120 Open	28
Section 2.130 Complaints About Curriculum, Instructional Materials, and Programs ..	28
SECTION 3 - STUDENT FEES AND MEAL COSTS	28
Section 3.10 Student Fees and Fee Waivers	28
Student Fees	28
Student Fee Waivers	29
Section 3.20 Student Breakfast and Lunch Program	29
General Information	29
Lunch and Breakfast Program	29
SECTION 4 – TRANSPORTATION	30
Section 4.10 Student Transportation	30
Transportation	30
Section 4.15 Bus Conduct	31
Bus Rules of Student Conduct	31
Prohibited Conduct	31
School Bus Safety Rules	31
SECTION 5 – HEALTH AND SAFETY	32
Section 5.10 Immunization, Health, Eye, Dental Examination	32
Health Examinations, Immunizations, and Exclusion of Students	32
Students with Diabetes	33

Students with Life-Threatening Allergies or Chronic Illness	33
Dental Examinations	33
Vision and Hearing Screenings.....	33
Exemptions	34
Homeless Child.....	34
Section 5.20 Student Medication	34
General Provisions	34
Self-Administration of Medication	34
No District Liability	35
Administration of Medical Cannabis	35
Annual Renewal of Permissions	35
Emergency Aid to Students	35
Section 5.30 Guidance & Counseling	35
Section 5.40 Safety Drill Procedures and Conduct	35
Section 5.50 Communicable and Chronic Infectious Disease	36
Section 5.60 Head Lice.....	36
Section 5.70 Targeted School Violence Prevention Program.....	36
Section 5.80 Readmission to School Following an Illness.....	37
Section 5.90 COVID-19 Student Guidelines.....	37
SECTION 6 - CONDUCT AND DISCIPLINE	37
Section 6.10 General Conduct.....	37
Expectations and Standards	37
Student Responsibilities.....	38
CHAMPS – Safe and Civil Schools.....	39
Section 6.20 Student Appearance	39
Section 6.30 Student Behavior	41
Prohibited Student Conduct	41
Additional Rules of Student Conduct	43
When and Where Conduct Rules Apply.....	45
Disciplinary Measures	45
Student Disciplinary Due Process.....	46
Isolated Time Out, Time Out and Physical Restraint	46
Corporal Punishment Prohibited.....	46
Weapons Prohibition.....	47
Gang Activity Prohibited	47
Re-Engagement of Returning Students.....	48

Section 6.40 Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment	48
Harassment and Intimidation	48
Bullying.....	48
Making a Report	49
Notification	50
District Policies.....	50
Be A Hero	51
Section 6.42 Discrimination and Harassment on the Basis of Race, Color, and National Origin Prohibited	52
Examples of Prohibited Conduct	52
Making a Report or Complaint; Investigation Process	52
Prevention and Response Program	52
Enforcement.....	53
Retaliation Prohibited	53
Section 6.45 Title IX Grievance Procedure	53
Title IX Sex Discrimination Prohibited	54
Definitions from 34 C.F.R. §106.2	54
Making a Report	54
Processing and Reviewing a Report or Complaint	55
Title IX Complaint Grievance Process	55
Enforcement.....	55
Retaliation Prohibited	56
Section 6.46 Harassment & Teen Dating Violence Prohibited	56
Harassment Prohibited	56
Sexual Harassment Prohibited (Title IX).....	56
Teen Dating Violence Prohibited.....	57
Making a Report or Complaint	57
Investigation Process	58
Enforcement.....	58
Retaliation Prohibited	58
Section 6.50 Delegation of Authority.....	58
Section 6.60 Open.....	58
Section 6.70 Access to Student Social Networking Passwords & Websites.....	59
Section 6.80 Student Use of Electronic Devices.....	59
Prohibited Electronic Devices.....	59
Cell Phones and Other Electronic Devices	59

SECTION 7 – INTERNET, TECHNOLOGY AND PUBLICATIONS	60
Section 7.10 Acceptable Use of the District’s Electronic Networks.....	60
Acceptable Use	60
Privileges.....	60
Unacceptable Use.....	60
Network Etiquette	61
No Warranties	61
Indemnification	61
Security	62
Vandalism	62
Telephone Charges.....	62
Copyright Web Publishing Rules.....	62
Use of Email	62
Internet Safety	63
Section 7.20 Non-School-Sponsored Publications and Web Sites Accessed or Distributed at School.....	63
Section 7.25 Open.....	64
Section 7.27 Access to Non-School Sponsored Publications	64
Non-School Sponsored Publications Accessed or Distributed On Campus	64
Non-School Sponsored Publications Accessed or Distributed Off-Campus	65
Section 7.30 Open.....	65
Section 7.40 Student Data Privacy; Notice to Parents About Educational Technology... 65	65
Vendors	65
Annual Notice to Parents about Educational Technology Vendors Under the Student Online Personal Protection Act.....	65
Section 7.50 Use of Artificial Intelligence	66
SECTION 8 - SEARCH AND SEIZURE	67
Section 8.10 Search and Seizure	67
School Property and Equipment, as well as Personal Effects Left There by Students	67
Students Searches.....	67
Seizure of Property	67
Questioning of Students Suspected of Committing Criminal Activity.....	68
SECTION 9 - EXTRACURRICULAR AND ATHLETIC ACTIVITIES	68
Section 9.10 Extracurricular Activities and Eligibility	68
Requirements for Participation in Extracurricular Athletic Activities	68
Illinois Elementary School Association.....	68

Academic Eligibility	69
Absence from School on Day of Extracurricular or Athletic Activity	69
Travel	69
Code of Conduct	69
Modification of Athletic or Team Uniform	72
Section 9.20 Open	72
Section 9.30 Student Athlete Concussions and Head Injuries	72
SECTION 10 - SPECIAL EDUCATION	73
Section 10.10 Education of Children with Disabilities	73
Special Education- FAPE - 504 Plans	73
Special Instruction	74
Understanding Rtl/MTSS	74
Child Find	74
Child Find Process	74
Vision and Hearing Screening	74
Early Childhood Screening	75
Section 10.20 Discipline of Students with Disabilities	75
Behavioral Interventions.....	75
Discipline of Special Education Students	75
Isolated Time Out, Time Out, and Physical Restraint	75
Section 10.30 Exemption from Physical Education Requirement	75
Section 10.40 Open	76
Section 10.50 Request to Access Classroom or Personnel for Special Education Evaluation or Observation	76
Section 10.60 Related Service Logs	76
Section 10.70 PUNS (Prioritization of Urgency of Need for Services) – Database Information for Students and Parents or Guardians	76
SECTION 11 – STUDENT PRIVACY PROTECTIONS	77
Section 11.10 Surveys	77
In General.....	77
Surveys by Third Parties.....	77
Surveys Requesting Certain Personal Information	77
Survey Opt-Out/Inspection Request Procedures	78
Prohibition on Selling or Marketing Students’ Personal Information	78
Section 11.20 Student Records	79
FERPA Notice	81

Records Custodian	83
Media Release of Student Information	84
Section 11.30 Physical Exams or Screenings	84
SECTION 12 – PARENTAL RIGHTS NOTIFICATION.....	84
Section 12.10 Open.....	84
Section 12.20 Standardized Testing.....	84
Section 12.30 Homeless Child’s Right to Education	85
Section 12.40 Family Life & Sex Education Classes.....	85
Section 12.50 Open.....	85
Section 12.60 English Learners.....	85
Section 12.70 School Visitation Rights.....	86
Section 12.80 Integrated Pest Management.....	86
Section 12.90 Mandated Reporters - Child Abuse or Neglect	86
Section 12.100 Unsafe School Choice Option	86
Section 12.105 Student Privacy.....	87
Section 12.110 Sex Offender Notification Law.....	87
Section 12.120 Open.....	87
Section 12.130 Parent Notices Required by the Every Student Succeeds Act.....	87
Parental Involvement (Title I).....	88
Section 12.140 Instructional Material	90
Section 12.150 Parent Organizations	90
Section 12.160 Bilingual Parent Advisory Committee.....	90
Section 12.170 Child Safety at School Dismissal	90
Section 12.180 Pick Up of Children by Someone Other than the Parent/Guardian	91
Section 12.200 Student Fundraising Activities.....	91
Section 12.210 Valuables	92
Section 12.220 Methods of Communication	92

SECTION 1 - INTRODUCTORY INFORMATION & GENERAL NOTICES

Section 1.10 General School Information

INTRODUCTION

Welcome to Joliet Public Schools District 86 and the 2024-2025 school year. The Board of School Inspectors is dedicated to providing all students with an exceptional instructional program of the highest quality. We want to provide our students with a safe and orderly learning environment in which staff hold high expectations for student learning while promoting mutual respect, trust, and cooperation. We realize that such a learning environment must be established on a strong base of expectations for student, staff, and parent behavior.

This Handbook provides significant information regarding the operations, policies, and practices of the District for both students and parents. Much of this information relates to student welfare and procedures to protect the rights and well-being of students. Additionally, this Handbook provides information regarding our established student conduct and discipline procedures which are based upon Board policy. The Handbook also sets forth the levels of misconduct and consequences when inappropriate behavior is demonstrated by a student. This Handbook is also available on the District's website at www.joliet86.org.

Please read through the District Handbook with your child. It is important that parents and children are aware of District expectations with regard to behavior along with the consequences for inappropriate behavior. Again, we are committed to providing all children with a safe and orderly environment in which they can learn and grow. We appreciate your support in helping us make that possible.

This Handbook is only a summary of board policies and procedures. Board policies are available at the District office or on the District website at www.joliet86.org. While this Handbook addresses policies and administrative procedures that are currently in place at the time of the printing of the Handbook, the District retains the right to amend its policies, procedures, and this Handbook at any time without notice. In the event of any conflict between the provisions of this Handbook and Board policies or administrative procedures, the policies and procedures shall govern.

You and your child are required to acknowledge that you have received a copy of this Handbook.

MISSION STATEMENT

Joliet Public Schools District 86 provides a high-quality, inclusive, and equitable education for students to grow, lead, and thrive by empowering staff, collaborating with families, and embracing our diverse community.

DISTRICT DEFINITION OF EQUITY

Recognize, respect, value, and respond to the diverse needs of our students and community.

STATEMENTS OF BELIEFS, WE BELIEVE:

- High quality schools are essential to the quality of life for the whole community.
- Our greatest resource is people.
- Diversity is a strength to be acknowledged, embraced, engaged, and celebrated.
- Everyone possesses inherent worth, and we strive to enhance those skills, talents, and experiences.
- All people are entitled to a safe, caring, and respectful environment.
- High expectations within a supportive environment prepare students and staff socially, emotionally, mentally, academically, and physically for success.
- With the right tools, all people can be life-long learners and thrive in a continuously changing world.
- Change is necessary for growth and improvement.
- Students and staff deserve equitable access to high quality programs and resources.
- Collaboration, trust, and transparent communication with all stakeholders are critical to meet the District's goals.
- Character-building is the shared responsibility of the student, family, staff, and community.
- Emotional intelligence is foundational to healthy relationships and behavioral accountability.
- Compassion, kindness, empathy, humility, awareness, and accountability are essential to the educational learning environment.
- Public education is the shared responsibility and investment of the entire community.



Joliet Public Schools District 86

DISTRICT INFORMATION

J. F. Kennedy Administrative Center
420 N. Raynor Avenue
Joliet, IL 60435
(815) 740-3196

BOARD OF SCHOOL INSPECTORS

Elvis L. Madison, Jr., President
Jesse M. Smith, Vice President
Gwendolyn R. Ulmer
R. Emil Standfield
Matthew J. Pritz
Sandra Aguirre
Delia Ulloa-Jimenez

Aracelis C. Popadich, Secretary to the Board of School Inspectors

ADMINISTRATION

Theresa R. Rouse, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

Tanisha Cannon, Ed.D.
Deputy Superintendent

Ankhe Bradley, Ed.D.
Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction

Sunni S. McNeal, Ed.D.
Assistant Superintendent for Equity and Student Services

Judith A. Nash, Ed.D., J.D.
Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources and Labor Relations

Matthew J. Wilkinson, Ed.D.
Assistant Superintendent for Business and Financial Services/CSBO

Nicholas E. Sakellariou
Chief Officer for Legal Services and Labor Relations

John J. Armstrong, Ph.D., CETL
Chief Officer for Technology and Innovation

Sandra L. Zalewski
Director for Communications and Development



Theresa R. Rouse, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

Aracelis C. Popadich
Board and Superintendent Secretary

Board of School Inspectors
Elvis L. Madison, Jr., *President*
Jesse M. Smith, *Vice President*
Gwendolyn R. Ulmer
R. Emil Standfield
Matthew J. Pritz
Sandra Aguirre
Delia Ulloa-Jimenez

August 2024

Dear District 86 Families:

On behalf of the Board of School Inspectors and the entire Joliet Public Schools District 86 staff, welcome to the 2024-2025 school year. It is important to begin the year by establishing routines and developing solid relationships with your child's teacher.

This handbook outlines our policies, procedures, and expectations in place to ensure a safe and orderly environment in all District 86 schools. Please thoroughly review this information with your child and keep it accessible for future reference.

If you have any questions regarding the contents of this handbook, please contact your child's teacher or school administrator. A strong partnership with your child's teacher can make a big impact in their academic and social success. Thank you for your support. Have a great school year!

Sincerely,

Dr. Theresa Rouse
Theresa R. Rouse, Ed.D.
Superintendent

**IN-PERSON STUDENT SCHEDULE
2024-2025**

BUILDING	START TIME	REGULAR DISMISSAL	SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT DISMISSAL TIME
Culbertson	9:00	3:10	12:15
Cunningham	9:00	3:10	12:15
Dirksen Jr. High	8:00	2:50	11:40
Eisenhower Academy	8:00	2:10	11:15
Farragut	8:00	2:10	11:15
Forest Park I.E.	8:00	2:10	11:15
Gompers Jr. High	7:45	2:35	11:25
Hufford Jr. High	8:00	2:50	11:40
Jefferson	9:00	3:10	12:15
Keith	8:30	2:40	11:45
Marshall	8:00	2:10	11:15
Marycrest			
Early Childhood a.m.	9:00	11:30	Not in attendance
Early Childhood p.m.	12:40	3:10	Not in attendance
Pershing	8:00	2:10	11:15
Sanchez	8:30	2:40	11:45
Sandburg	9:00	3:10	12:15
Singleton	9:00	3:10	12:15
Taft	9:00	3:10	12:15
Thigpen	9:00	3:10	12:15
Thompson Alternative	7:30	1:30	10:30
Washington Jr. High	8:00	2:50	11:40
Woodland	9:00	3:10	12:15

Section 1.20 Handbook Acknowledgments and Authorizations

Student/Parent Handbook Acknowledgement and Pledge

Parents/Guardians and Students are required to sign and return the electronic Handbook Acknowledgement and Pledge or this Handbook Acknowledgement and Pledge, which is also provided as separate loose page with the Handbook.

Name of Student: _____

Student Acknowledgement and Pledge

I acknowledge receiving and/or being provided electronic access to the Student/Parent Handbook and School Board policy on student behavior. I have read these materials and understand all rules, responsibilities and expectations. In order to help keep my school safe, I pledge to adhere to all School and School District rules, policies and procedures.

I understand that the Student/Parent Handbook and School District policies may be amended during the year and that such changes are available on the School District website or in the school office.

I understand that my failure to return this acknowledgement and pledge will not relieve me from being responsible for knowing or complying with School and School District rules, policies and procedures.

Student Signature

Date

Parent/Guardian Acknowledgement

I acknowledge receiving and/or being provided electronic access to the Student/Parent Handbook and School Board policy on student behavior. I have read these materials and understand all rules, responsibilities and expectations.

I understand that the Student/Parent Handbook and School District policies may be amended during the year and that such changes are available on the School District website or in the school office.

I understand that my failure to return this acknowledgement will not relieve me or my child from being responsible for knowing or complying with School and School District rules, policies and procedures.

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

Student Authorization for Access to the District’s Electronic Networks

Dear Parents/Guardians:

Our School District has the ability to enhance your child’s education through the use of electronic networks, including the Internet. Our goal in providing this service is to promote educational excellence by facilitating resource sharing, innovation, and communication. Students and their parents/guardians need only sign this *Authorization for Access to the District’s Electronic Networks* once while the student is enrolled in the School District.

The District *filters* access to materials that may be defamatory, inaccurate, offensive, or otherwise inappropriate in the school setting. If a filter has been disabled or malfunctions it is impossible to control all material and a user may discover inappropriate material. Ultimately, parents/guardians are responsible for setting and conveying the standards that their child should follow, and the School District respects each family’s right to decide whether or not to authorize Internet access.

With this educational opportunity also comes responsibility. The use of inappropriate material or language, or violation of copyright laws, may result in the loss of the privilege to use this resource. Remember that you are legally responsible for your child’s actions. If you agree to allow your child to have a network account, sign the *Authorization* form below and return it to your school.

Authorization for Access to the District’s Electronic Networks Form

Students must have a parent/guardian read and agree to the following before being granted unsupervised access:

All use of the electronic networks shall be consistent with the District’s goal of promoting educational excellence by facilitating resource sharing, innovation, and communication. **The failure of any user to follow the terms of the *Acceptable Use of the District’s Electronic Networks* will result in the loss of privileges, disciplinary action, and/or appropriate legal action.** The signatures at the end of this document are legally binding and indicate the parties who signed have read the terms and conditions carefully and understand their significance.

I have read this *Authorization* form. I understand that access is designed for educational purposes and that the District has taken precautions to eliminate controversial material. However, I also recognize it is impossible for the District to restrict access to all controversial and inappropriate materials. I will hold harmless the District, its employees, agents, or Board members, for any harm caused by materials or software obtained via the network. I accept full responsibility for supervision if and when my child’s use is not in a school setting. I have discussed the *Acceptable Use of the District’s Electronic Networks* with my child. I hereby request that my child be allowed access to the District’s electronic networks, including the Internet.

Parent/Guardian Name *(please print)*

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

Students must also read and agree to the following before being granted unsupervised access:

I understand and will abide by the above *Acceptable Use of the District's Electronic Networks*. I understand that the District and/or its agents may access and monitor my use of the District's electronic networks, including the Internet, my email and downloaded material, without prior notice to me. I further understand that should I commit any violation, my access privileges may be revoked, and school disciplinary action and/or legal action may be taken. In consideration for using the District's electronic network connection and having access to public networks, I hereby release the School District and its Board members, employees, and agents from any claims and damages arising from my use of, or inability to use the District's electronic networks, including the Internet.

Student Name (*please print*)

Student Signature

Date

Section 1.30 School Operations During a Pandemic or Other Health Emergency

A pandemic is a global outbreak of disease. Pandemics happen when a new virus emerges that infects individuals and, because there is little to no pre-existing immunity against the new virus, it spreads sustainably. Your child's school and District play an essential role, along with the local health department and emergency management agencies, in protecting the public's health and safety during a pandemic or other health emergency.

During a pandemic or other health emergency, you will be notified in a timely manner of all changes to the school environment and schedule that impact your child. Please be assured that even if school is not physically in session, it is the goal of the school and District to provide your child with the best educational opportunities possible.

Additionally, please note the following:

1. All decisions regarding changes to the school environment and schedule, including a possible interruption of in-person learning, will be made by the superintendent in consultation with and, if necessary, at the direction of the Governor, Illinois Department of Public Health, local health department, emergency management agencies, and/or Regional Office of Education.
2. Available learning opportunities may include Hybrid and/or Remote Learning Plans. Hybrid Learning combines both in-school classroom learning and remote learning at home.
3. Students will be expected to participate in Hybrid and/or Remote Learning instruction as required by the school and District. Parents are responsible for assuring the participation of their child. Students who do not participate in Hybrid or Remote Learning will be considered truant.
4. All school disciplinary rules remain in effect during the interruption of in-person learning. Students are subject to discipline for disrupting the remote learning environment to the same extent that discipline would be imposed for disruption of the traditional classroom.
5. Students and parents will be required to observe all public health and safety measures implemented by the school and District in conjunction with state and local requirements.
6. During a pandemic or other health emergency, the school and District will ensure that educational opportunities are available to all students.
7. School personnel will work closely with students with disabilities and other vulnerable student populations to minimize the impact of any educational disruption.
8. Students who have a compromised immune system, live with an individual with a compromised immune system, or have a medical condition that may impact their ability to attend school during a pandemic or other public health emergency should contact school officials.
9. During a pandemic or other health emergency, teachers and school staff will receive additional training on health and safety measures.

10. In accordance with school District or state mandates, the school may need to conduct a daily health assessment of your child. Parents and students will be notified of the exact assessment procedures if this becomes necessary.
11. Parents should not send their child to school if their child exhibits any symptoms consistent with the pandemic or other health emergency.
12. Please do not hesitate to contact school or District officials if you have any concerns regarding your child's education, health or safety.

Section 1.35 Student Registration, Residency, Custody, Fees, Attendance Areas, Transfers

Annual Registration

District 86 requires that all students (including returning students) be registered every year. The District provides for online registration for returning students. Information and directions are available on the District's website at www.joliet86.org.

Admission Procedure

When a child is registered for school in District 86 for the first time, a parent or guardian must provide proof of identity, age and residence. The parent/guardian must present a certified copy of a birth certificate. The parent or guardian must also provide proof that the student received a health examination and the immunizations against, and screenings for, preventable communicable diseases, as required by the Illinois Department of Public Health and State Law.

Admission to Kindergarten

The District maintains a full day kindergarten for the instruction of all children who are residents of the District and who have reached the age of five (5) years on or before September 1 of the year of school enrollment.

Student Residency

Students who are residents of District 86 will be admitted to school in accordance with admission requirements established by State law. To meet the proof of residency requirements, a parent/guardian must provide appropriate documentation. See the District's website, www.joliet86.org for specific information and directions.

Military personnel enrolling a student for the first time in the District must provide one of the following within 60 days after the student's initial enrollment:

- Postmarked mail addressed to military personnel
- Lease agreement for occupancy
- Proof of ownership of residence

Military personnel wanting to keep a child/ward enrolled in the District despite having changed residence due to a military service obligation must submit in writing a request for the student's residence to be deemed unchanged for the duration of the custodian's military service obligation. The District, however, is not responsible for the student's transportation to or from school.

District 86 may require periodic verification of residency as a means of validating compliance with the proof of residence requirement. A person who knowingly or willfully provides any false

information regarding the residency of pupil for the purpose of enabling that pupil to attend a school in District 86 shall be guilty of a Class C misdemeanor.

Custody

A pupil is presumed to be a resident of the school District where the persons who have legal custody of the pupil reside. Legal custody means any one of the following:

1. Custody exercised by a natural or adoptive parent with whom the pupil resides.
2. Custody granted by order of court to a person with whom the pupil resides for reasons other than to have access to the education programs of the District.
3. Custody exercised under a statutory short-term guardianship, provided that within 60 days of the pupil's enrollment a court order is entered that establishes a permanent guardianship and grants custody to a person with whom the pupil resides for reasons other than to have access to the educational programs of the District.
4. Custody exercised by an adult caregiver relative who is receiving aid under the Illinois Public Aid Code for the pupil who resides with that adult caretaker relative for purposes other than to have access to the educational programs of the District.
5. Custody exercised by an adult who demonstrates that, in fact, he or she has assumed and exercises legal responsibility for the pupil and provides the pupil with a fixed nighttime abode for purposes other than to have access to the educational programs of the District. District 86 has a specific form to be used for this type of custody.

Student Fees

The Board may charge student fees as provided by law. Typically, all students are assessed fees to cover the cost of some of the materials and supplies needed during the school year.

Kindergarten (Full Day)	\$25.00
Grades 1 through 5	\$25.00
Grades 6 through 8	\$45.00

Students whose parent or guardian are unable to afford student fees may request a fee waiver. See Section 3.10 for information regarding fee waivers. Students will not be denied educational services or academic credit due to the inability of their parent or guardian to pay fees or certain charges. A fee waiver does not exempt a student from charges for lost and damaged books, locks, materials, supplies, and/or equipment. The Board shall not waive any instructional material fees except under extenuating circumstances as defined by District policy and upon proper application.

Attendance Areas

The District is divided into school attendance areas. Absent certain circumstances, students living in a given attendance area will be assigned to the school that serves that area. The District Boundary Map can be found on the District website at www.joliet86.org. Homeless children shall be assigned according to Board policy 6:140, Education of Homeless Children.

Student Transfers

To and From Non-District Schools

A student may transfer into or out of the District according to State law and procedures developed by the District. A student seeking to transfer into the District must serve the entire term of any suspension or expulsion, imposed for any reason by any public or private school, in this or any other state, before being admitted into the District.

Transfers Within the District

A student's parent(s)/guardian(s) may apply for a transfer to a magnet school on a space-available basis and in accordance with administrative procedures. Students who are granted a transfer to a magnet school will be provided transportation by the District.

A student's parent(s)/guardian(s) may request a transfer for their child to a District school other than the one assigned by submitting a Transfer Request form to the Student Services office. Such a request may be granted by the Superintendent or designee, in their sole discretion, when the parent(s)/guardian(s) demonstrate that the student could be better accommodated at another school, provided space is available. If the request is granted, the parent(s)/guardian(s) shall be responsible for transportation. A new request must be filed each year.

These provisions have no applicability to transfers pursuant to (1) Title I covered in Board policy 6:15, School Accountability, or (2) the Unsafe School Choice Option covered in Board policy 4:170, Safety.

Section 1.40 Visitors, Access to Schools and School Property, Video Monitoring

Building Visitors

All visitors to school property are required to report to the School's office and receive permission to remain on school property. District 86 requires that all visitors (including parents) wear and prominently display a District visitor identification card at all times while in any District 86 school building.

All visitors are required to:

1. Sign in with the building office immediately upon entering the building.
2. Present a proper photographic identification card.
3. Provide their photographic identification card to building staff in exchange for a District visitor identification card. The photographic identification card will be returned to the visitor when the visitor is ready to leave the building, signs out and returns the District visitor identification card. Approved visitors must wear and display the visitor identification card so that it is clearly visible.
4. Visitors are expected to abide by all school rules during their time on school property. A visitor who fails to conduct himself or herself in a manner that is appropriate will be asked to leave and may be treated as a trespasser.

The District reserves the right to conduct a background check using the visitor's photograph identification card.

No person on school property or at a school event shall perform any of the following acts:

1. Strike, injure, threaten, harass, or intimidate a staff member, board member, sports official or coach, or any other person.
2. Behave in an unsportsmanlike manner or use vulgar or obscene language.
3. Unless specifically permitted by State law, possess a weapon, any object that can reasonably be considered a weapon or looks like a weapon, or any dangerous device.
4. Damage or threaten to damage another's property.

5. Damage or deface school property.
6. Violate any Illinois law or municipal, local or county ordinance.
7. Smoke or otherwise use tobacco products.
8. Distribute, consume, use, possess, or be impaired by or under the influence of an alcoholic beverage, cannabis, other lawful product, or illegal drug.
9. Be present when the person's alcoholic beverage, cannabis, other lawful product, or illegal drug consumption is detectible, regardless of when and/or where the use occurred.
10. Use or possess medical cannabis, unless he or she has complied Illinois' Compassionate Use of Medical Cannabis Act and District policies.
11. Impede, delay, disrupt, or otherwise interfere with any school activity or function (including using cellular phones in a disruptive manner).
12. Enter upon any portion of school premises at any time for purposes other than those that are lawful and authorized by the board.
13. Operate a motor vehicle: (a) in a risky manner, (b) in excess of 20 miles per hour, or (c) in violation of an authorized District employee's directive.
14. Engage in any risky behavior, including roller-blading, roller-skating, or skateboarding.
15. Violate other District policies or regulations, or a directive from an authorized security officer or District employee.
16. Engage in any conduct that interferes with, disrupts, or adversely affects the District or a school function.

Any person who engages in prohibited conduct may be ejected from or denied admission to school property in accordance with State law. The person may also be subject to being denied admission to school athletic or extracurricular events for up to one calendar year.

NO TRESPASS NOTICE

THE FOLLOWING NO TRESPASS NOTICE IS APPLICABLE TO DISTRICT 86 LAND, BUILDINGS AND VEHICLES.

This NOTICE is to inform you that you are not permitted on THE GROUNDS, OR IN ANY BUILDINGS, OR IN ANY VEHICLES OF Joliet Public Schools District 86 if you are in possession of any of the following:

- AIR RIFLE or AIR GUN
- BB GUN
- AIR SOFT GUN
- PELLET GUN or any LOOK-ALIKE GUN of any kind that a reasonable person would believe to be a real gun regardless of the distance at which a person might see it.
- KNIFE
- DAGGER
- DIRK
- RAZOR
- STILETTO, or any other DANGEROUS or DEADLY WEAPON or INSTRUMENT OF LIKE CHARACTER

Anyone who disobeys this notice can be charged with Criminal Trespass to State-Supported Land and/or Criminal Trespass to Vehicles. Both of these offenses are Class A Misdemeanors. You may be subject to arrest.

VIDEO MONITORING

District 86 uses video monitoring systems at all District 86 facilities to maintain and enhance safety.

Section 1.50 Equal Opportunity and Sex Equity

Equal Opportunity

Joliet Public Schools District 86 complies with all applicable federal laws and regulations prohibiting discrimination and with legal and applicable requirements and regulations of the United States Department of Education. Equal educational and extracurricular opportunities shall be available for all students without regard to color, race, nationality, religion, sex, sexual orientation, ancestry, age, physical or mental disability, gender identity, status of being homeless, immigration status, order of protection status, actual or potential marital or parental status, including pregnancy. Further, the District will not knowingly enter into agreements with any entity or any individual that discriminates against students on the basis of sex or any other protected status, except that the District remains viewpoint neutral when granting access to school facilities under School Board policy 8:20, Community Use of School Facilities. Any student may file a discrimination grievance by using Board policy 2:260, Uniform Grievance Procedure; or in the case of discrimination on the basis of race, color, or national origin, Board policy 2:270, Discrimination and Harassment on the Basis of Race, Color, and National Origin Prohibited. Title IX sexual harassment complaints are addressed under Board policy 2:265, Title IX Sexual Harassment Grievance Procedures.

Sex Equity

No student shall, based on sex, sexual orientation, or gender identity be denied equal access to programs, activities, services, or benefits or be limited in the exercise of any right, privilege, advantage, or denied equal access to educational and extracurricular programs and activities. Any student may file a sex equity complaint by using Board policy 2:260, Uniform Grievance Procedure. A student may appeal the School Board's resolution of the complaint to the Regional Superintendent of Schools (pursuant to 105 ILCS 5/3-10) and, thereafter, to the State Superintendent of Education (pursuant to 105 ILCS 5/2-3.8).

Any student or parent/guardian with a sex equity or equal opportunity concern should contact the Non-Discrimination Coordinator/Title IX Coordinator for Joliet Public Schools District 86, Judith Nash, Ed.D., J.D., Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources and Labor Relations.

Section 1.60 Animals On School Property

In order to assure student health and safety, animals are not allowed on school property, except in the case of a service animal accompanying a student or other individual with a documented disability. This rule may be temporarily waived by the building principal in the case of an educational opportunity for students, provided that (a) the animal is appropriately housed, humanely cared for, and properly handled, and (b) students will not be exposed to a dangerous animal or an unhealthy environment.

Section 1.70 Video Monitoring of District 86 Facilities

District 86 uses video monitoring systems at all District 86 facilities to maintain and enhance safety.

Section 1.80 Open

Section 1.85 Treats & Snacks

Due to health concerns, except as provided in District care plans and IEPs, no treats or snacks are allowed at school.

Section 1.90 Emergency School Closings

District 86 will close when, in the opinion of the Superintendent or designee, emergency/hazardous conditions exist. Such action will be taken only when it is apparent that such emergency conditions might seriously jeopardize the health and/or safety of the students and staff.

If school is dismissed early for an emergency, all after-school functions are automatically cancelled.

In cases of bad weather or dangerous road conditions, school closings or early dismissals are announced through an automated phone call to parents, on the District website at www.joliet86.org, and on the District's Facebook and X (Twitter) pages. School closing and early dismissal information is also sent to local and regional media outlets. Please be aware that while closing information is given to media outlets as quickly as possible, it is at the discretion of each outlet to decide when and whether it airs the notification.

Please avoid calling the schools during emergency situations.

Section 1.100 Audio/Video Monitoring Systems On School Buses – Notification

Parents and guardians are hereby notified that audio/video monitoring systems are being used on school buses. The District authorizes the use of audio/video monitoring systems on any or all school buses to promote transportation safety, to prevent vandalism, to monitor bus drivers, to identify disruptive students, and to document the activities of riders during their transport to and from school and school activities.

All school buses with audio/video monitoring systems will display a warning sign within the bus indicating that video and audio surveillance can occur on that bus and encourage transportation safety and proper student behavior. Students found to be in violation of the District's bus conduct rules will be subject to discipline in accordance with District policy and applicable law.

School bus recordings are confidential records. If a discipline problem is captured by the monitoring system, the recordings may be used as the basis for imposing student discipline. If criminal actions are recorded, a copy of the recording may be provided to law enforcement personnel.

Section 1.110 Accommodating Individuals with Disabilities

Individuals with disabilities will be provided an opportunity to participate in all school-sponsored services, programs, or activities. Individuals with disabilities should notify the superintendent or building principal if they have a disability that will require special assistance or services and, if so, what services are required. This notification should occur as far in advance as possible of the school-sponsored function, program, or meeting.

Section 1.120 Students with Life-Threatening Allergies or Chronic Illnesses

State law requires our school District to annually inform parents of students with life-threatening allergies or life-threatening chronic illnesses of the applicable provisions of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and other applicable federal statutes, state statutes, federal regulations and state rules.

If your student has a life-threatening allergy or life-threatening chronic illness, please notify the building principal.

Federal law protects students from discrimination due to a disability that substantially limits a major life activity. If your student has a qualifying disability, an individualized Section 504 Plan will be developed and implemented to provide the needed supports so that your student can access his or her education as effectively as students without disabilities.

Not all students with life-threatening allergies and life-threatening chronic illnesses may be eligible under Section 504. Our school District also may be able to appropriately meet a student's needs through other means.

Section 1.130 Care of Students with Diabetes

If your child has diabetes and requires assistance with managing this condition while at school and school functions, a Diabetes Care Plan must be submitted to the building principal. Parents/guardians are responsible for and must:

1. Inform the school in a timely manner of any change which needs to be made to the Diabetes Care Plan on file with the school for their child.
2. Inform the school in a timely manner of any changes to their emergency contact numbers or contact numbers of health care providers.
3. Sign the Diabetes Care Plan.
4. Grant consent for and authorize designated School District representatives to communicate directly with the health care provider whose instructions are included in the Diabetes Care Plan.

For further information, please contact the building principal.

Section 1.140 Suicide and Depression Awareness and Prevention

Youth suicide impacts the safety of the school environment. It also affects the school community, diminishing the ability of surviving students to learn and the school's ability to educate. Suicide and depression awareness and prevention are important Board goals. The District maintains a suicide and depression awareness and prevention program that advances the Board's goals of increasing awareness and prevention of depression and suicide. The Board's policy on Suicide and Depression Awareness and Prevention (7:290) is available on the District's website at www.joliet86.org.

NATIONAL SUICIDE AND CRISIS LIFELINE: 988

This is a new number that has been designated as the new three-digit dialing code that will route callers to the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline.

(Also for Spanish and Deaf & Hard of Hearing)

CRISIS TEXT LINE: Text HOME to 741741 for free 24/7 crisis counseling

For Spanish 1-888-628-9454

Section 1.150 Open

Section 1.160 Open

Section 1.170 Open

Section 1.180 Awareness and Prevention of Child Sexual Abuse, Grooming Behaviors and Boundary Violations

Child sexual abuse, grooming behaviors, and boundary violations harm students, their parent/guardian, the District's environment, its school communities, and the community at large, while diminishing a student's ability to learn.

Warning Signs of Child Sexual Abuse

Warning signs of child sexual abuse include the following:

Physical signs:

- Sexually transmitted infections (STIs) or other genital infections
- Signs of trauma to the genital area, such as unexplained bleeding, bruising, or blood on the sheets, underwear, or other clothing
- Unusual weight gain or loss

Behavioral signs:

- Excessive talk about or knowledge of sexual topics
- Keeping secrets
- Not talking as much as usual
- Not wanting to be left alone with certain people or being afraid to be away from primary caregivers
- Regressive behaviors or resuming behaviors that the child had grown out of, such as thumb sucking or bedwetting
- Overly compliant behavior
- Sexual behavior that is inappropriate for the child's age
- Spending an unusual amount of time alone
- Trying to avoid removing clothing to change or bathe

Emotional signs:

- Change in eating habits or unhealthy eating patterns, like loss of appetite or excessive eating
- Signs of depression, such as persistent sadness, lack of energy, changes in sleep or appetite, withdrawing from normal activities, or feeling "down"
- Change in mood or personality, such as increased aggression
- Decrease in confidence or self-image
- Anxiety, excessive worry, or fearfulness

- Increase in unexplained health problems such as stomach aches and headaches
- Loss or decrease in interest in school, activities, and friends
- Nightmares or fear of being alone at night
- Self-harming behaviors or expressing thoughts of suicide or suicidal behavior
- Failing grades
- Drug or alcohol use

Warning Signs of Grooming Behaviors

School and District employees are expected to maintain professional and appropriate relationships with students based upon students' ages, grade levels, and developmental levels. Prohibited grooming is defined as (i) any act, including but not limited to, any verbal, nonverbal, written, or electronic communication or physical activity, (ii) by an employee with direct contact with a student, (iii) that is directed toward or with a student to establish a romantic or sexual relationship with the student. Examples of grooming behaviors include, but are not limited to, the following behaviors:

- Sexual or romantic invitations to a student
- Dating or soliciting a date from a student
- Engaging in sexualized or romantic dialog with a student
- Making sexually suggestive comments that are directed toward or with a student
- Self-disclosure or physical exposure of a sexual, romantic, or erotic nature
- Sexual, indecent, romantic, or erotic contact with a student
- Failing to respect boundaries or listening when a student says "no"
- Engaging in touching that a student or student's parents/guardians have indicated is unwanted
- Trying to be a student's friend rather than filling an adult role in the student's life
- Failing to maintain age-appropriate relationships with students
- Talking with students about personal problems or relationships
- Spending time alone with a student outside of their role in the student's life or making up excuses to be alone with a student
- Expressing unusual interest in a student's sexual development, such as commenting on sexual characteristics or sexualizing normal behaviors
- Giving a student gifts without occasion or reason
- Spending a lot of time with a student
- Restricting a student's access to other adults

Warning Signs of Boundary Violations

School and District employees breach employee-student boundaries when they misuse their position of power over a student in a way that compromises the student's health, safety, or general welfare. Examples of boundary violations include:

- Favoring a certain student by inviting the student to "hang out" or by granting special privileges
- Engaging in peer-like behavior with a student
- Discussing personal issues with a student
- Meeting with a student off-campus without parent/guardian knowledge and/or permission
- Dating, requesting, or participating in a private meeting with a student (in person or virtually) outside of a professional role

- Transporting a student in a school or private vehicle without administrative authorization
- Giving gifts, money, or treats to an individual student
- Sending a student on personal errands
- Intervening in a serious student problem instead of referring the student to an appropriately trained professional
- Sexual or romantic invitations toward or from a student
- Taking and using photos/videos of students for non-educational purposes
- Initiating or extending contact with a student beyond the school day in a one-on-one or non-group setting
- Inviting a student to an employee's home
- Adding a student on personal social networking sites as contacts when unrelated to a legitimate educational purpose
- Privately messaging a student
- Maintaining intense eye contact with a student
- Making comments about a student's physical attributes, including excessively flattering comments
- Engaging in sexualized or romantic dialog
- Making sexually suggestive comments directed toward or with a student
- Disclosing confidential information
- Self-disclosure of a sexual, romantic, or erotic nature
- Full frontal hugs
- Invading personal space

If you believe you are a victim of child sexual abuse, grooming behaviors, or boundary violations, or you believe that your child is a victim, you should immediately contact the Building Principal, a school counselor, or another trusted adult employee of the School.

Additional Resources include:

National Sexual Assault Hotline at 800.656.HOPE (4673)

National Sexual Abuse Chatline at online.rainn.org

Illinois Department of Children and Family Services Hotline at 1.800.25.ABUSE (2873)

Section 1.185 Faith's Law Notifications

Employee Conduct Standards

School districts are required to include in their student handbook the District's Employee Code of Professional Conduct. These standards, in part, define appropriate conduct between school employees and students. A copy of these standards can be found on the District's website or requested from the Superintendent's office.

Section 1.190 Prevention of Anaphylaxis

While it is not possible for the School or District to completely eliminate the risks of an anaphylactic emergency, the District maintains a comprehensive policy on anaphylaxis prevention, response, and management in order to reduce these risks and provide accommodations and proper treatment

for anaphylactic reactions. Parent(s)/guardian(s) and students who desire more information or who want a copy of the District's policy may contact the Building Principal.

Section 1.200 Sexual Abuse Response and Prevention Resource Guide

The Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) maintains a resource guide on sexual abuse response and prevention. The guide contains information on and the location of children's advocacy centers, organizations that provide medical evaluations and treatment to victims of child sexual abuse, organizations that provide mental health evaluations and services to victims and families of victims of child sexual abuse, and organizations that offer legal assistance to and provide advocacy on behalf of victims of child sexual abuse. This guide can be accessed through the ISBE website at www.isbe.net or you may request a copy of this guide by contacting the school's office.

SECTION 2- ATTENDANCE, PROMOTION AND GRADUATION

Section 2.10 Compulsory Attendance

Attendance is a priority in Joliet Public Schools District 86. In partnership with local agencies, the District makes efforts to remove barriers that impact the student's ability to attend school.

Illinois Law requires that whoever has custody or control of any child between the ages of 6 and 17 must ensure that the child attends some public school in the District where the child resides the entire time school is in session during the regular school term, except as otherwise provided by law. Parents and/or guardians having legal custody of school-age children are responsible for ensuring the regular attendance of their children in school.

Section 2.20 Student Absences

Expectations

The District requires that parents/guardians ensure the daily attendance of their children, consistent with the Illinois School Code, and inform the school of any absences and the causes of such absences. A telephone call by the parent or guardian is required on the first day and each subsequent day of absence or tardiness. A written excuse signed by the parent/guardian may also be required.

Subject to specific requirements in State law, the following children are not required to attend public school: (1) any child attending a private school (including a home school) or parochial school, (2) any child who is physically or mentally unable to attend school (including a pregnant student suffering medical complications as certified by her physician), (3) any child lawfully and necessarily employed, (4) any child over 12 and under 14 years of age while in confirmation classes, and (5) any child absent because of religious reasons, including to observe a religious holiday, for religious instruction, or because his or her religion forbids secular activity on a particular day(s) or time of day.

Absenteeism

Each building principal is responsible for maintaining an effective system for recording student absences and for encouraging students to be prompt and to attend class on a regular basis. Absences

are categorized as excused or unexcused. Valid causes of absenteeism (excused), as listed in the Illinois School Code are:

- Illness (including mental or behavioral health of the student);
- Observance of a religious holiday (see Section 2.30);
- Death in the immediate family;
- Family emergency;
- Circumstances that cause reasonable concern to the parent or guardian for the student's mental, emotional, or physical health or safety;
- Attending a military honors funeral to sound TAPS (6-8 Grade);
- Attend a civic event (6-8 Grade);
- Other situations beyond the control of the student as determined by the Building Principal or Board of School Inspectors.

Additionally, a student will be excused for up to 5 days in cases where the student's parent/guardian is an active duty member of the uniformed services and has been called to duty for, is on leave from, or has immediately returned from deployment to a combat zone or combat-support postings. The Board, in its discretion, may excuse a student for additional days relative to such leave or deployment. A student and the student's parent/guardian are responsible for obtaining assignments from the student's teachers prior to any excused absences and for ensuring that such assignments are completed by the student prior to his or her return to school.

Students who are excused from school will be given a reasonable timeframe to make up missed homework and classwork assignments.

All other absences will be considered unexcused. Pre-arranged excused absences must be approved by the building principal.

We stress that all of our students need to be at school every day and cannot afford to miss school. We strongly encourage parents to plan extended absences to coincide with school holidays and breaks. Not all extended absences will be excused.

Notification of Absence

In the event of any absence, the student's parent/guardian is required to call the school before 8:00 a.m. to report the reason for the absence. If contact has not been made the school by 10:00 a.m. on the day of the student's absence, an attempt to make contact with the parent and/or an automated call will be made to the contact number. If the parent/guardian cannot be contacted, the student will be required to submit a signed note from the parent/ guardian explaining the reason for the absence. Failure to do so shall result in an unexcused absence. Upon request of the parent/guardian, the reason for an absence will be kept confidential.

Diagnostic Procedures for Identifying Student Absences and Support Services to Truant or Chronically Truant Students

State law requires every school district to collect and review its chronic absence data and determine what systems of support and resources are needed to engage chronically absent students and their families to encourage the habit of daily attendance and promote success. This review must include an analysis of chronic absence data from each attendance center. Furthermore, State law provides that school districts are encouraged to provide a system of support to students who are at risk of reaching or exceeding chronic absence levels with strategies and are also encouraged to make

resources available to families such as those available through the State Board of Education's Family Engagement Framework to support and engage students and their families to encourage heightened school engagement and improved daily school attendance. "Chronic absence" means absences that total 10% or more of school days of the most recent academic school year, including absences with and without valid cause, and out-of-school suspensions. The School and District use the following diagnostic procedures for identifying the causes of unexcused student absences: Interviews with the student, his or her parent/ guardian and any school officials who may have information about the reasons for the student's attendance problems.

Supportive services to truant or chronically truant students include: parent conferences, student counseling, family counseling, and information about existing community services.

Tardiness

Students are expected to arrive at school on time. A student is considered tardy when he/she is not in school at the required time.

Requiring a child to arrive on time promotes responsible behavior. A tardy arrival results in a disruption to the classroom and to the individual student's learning process. A tardy is categorized as excused or unexcused. Valid causes of tardiness (excused) are:

1. Medical appointment; or
2. Attendance at a funeral.

Tardiness Notification

Parents/guardians are requested to notify the school office if a student will be arriving late by writing a note, calling the office or accompanying the child to the school office for sign in. All students who are tardy will report to the office immediately upon arrival, provide the reason for the tardiness, receive authorization to return to class, and then immediately return to class and present the authorization to the classroom teacher.

Section 2.30 Release Time for Religious Instruction/Observance

A student will be released from school, as an excused absence, to observe a religious holiday or for religious instruction. The student's parent/guardian must give written notice to the building principal at least 5 calendar days before the student's anticipated absence(s).

Students excused for religious reasons will be given an opportunity to make up all missed work, including homework and tests.

Section 2.40 Make-Up Work

If a student's absence is excused or if a student is suspended from school, he/she will be permitted to make up all missed work, including homework and tests, for equivalent academic credit.

Section 2.50 Truancy

Excessive Absenteeism

The District considers absenteeism excessive when it significantly interferes with a student's

learning, as reflected in academic performance or social development. Excessive absenteeism includes excessive tardiness.

In order to reduce or prevent excessive absenteeism, the District maintains a procedure to:

1. Track and provide early identification of potentially harmful attendance practices; and
2. Provide a progressive, multi-level plan toward remediation of the problem.

This procedure includes, but is not limited to, interviews with the student, his/her parents/guardians, any school officials, or others who may have information.

Truancy

The District recognizes a responsibility to establish and maintain an attendance program to reduce and discourage truancy in all District schools.

The District considers a student who is subject to compulsory school attendance to be truant if he/she is absent for the school day or a portion of the school day without proper permission.

Chronic Truancy

The District considers a student who is subject to compulsory school attendance to be a chronic or habitual truant if he/she is absent for 5% or more of the previous 180 regular attendance days without proper permission. Students who are chronic truants will be offered support services and resources aimed at correcting the truancy issue.

Resources and Supportive Services

The following resources and supportive services, as determined appropriate, are available to truants and chronic or habitual truants with attendance problems and their parents/guardians:

1. Conferences with school personnel;
2. Counseling services of school social workers and psychologists;
3. Placement in alternative educational programs;
4. Referral to community agencies.

Chronic Truant Minor

The District, in accordance with the Illinois School Code, considers a truant minor to be a chronic truant when the above resources and supportive services have been provided and have failed to result in the remediation of chronic truancy or have been offered and refused by the parent/guardian and/or student.

Referral of Chronic Truants

The respective building principal will initiate the first action to handle the problem of truancy by notifying the parents. The Principal will also initiate proper counseling and actions to secure resources to find a solution to the problem.

If the truancy continues, the principal will notify the Superintendent or designee of the problem and out-of-District resources utilized. The Joliet Public Schools District 86 Truancy Officer will also be notified.

The District will take no punitive action, including out-of-school suspensions, alternatives to suspension, expulsion or court action, against chronic truants for such truancy unless the above resources and supportive services have been provided to the student and parents/guardians.

Section 2.60 Student Academic Progress

The Administration and professional staff have established a system of grading procedures for reporting academic achievement to parents and students, and have determined the requirements for promotion and graduation.

Grading

Teachers will administer the approved marking system or other approved means of evaluating student progress in the District. Every teacher will maintain an evaluation record for each student assigned to their classroom.

Teachers maintain the right and the responsibility to determine grades and other student evaluations within the grading policies of the District, based upon the teacher's professional judgment of available criteria pertinent to any subject area or activity for which he/she is responsible. Student academic achievement will be assessed in terms of the attainment of measurable, specific skills determined by the teaching staff to be their instructional goals and objectives.

All grades and symbols will be appropriately explained. Grading will not be used for disciplinary purposes and will be based on improvement, achievement, and capability. The minimum grade will be 50% (no zeros). Parents will be notified when a student's performance requires special attention.

School report cards are issued to students on a trimester basis. For questions regarding grades, please contact the classroom teacher.

The final grade assigned by the teacher will not be changed by any District administrator without notifying the teacher of the nature and reasons for the change.

Reasons for changing a student's final grade include:

1. A miscalculation of test scores;
2. A technical error in assigning a particular grade or score;
3. Agreement by the teacher that the student may do an extra work assignment, with its evaluation impacting the grade;
4. An inappropriate grading system used to determine the grade; or
5. An inappropriate grade based on an appropriate grading system.

Grades for elementary and junior high are based on the following percentages:

Formative Assessment 30% / Summative Assessment 70% for all grade levels.

Promotion, Retention, and Remediation

Placement, promotion, or retention will be made in the best interest of the student after careful evaluation of the advantages and disadvantages of the various alternatives. Decisions to promote or retain students will be based on successful completion of the curriculum, attendance, performance

on District and State assessments and/or other criteria established by the Board. A student shall not be promoted based upon age or any other social reason not related to academic performance.

When there is any alteration in a student's normal progression through school (i.e. retention), all factors will be considered. The teacher and building principal will use the expertise of other professional personnel as appropriate and parent support will be solicited during the decision-making process.

Students who do not qualify for promotion to the next higher grade will be provided a remedial assistance plan developed in consultation with the student's parents/guardians. The remedial assistance plan may include various types of support such as summer school, special homework, tutorial sessions, modified instructional materials, increased or concentrated instructional time, other modifications in the instructional program, or retention in grade.

Reporting to Parents

The progress of District students will be communicated to parents/guardians on a regular basis during the school year. However, grades and test reports will be made available only to those parents/guardians qualified to receive them. In the case of separated and/or divorced parents, both may receive notification of grades or test results unless prohibited by a valid court order.

Parent/Teacher Conferences are scheduled for all parents twice a year. Parents are encouraged to bring their child with them. It is expected that all parents attend both conferences. Notices will be sent home as to the date and time of conferences. Parents or teachers may schedule additional conferences throughout the year. Additional methods of reporting such as open houses, parent education meetings and newsletters may be used by each individual school.

Parents are also encouraged to use the Family Portal on the District website (www.joliet86.org) to access their child's grades and other information.

Reporting Learning Behaviors to Parents

We believe...

A nurturing learning environment incorporates a growth mindset by providing quality feedback and opportunities for reflection.

- Teachers cultivate a growth mindset
- Students and teachers provide quality feedback
- Feedback generates a productive response
- The classroom is a safe place for productive struggle and fosters a collaborative learning community
- Students take ownership of their learning and the learning of others

All students have the potential to succeed when given explicit learning expectations.

- Success criteria are communicated before and throughout the instruction
- All students have equitable access to appropriate learning goals
- Teachers provide support and resources to ensure student learning

Grades reflect student proficiency and drive instructional practices.

- Academic grades are based solely on achievement with the priority standards
- Instruction is differentiated based on formative evidence

Students demonstrate learning in multiple ways.

- Students have a voice in the choice of methods and resources
- Students have multiple opportunities to show proficiency
- Students and teachers partner to set, monitor, and reflect on goals

Elementary Learning Behaviors

- Listens to and follows directions
- Actively contributes to classroom activities and discussions
- Initiates tasks and approaches challenges using a variety of strategies
- Actively contributes collaboratively in groups
- Exhibits self-awareness and advocates when necessary

Junior High Learning Behaviors

- Completes work in a timely manner
- Organizes work and materials responsibly
- Initiates tasks and approaches challenges using a variety of strategies
- Actively contributes to classroom activities and discussions individually and in groups
- Exhibits self-awareness and advocates when necessary

Scale for reporting Learning Behaviors:

3	Meets
2	Developing
1	Improvement

Section 2.70 Homework

Homework gives students an opportunity to practice and refine their skills. Along with reinforcing learning to facilitate mastery of standards.

Homework:

1. Is used to reinforce and apply previously covered concepts, principles, and skills;
2. Is not assigned for disciplinary purposes;
3. Serves as a communication link between the school and parents/guardians;
4. Encourages independent thought, self-direction and self-discipline; and,
5. Is of appropriate frequency and length, and does not become excessive, according to the teacher's best professional judgment.

Students who are absent from school for a valid cause (an excused absence) may make up missed homework in a reasonable timeframe.

Section 2.80 Exemption from Physical Education Requirement

In order to be excused from participation in physical education, a student must present an appropriate excuse from his or her parent/guardian or by a person licensed under the Medical Practice Act. The excuse may be based on medical or religious prohibitions. An excuse because of medical reasons must include a signed statement from a person licensed under the Medical Practice Act that corroborates the medical reason for the request. An excuse based on religious reasons must include a signed statement from a member of the clergy that corroborates the religious reason for the request. Upon written notice from a student's parent/guardian, a student will be excused from engaging in the physical activity components of physical education during a period of religious fasting.

Appropriate educational accommodations will be provided for students whose physical or emotional condition, as determined by a person licensed under the Medical Practice Act, prevents their participation in regular physical education courses.

A student may be excused from participation in physical education classes for no more than three days with a note from a parent. A doctor's note is required for all students who need to be excused for more than three (3) days.

Students with an Individualized Education Program may also be excused from physical education courses for reasons stated in Handbook Procedure 10.30.

Section 2.90 Accelerated Placement Program

The District provides for an Accelerated Placement Program (APP) for qualified students. It provides students with an educational setting with curriculum options that are usually reserved for students who are older or in higher grades than the student. Accelerated placement includes but may not be limited to: early entrance to kindergarten or first grade, accelerating a student in a single subject and grade acceleration. Participation is open to all students who demonstrate high ability and who may benefit from accelerated placement. It is not limited to students who have been identified as gifted or talented.

For each student who exceeds State standards in English language arts or mathematics, on a State assessment, the school district is required by State law to automatically enroll the student in the following school year in the next most rigorous level of advanced coursework.

- a. A student who exceeds State standards in English language arts shall be automatically enrolled into the next most rigorous level of advanced coursework in English, social studies, humanities, or related subjects.
- b. A student or exceeds State standards in mathematics shall be automatically enrolled into the next most rigorous level of advanced coursework in mathematics.

Eligibility to participate in the District's APP shall not be conditioned upon the protected classifications identified in School Board Policy 7:10, Equal Educational Opportunities, or any factor other than the student's identification as an accelerated learner.

Section 2.100 Home and Hospital Instruction

A student who is absent from school, or whose physician, physician assistant or licensed advance practice registered nurse anticipates his or her absence from school, because of a medical condition may be eligible for instruction in the student's home or hospital.

Appropriate educational services from qualified staff will begin no later than five school days after receiving a written statement from a physician, physician assistant, or licensed advanced practice registered nurse. Instructional or related services for a student receiving special education services will be determined by the student's individualized education program.

A student who is unable to attend school because of pregnancy will be provided home instruction, correspondence courses, or other courses of instruction before (1) the birth of the child when the student's physician, physician assistant, or licensed advanced practice nurse indicates, in writing, that she is medically unable to attend regular classroom instruction, and (2) for up to 3 months after the child's birth or a miscarriage.

For information on home or hospital instruction, contact: Loretta Gutierrez at 815-740-3196.

Section 2.110 Open

Section 2.120 Open

Section 2.130 Complaints About Curriculum, Instructional Materials, and Programs

Parents or guardians have the right to inspect all instructional materials used as a part of their child's education. If you believe that curriculum, instructional materials, or programs violate rights guaranteed by any law or Board policy, you may file a complaint under the District's uniform grievance policy.

Parents or guardians with other suggestions or complaints about curriculum, instructional materials, or programs should complete a Curriculum Objection Form, which is available from the school office. A parent or guardian may also request that their child be exempt from using a particular instructional material or program by completing a Curriculum Objection Form.

SECTION 3 - STUDENT FEES AND MEAL COSTS

Section 3.10 Student Fees and Fee Waivers

Student Fees

The Board may charge student fees as provided by law. Parents/guardians unable to pay fees should contact the building principal. All students are assessed fees to cover the cost of some of the materials and supplies needed during the school year. Fees are due at the beginning of each school year:

Kindergarten (Full Day)	\$25.00
Grades 1 through 5	\$25.00
Grades 6 through 8	\$45.00

Student Fee Waivers

Students whose parent or guardian are unable to afford student fees may request a fee waiver. Students will not be denied educational services or academic credit due to the inability of their parent or guardian to pay fees or certain charges. A fee waiver applies to all fees related to school, instruction, and extracurricular activities.

Student fee waivers may only be granted pursuant to District policy. Applications for fee waivers are available at each school and may be submitted by a parent or guardian of a student who has assessed a fee. A student is eligible for a fee waiver if at least one of the following prerequisites is met:

1. The student currently lives in a household that meets same income guidelines, with the same limits based on household size that are used for the federal free meals programs.
2. The student's parent is a veteran or active-duty military personnel with income at or below 200% of the federal poverty line.
3. The student is homeless, as defined by the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act.

The building principal will give additional consideration where one or more of the following factors are present:

1. An illness in the family;
2. Unusual expenses such as fire, flood, storm damage, etc.;
3. Seasonal employment;
4. Emergency situations; or
5. When one or more of the parents/guardians are involved in a work stoppage.

Section 3.20 Student Breakfast and Lunch Program

General Information

A student enrolled in kindergarten through grade eight must remain in school during the lunch period. Students are not permitted to go home for lunch during the school day. Any exception to the lunch regulation will be made at the discretion of the building principal generally on the basis of the health or safety of the individual student.

Lunch and Breakfast Program

District 86 participates in the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Program. Because District 86 participates in the Community Eligibility Option under this program, all District 86 schools are able to offer healthy breakfasts and lunches at no charge for all students. Milk is included with each meal. Students are able to purchase additional cartons of milk. Students may still bring their own lunch from home if they wish.

SECTION 4 – TRANSPORTATION

Section 4.10 Student Transportation

Transportation

The pupil transportation system will be administered to provide the best practices for safe and efficient services in the most economical manner. The Superintendent or designee will be responsible for supervising, administering, investigating, and resolving issues with the District's transportation system.

The District will provide free transportation to and from school for resident students who live: (1) a distance of 1.5 miles or more from their assigned school, or (2) within 1.5 miles of their assigned schools, but for whom walking would constitute a serious hazard due to vehicular traffic or railroad crossings, as determined in accordance with the standards established by the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT), and for whom adequate public transportation is not available.

Transportation service is also provided for special education students if it is included in the student's Individualized Educational Program (IEP) or as otherwise required by law. All special education students will be transported in accordance with current Illinois State Board of Education rules and regulations and the Illinois School Code.

Students will be transported to and from school activities only in vehicles authorized by the Administration. Vehicles used by the District or any transportation contractor will meet all federal and State safety standards. Drivers will meet all required federal and State standards for licensing.

Bus schedules and routes will be determined by the Superintendent or designee in concert with the District's contractor and will be altered only with the Superintendent's or designee's approval and direction. Safety hazards and population density will determine the number and placement of bus stops in a given area. When practical, bus stops will be assigned at least 500 feet from a residence of a known registered sex offender. To the extent possible, school bus routes will be restricted to main routes and state- and county-maintained roads. Students are assigned a bus route number and assigned a stop for transportation. Bus drivers are not authorized and should not be approached to make any changes to designated stops. All initial route change requests should be directed to the transportation department.

Students must ride the buses to which they are assigned. Students should be at their assigned stop at least ten (10) minutes before their scheduled pick-up time. Students are not permitted to switch buses as they are assigned based on the maximum number of students allowed per vehicle.

Parents of kindergarten, first grade, and special education students are responsible to meet their child's bus each day or to designate a responsible individual to be with their child during pick-up and drop off times. If the parent or designee is not at the bus stop at drop off, the child will be returned to the school. If the parents/guardians are unable to be at the bus stop or designate a responsible person, a Latch Key Form is required and can be obtained from the school.

All students are issued a bus pass which they must carry with them for the first two (2) weeks of issuance.

Section 4.15 Bus Conduct

Bus Rules of Student Conduct

In addition to complying with general school rules regarding student conduct, students shall also comply with the Bus Rules of Student Conduct. This list is not intended to be an exhaustive list, and any conduct which is determined to constitute gross disobedience or misconduct may also result in interventions and/or disciplinary consequences. In cases of gross disobedience or misconduct, a student's privilege to ride the bus may be suspended and/or denied. During the period of suspension, it is the responsibility of the parent or guardian to transport the student to school. A student suspended from riding the bus who does not have alternate transportation to school shall have the opportunity to complete or make up work for equivalent academic credit. It shall be the responsibility of the student's parent or guardian to notify the school that the student does not have alternate transportation.

The driver has full charge of the bus and students. Students must obey the driver at all times. The right of all pupils to ride on the bus is contingent upon their good behavior and upon their observance of the rules and regulations. Bus seat assignments may be issued for students who ride a bus to/from school.

Prohibited Conduct:

1. Standing while the bus is in motion;
2. Changing seats;
3. Excessive noise;
4. Eating – Drinking – Littering;
5. Riding unassigned bus or using an unassigned stop;
6. Use of electronic devices, i.e.: cell phones, cameras, etc.;
7. Disrespect;
8. Reckless behavior/horseplay;
9. Verbal Threat – Peers;
10. Name calling;
11. Bullying/Intimidation/Harassment of peers;
12. Non-compliant (will not follow direction from driver and/or monitor);
13. Throwing (things in/out of bus);
14. Verbal Abuse – Staff;
15. Assault;
16. Verbal Threat – Staff;
17. Jeopardizing the safety of others;
18. Vandalism;
19. Fighting;
20. Drugs/Alcohol;
21. Tobacco/smoking on bus;
22. Weapons;
23. Arson/Combustibles.

School Bus Safety Rules

1. Be aware of moving traffic and pay attention to your surroundings.

2. Dress properly for the weather. Make sure all drawstrings, ties, straps, etc. on all clothing, backpacks and other items, are shortened or removed to lessen the likelihood of them getting caught in bus doors, railings or aisles.
3. Arrive on time at the bus stop and stay away from the street while waiting for the bus.
4. Stay away from the bus until it stops completely and the driver signals you to board. Enter in single file without pushing. Always use the handrail.
5. Take a seat right away and remain seated facing forward. Keep your hands, arms, and head inside the bus.
6. Talk quietly on the bus. No shouting or creating loud noises that may distract the driver. Tablets, computers, smart phones, smart watches, and other electronic devices must be silenced on the bus unless a student uses headphones.
7. Help keep the bus neat and clean. Keep belongings out of the aisle and away from emergency exits. Eating and drinking are not allowed on the bus.
8. Always listen to the driver's instructions. Be courteous to the driver and other students. Sit with your hands to yourself and avoid making noises that would distract the driver or bother other passengers.
9. Wait until the bus pulls to a complete stop before standing up. Use the handrail when exiting the bus.
10. Stay out of the danger zone next to the bus where the driver may have difficulty seeing you. Take at least five giant steps (10 feet) away from the bus and out of the danger zone, until you can see the driver and the driver sees you. Never crawl under a bus.
11. If you must cross the street after you get off the bus, wait for the driver's signal and then cross in front of the bus. Cross the street only after checking both ways for traffic, even after the driver's signal.
12. Never run back to the bus, even if you dropped or forgot something.

SECTION 5 – HEALTH AND SAFETY

Section 5.10 Immunization, Health, Eye, Dental Examination

Health Examinations, Immunizations, and Exclusion of Students

Parents/guardians will present proof that their child has received a health examination and immunizations against, and screenings for, preventable communicable diseases, as required by the Illinois Department of Public Health, within one year prior to:

1. Entering an Early Childhood program;
2. Prior to entering kindergarten and/or first grade;
3. Upon entering sixth grade;
4. Whenever a student first enrolls in school in the District, regardless of the student's grade.

Proof of immunization against meningococcal disease is required for students in grade 6. A diabetes screening must be included as part of the health exam (though diabetes testing is not required). Students between the age of one and seven must provide a statement from a physician assuring that the student was "risk-assessed" or screened for lead poisoning. Beginning with the 2017-2018 school year, an age-appropriate developmental screening and an age-appropriate social and emotional screening are required parts of each health examination.

Failure to comply with the above requirements by October 15 of the current school year will result in the student's exclusion from school until the required health forms are presented to the school, subject to certain exceptions. A student will not be excluded from school due to his or her parent/guardian's failure to obtain a developmental screening or a social and emotional screening.

New students who register mid-term have 30 days following registration to comply with the health examination and immunization requirements. If a medical reason prevents a student from receiving a required immunization by October 15, the student must present, by October 15, an immunization schedule and a statement of the medical reasons causing the delay. The schedule and statement of medical reasons must be signed by an appropriate medical professional.

Health examinations must be performed by a physician licensed to practice medicine in all of its branches, an advanced practice nurse who has a written collaborative agreement with a collaborating physician authorizing the advanced practice nurse to perform health examinations, or a physician assistant who has been delegated the performance of health examinations by a supervising physician.

In addition, annual physical examinations are required for students wishing to try out for, practice, or participate in interscholastic sports.

District staff may require that parents/guardians obtain additional physical examinations for their children when deemed necessary in order to ensure the student's health and the health and welfare of other students and staff.

Students with Diabetes

See Section 1.130, Care of Students with Diabetes.

Students with Life-Threatening Allergies or Chronic Illness

Parents/guardians will be expected to notify the school of any allergies to food or drugs or other physical needs their child may have. If your student has a life-threatening allergy or life-threatening chronic illness, please notify the building principal. Also see Section 1.120, Students with Life-Threatening Allergies or Chronic Illnesses.

Dental Examinations

All students entering kindergarten, second and sixth grades must present proof by May 15 of the current school year of having been examined by a licensed dentist within the last 18 months. Failure to present proof allows the school to hold the child's report card until the student presents: (1) proof of a completed dental examination, or (2) that a dental examination will take place within 60 days after May 15.

On or before March 16 of each school year, the District will provide notice of the dental examination requirement to parents/guardians.

Vision and Hearing Screenings

All students entering kindergarten or school for the first time must present proof by October 15 of the current school year of an eye examination performed within one year. Failure to present proof by October 15, allows the school to hold the student's report card until the student presents: (1) proof of a completed eye examination, or (2) that an eye examination will take place within 60 days after October 15.

Once a child begins school, a hearing screening is required at grades K, 1, 2, and 3. The District provides hearing/vision screenings during the school year.

Exemptions

A student will be exempted from the above requirements for:

1. Medical grounds if the student's parent/guardian presents to the building principal a signed statement explaining the objection;
2. Religious grounds if the student's parent/guardian presents to the building principal a completed Certificate of Religious Exemption;
3. Health examination or immunization requirements on medical grounds if a physician provides written verification;
4. Eye examination requirement if the student's parent/guardian shows an undue burden or lack of access to a physician licensed to practice medicine in all of its branches who provides eye examinations or a licensed optometrist; or
5. Dental examination requirement if the student's parent/guardian shows an undue burden or a lack of access to a dentist.

Homeless Child

Any homeless child shall be immediately admitted, even if the child or child's parent/guardian is unable to produce immunization and health records normally required for enrollment. School Board policy 6:140, Education of Homeless Children, governs the enrollment of homeless children.

Section 5.20 Student Medication

General Provisions

Taking medication during school hours or during school-related activities is prohibited unless it is necessary for a student's health and well-being. When a student's licensed health care provider and parent/guardian believe that it is necessary for the student to take a medication during school hours or school-related activities, the parent/guardian must request that the school dispense the medication to the child by completing a "School Medication Authorization Form."

No school or District employee is allowed to administer to any student, or supervise a student's self-administration of, any prescription or non-prescription medication until a completed and signed School Medication Authorization Form is submitted by the student's parent/guardian. No student is allowed to possess or consume any prescription or non-prescription medication on school grounds or at a school-related function other than as provided for in this procedure.

Self-Administration of Medication

A student may possess and self-administer an epinephrine injector (e.g., EpiPen®) and/or an asthma inhaler or medication prescribed for use at the student's discretion, provided the student's parent/guardian has completed and signed a School Medication Authorization Form.

Students who are diabetic may possess and self-administer diabetic testing supplies and insulin if authorized by the student's diabetes care plan, which must be on file with the school.

Students with epilepsy may possess and self-administer supplies, equipment and medication, if authorized by the student's seizure action plan, which must be on file with the school.

Students may self-administer (but not possess on their person) other medications required under a qualified plan, provided the student's parent/guardian has completed and signed a School Medication Authorization Form.

No District Liability

The school District shall incur no liability, except for willful and wanton conduct, as a result of any injury arising from a student's self-administration of medication, including asthma medication or epinephrine injectors, or medication required under a qualifying plan. A student's parent/guardian must indemnify and hold harmless the school District and its employees and agents, against any claims, except a claim based on willful and wanton conduct, arising out of a student's self-administration of an epinephrine injector, asthma medication, and/or a medication required under a qualifying plan.

Administration of Medical Cannabis

In accordance with the Compassionate Use of Medical Cannabis Program, qualifying students are allowed to utilize medical cannabis infused products while at school and school events. Please contact the building principal for additional information. Discipline of a student for being administered a product by a designated caregiver pursuant to this procedure is prohibited. The District may not deny a student attendance at a school solely because he or she requires administration of the product during school hours.

Annual Renewal of Permissions

Permission is effective only for the school year in which it is granted. Permission will be renewed each school year upon fulfillment of the requirements set forth above.

Emergency Aid to Students

Nothing in this policy shall prohibit any school employee from providing emergency assistance to students, including administering medication.

Section 5.30 Guidance & Counseling

The school provides a guidance and counseling program for students. The school's counselors are available to those students who require additional assistance.

Section 5.40 Safety Drill Procedures and Conduct

Safety drills will occur at times established by the school board. Students are required to be silent and shall comply with the directives of school officials during emergency drills. There will be a minimum of three (3) evacuation drills, a minimum of one (1) severe weather (shelter-in-place) drill, a minimum of one (1) law enforcement lockdown drill to address a school shooting incident, and a minimum of one (1) bus evacuation drill each school year. There may be other drills at the direction of the administration. The law enforcement lockdown drill will be announced in advance and a student's parent/guardian may elect to exclude their child from participating in this drill. All other drills will not be preceded by a warning to students.

Section 5.50 Communicable and Chronic Infectious Disease

The District recognizes that a student with a communicable or chronic infectious disease is eligible for all rights, privileges, and services provided by law and the District's policies.

The District will balance the individual's rights with its obligation to protect the health of all District students and staff.

The school will observe recommendations of the Illinois Department of Public Health regarding communicable diseases.

1. Parents are required to notify the school nurse if they suspect their child has a communicable disease.
2. In certain cases, students with a communicable disease may be excluded from school or sent home from school following notification of the parent or guardian.
3. The school will provide written instructions to the parent and guardian regarding appropriate treatment for the communicable disease.
4. A student excluded because of a communicable disease will be permitted to return to school only when the parent or guardian brings a letter to the school from the student's doctor stating that the student is no longer contagious or at risk of spreading the communicable disease.

Section 5.60 Head Lice

The school nurse and/or other qualified personnel are responsible for screening students for head lice.

When a case of head lice is identified in a District school building, the parents/guardians will be contacted and asked to come to school. The nurse will provide the information to the parents/guardians concerning head lice and its treatment. The parents/guardians must then remove the child from school and begin treatment. After treatment, the child may return to class. The child may be reexamined after return and, if necessary, additional treatment may be required according to treatment protocols.

The nurse may also screen students in the contact area of the school for possible infestation.

Section 5.70 Targeted School Violence Prevention Program

Threats and acts of targeted school violence harm the District's environment and school community, diminishing students' ability to learn and a school's ability to educate. Providing students and staff with access to a safe and secure environment is an important goal of the School and District. While it is not possible to completely eliminate threats, the School and District maintain a Targeted School Violence Prevention Program and a Threat Assessment Team to reduce these risks to its environment.

Parents/guardians and students are encouraged to report any expressed threats or behaviors that may represent a threat to the community, School, or self. Reports can be made to any school administrator, law enforcement authorities, or the Safe2Help Illinois helpline (www.safe2helpil.com/).

Students and parents are urged to participate in behavioral threat assessment and intervention programs if the Behavioral Threat Assessment Team believes that intervention is necessary to prevent a student from harming themselves or others. However, if for some reason there is a reluctance to participate in the process by the threat maker(s) or parent/guardian(s), the threat assessment process will continue in order to ensure a safe and caring learning environment for all.

For further information, please contact the Building Principal.

Section 5.80 Readmission to School Following an Illness

A student who has been absent from school for five (5) days or more, or who has had a communicable disease, must present a physician's release before being readmitted to school.

A student who has been absent for less than five (5) days may be readmitted to class with a written excuse from his/her parents/guardians. If the student has a fever of 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit or greater, has a heavy cough, is vomiting or has diarrhea, the student should not be sent to school. The student may be sent to school after the fever and/or above symptoms have been resolved for 24 hours without the use of fever reducing medicine.

Children shall be readmitted to school according to the isolation/exclusion requirements in Rules and Regulations for the Control of Communicable Diseases, published by the Illinois Department of Public Health.

Section 5.90 COVID-19 Student Guidelines

1. At this time, students are not required to wear masks to school or school sponsored events.
2. Students are welcome to wear masks should they choose to do so.
3. Students that test positive for COVID-19 should isolate at home for 5 days from the onset of symptoms or the date of the positive test (whichever occurs first).
4. After 5 days, if the student is free from fever (at least 24 hours), vomiting, and diarrhea, the student may return to school and are encouraged to wear a mask for 5 days.
5. If students are exhibiting any type of illness, they should not attend school.
6. Joliet Public Schools District 86 encourages students to continue to practice healthy habits and proper hand washing to reduce the spread of all communicable diseases.

SECTION 6 - CONDUCT AND DISCIPLINE

Section 6.10 General Conduct

Expectations and Standards

The District believes that a school's climate should promote open expression of beliefs, mutual respect, and trust, as well as personal, caring relationships, where every student is educated in an environment in which they are welcomed, valued and supported in reaching their potential and encouraged to grow in self-discipline. In order to foster a positive learning environment, the District expects high standards of conduct from students, parents and staff. The District expects students to conduct themselves in a manner in keeping with their levels of development, maturity, and demonstrated capabilities with a proper regard for the rights and welfare of other students, school

staff, volunteers, and contractors. However, when students engage in inappropriate or illegal student conduct, the operations, educational functions and climate of the school are disrupted.

Consequently, the District has established policies and procedures to address these matters and each school building may have additional or more specific conduct rules. The goals and objectives of these policies are to provide effective discipline practices that: (1) ensure the safety and dignity of students and staff; (2) maintain a positive, weapons-free, and drug-free learning environment; (3) keep school property and the property of others secure; (4) address the causes of a student's misbehavior and provide opportunities for all individuals involved in an incident to participate in its resolution; and (5) teach students positive behavioral skills to become independent, self-disciplined citizens in the school community and society. While these policies establish prohibited student conduct, no policy can anticipate every type of potential improper conduct. Therefore, the Board and the administration reserve the right to administer appropriate corrective actions or disciplinary consequences in severe or unusual circumstances and in circumstances not specifically listed in the policies. Any conduct, even if not specified, which constitutes gross disobedience or misconduct may result in disciplinary action.

Students are encouraged to support those who walk away from acts of misconduct, to constructively attempt to stop them, and/or to report them to a designated authority.

Student Responsibilities

Students will respect constituted authority and will conform to school rules and regulations and those provisions of law that apply to the conduct of students.

Citizenship in a democracy requires respect for rights of others and demands cooperation with all members of the school community. To this end, student conduct will reflect consideration of the rights and privileges of others.

High personal standards of courtesy, decency, morality, appropriate language, honesty and wholesome relationships with others will be maintained by all students. Also, respect for real and personal property, pride in one's work, and achievement within one's ability will be expected of all students.

District 86 students have the following responsibilities:

1. To attend school regularly and be punctual;
2. To respect the idea that the school is a safe place for all students;
3. To show consideration and respect for school faculty, staff, schoolmates, and others in District buildings and grounds and at District events;
4. To become informed of and adhere to school rules and regulations;
5. To respect the rights and individuality of other students and school administrators and teachers and to refrain from behavior that infringes on the rights of others;
6. To show respect for both public and private property;
7. To refrain from libel, slanderous remarks, and obscenity in verbal and written expression;
8. To dress and groom in a manner that meets reasonable standards of health, cleanliness, and safety and that is not disruptive to the educational program;
9. To maintain the best possible level of academic achievement and demonstrate reasonable progress;

10. To maintain health and safety standards;
11. To avoid unlawful or illegal activities of any kind and achieve goals through honest means;
12. To refrain from gross disobedience or misconduct of behavior that materially and substantially disrupts the educational process;
13. To respect the exercise of authority by school administrators and teachers in maintaining discipline in the school and at school-sponsored activities (In case of unlawful or illegal activity, law enforcement officers may be notified);
14. To be sensitive and respectful to cultural and individual differences;
15. To recognize and use peaceful resolutions when in conflict with another;
16. To honestly report activities that may endanger, threaten or disrupt the school climate.

CHAMPS – Safe and Civil Schools

As a District 86 parent, you want the best school experience for your child. Supporting your child by assuring a productive and engaging classroom is essential. District 86 has embraced the CHAMPS model for classroom management with excellent results. All District 86 educators are dedicated to helping each student enjoy learning. To maximize that potential, we encourage students to be orderly, responsive, engaged, and motivated. According to the most current research on teacher effectiveness, putting a successful behavior management system in place is a sure way of achieving these goals.

CHAMPS is designed to:

- Improve classroom behavior (on-task, work completion, cooperation);
- Establish clear classroom behavior expectations with fair responses to misbehavior;
- Motivate students to put forth their best efforts (perseverance, pride in work);
- Reduce misbehavior (disruptions, disrespect, non-compliance);
- Increase academic engagement, resulting in improved test scores and love for learning;
- Spend less time disciplining students and more time teaching;
- Teach students to behave respectfully;
- Teach students to value diversity, reducing cultural differences leading to misbehavior;
- Help students feel empowered and happy to be in the classroom.

Section 6.20 Student Appearance

A student's appearance, including dress and hygiene must not disrupt the educational process, or compromise standards of health and safety, as determined by the building principal, the Superintendent and/or Board of School Inspectors. The school does not prohibit hairstyles historically associated with race, ethnicity, or hair texture, including, but not limited to, protective hairstyles such as braids, locks, and twists. The school will not prohibit students from wearing or accessorizing the student's graduation attire with items associated with the student's cultural, ethnic or religious identity or any other protected characteristic or category identified in the Illinois Human Rights Act. Students who disrupt the educational process or compromise standards of health and safety must modify their appearance.

Student dress or attire will conform to the following minimum standards:

Clothing must effectively cover the student's torso and be opaque. Underwear must be covered. Bare midriffs are not permitted. Prohibited shirts include, but are not limited to, backless, one shoulder, strapless, or thin-shouldered shirts or blouses unless another

conforming shirt is worn over them. Also prohibited is clothing with revealing holes or low-cut necklines. Shorts and skirts must come to at least mid-thigh. Painting of the face and/or hair is not permitted unless special permission has been given by the principal.

Additional restrictions:

1. Hats, head coverings, sun glasses, jackets, coats and gloves will not be worn in class. Students must remove their head coverings upon entering the building. (Religious head coverings are exempt.)
2. Students will wear shoes. Metal, plastic, or rubber cleats, wheeled shoes, or other shoes that may damage the floors may not be worn.
3. Students will not wear beachwear to class, except for special school-approved days.
4. Student dress will be appropriate for school activity. Clothing with holes, rips, tears, clothing that is otherwise poorly fitting, clothing (including leggings and other sheer pants or tops) showing skin and/or undergarments, may not be worn at school.
5. No garments or jewelry depicting any alcohol or tobacco products, or other drugs will be worn at school.
6. Hair styles, dress and accessories that pose a safety hazard are not permitted in the shop, laboratories, or during physical education.
7. No garments or jewelry with messages, graphics, or symbols depicting weapons or which are derogatory, inflammatory, sexual, or discriminatory, will be worn at school if they are in violation of the District's policies, including policies regarding harassment and bullying.
8. Student dress (including accessories) may not display lewd, vulgar, obscene, or offensive language or symbols.
9. No spiked or dangerous jewelry (such as handcuffs, chains, etc.) may be worn.
10. Students may not wear or display items that are considered to be gang identifiers by our school and our community. These identifiers include, but are not limited to: Playboy Bunny Insignia, a single glove, 5 pointed stars, arrows or pitchforks shaved into hair or otherwise be displayed. Any other attire, item, insignia, or symbol which the administration has reasonable cause to believe is a gang identifier, will be prohibited even if it had not previously been so designated in this or any other statement or policy.
11. Student dress (including accessories) may not advertise, promote, or picture alcoholic beverages, illegal drugs, drug paraphernalia, violent behavior, or other inappropriate messages.

If there is any doubt about dress and appearance, the building principal has the authority to determine compliance.

Students not complying with the appearance standards will be asked to change clothes or to turn their clothing inside out. Parents may be called to bring appropriate clothing.

Any student who comes to school without proper attention to personal cleanliness and/or appropriate dress may be removed from class or sent home.

Students whose dress causes a disruption of the orderly process of school functions or endangers the health or safety of the student, other students, staff, or others may be subject to discipline.

Section 6.30 Student Behavior

Prohibited Student Conduct

Students may be disciplined for gross disobedience or misconduct, including, but not limited to:

1. Using, possessing, distributing, purchasing, or selling tobacco or nicotine materials, including without limitation, electronic cigarettes.
2. Using, possessing, distributing, purchasing, or selling alcoholic beverages. Students who are under the influence of an alcoholic beverage are not permitted to attend school or school functions and are treated as though they had alcohol in their possession.
3. Using, possessing, distributing, purchasing, selling, or offering for sale:
 - a. Any illegal drug or controlled substance, or cannabis (including medical cannabis, marijuana, and hashish).
 - b. Any anabolic steroid unless it is being administered in accordance with a physician's or licensed practitioner's prescription.
 - c. Any performance-enhancing substance on the Illinois High School Association's most current banned substance list unless administered in accordance with a physician's or licensed practitioner's prescription.
 - d. Any prescription drug when not prescribed for the student by a physician or licensed practitioner, or when used in a manner inconsistent with the prescription or prescribing physician's or licensed practitioner's instructions. The use or possession of medical cannabis, even by a student for whom medical cannabis has been prescribed, is prohibited.
 - e. Any inhalant, regardless of whether it contains an illegal drug or controlled substance: (a) that a student believes is, or represents to be capable of, causing intoxication, hallucination, excitement, or dulling of the brain or nervous system; or (b) about which the student engaged in behavior that would lead a reasonable person to believe that the student intended the inhalant to cause intoxication, hallucination, excitement, or dulling of the brain or nervous system. The prohibition in this section does not apply to a student's use of asthma or other legally prescribed inhalant medications.
 - f. Any substance inhaled, injected, smoked, consumed, or otherwise ingested or absorbed with the intention of causing a physiological or psychological change in the body, including without limitation, pure caffeine in tablet or powdered form.
 - g. "Look-alike" or counterfeit drugs, including a substance that is not prohibited by this policy, but one: (a) that a student believes to be, or represents to be, an illegal drug, controlled substance, or other substance that is prohibited by this policy; or (b) about which a student engaged in behavior that would lead a reasonable person to believe that the student expressly or impliedly represented to be an illegal drug, controlled substance, or other substance that is prohibited by this policy.
 - h. Drug paraphernalia, including devices that are or can be used to: (a) ingest, inhale, or inject cannabis or controlled substances into the body; and (b) grow, process, store, or conceal cannabis or controlled substances.

Students who are under the influence of any prohibited substance are not permitted to attend school or school functions and are treated as though they had the prohibited substance, as applicable, in their possession.

4. Using, possessing, controlling, or transferring a “weapon” as that term is defined in the Weapons section of this policy, or violating the Weapons section of this policy.
5. Using or possessing an electronic paging device. Using a cellular telephone, video recording device, personal digital assistant (PDA), or other electronic device in any manner that disrupts the educational environment or violates the rights of others, including using the device to take photographs in locker rooms or bathrooms, cheat, or otherwise violate student conduct rules. Prohibited conduct specifically includes, without limitation, creating, sending, sharing, viewing, receiving, or possessing an indecent visual depiction of oneself or another person through the use of a computer, electronic communication device, or cellular phone. Unless otherwise banned under this policy or by the Building Principal, all electronic devices must be kept powered-off and out-of-sight during the regular school day unless: (a) the supervising teacher grants permission; (b) use of the device is provided in a student’s individualized education program (IEP); or (c) it is needed in an emergency that threatens the safety of students, staff, or other individuals.
6. Using or possessing a laser pointer unless under a staff member’s direct supervision and in the context of instruction.
7. Disobeying rules of student conduct or directives from staff members or school officials. Examples of disobeying staff directives include refusing a District staff member’s request to stop, present school identification, or submit to a search.
8. Engaging in academic dishonesty, including cheating, intentionally plagiarizing, wrongfully giving or receiving help during an academic examination, altering report cards, and wrongfully obtaining test copies or scores.
9. Engaging in hazing or any kind of bullying or aggressive behavior that does physical or psychological harm to a staff person or another student, or urging other students to engage in such conduct. Prohibited conduct specifically includes, without limitation, any use of violence, intimidation, force, noise, coercion, threats, stalking, harassment, sexual harassment, public humiliation, theft or destruction of property, retaliation, hazing, bullying, bullying using a school computer or a school computer network, or other comparable conduct.
10. Engaging in any sexual activity, including without limitation, offensive touching, sexual harassment, indecent exposure (including mooning), and sexual assault. This does not include the non-disruptive: (a) expression of gender or sexual orientation or preference, or (b) display of affection during non-instructional time.
11. Teen dating violence, as described in Board policy 7:185, Teen Dating Violence Prohibited.
12. Causing or attempting to cause damage to, or stealing or attempting to steal, school property or another person’s personal property.
13. Entering school property or a school facility without proper authorization.
14. In the absence of a reasonable belief that an emergency exists, calling emergency responders (such as calling 911); signaling or setting off alarms or signals indicating the presence of an emergency; or indicating the presence of a bomb or explosive device on school grounds, school bus, or at any school activity.
15. Being absent without a recognized excuse; State law and School Board policy regarding truancy control will be used with chronic and habitual truants.
16. Being involved with any public school fraternity, sorority, or secret society, by: (a) being a member; (b) promising to join; (c) pledging to become a member; or (d) soliciting any other person to join, promise to join, or be pledged to become a member.

17. Being involved in gangs or gang-related activities, including displaying gang symbols or paraphernalia.
18. Violating any criminal law, including but not limited to, assault, battery, arson, theft, gambling, eavesdropping, vandalism, and hazing.
19. Making an explicit threat on an Internet website against a school employee, a student, or any school-related personnel if the Internet website through which the threat was made is a site that was accessible within the school at the time the threat was made or was available to third parties who worked or studied within the school grounds at the time the threat was made, and the threat could be reasonably interpreted as threatening to the safety and security of the threatened individual because of his or her duties or employment status or status as a student inside the school.
20. Operating an unmanned aircraft system (UAS) or drone for any purpose on school grounds or at any school event unless granted permission by the Superintendent or designee.
21. Engaging in any activity, on or off campus, that interferes with, disrupts, or adversely affects the school environment, school operations, or an educational function, including but not limited to, conduct that may reasonably be considered to: (a) be a threat or an attempted intimidation of a staff member; or (b) endanger the health or safety of students, staff, or school property.

For purposes of this policy, the term “possession” includes having control, custody, or care, currently or in the past, of an object or substance, including situations in which the item is: (a) on the student’s person; (b) contained in another item belonging to, or under the control of, the student, such as in the student’s clothing, backpack, or automobile; (c) in a school’s student locker, desk, or other school property; or (d) at any location on school property or at a school-sponsored event.

Efforts, including the use of positive interventions and supports, shall be made to deter students, while at school or a school-related event, from engaging in aggressive behavior that may reasonably produce physical or psychological harm to someone else. The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that the parent/guardian of a student who engages in aggressive behavior is notified of the incident. The failure to provide such notification does not limit the Board’s authority to impose discipline, including suspension or expulsion, for such behavior.

No disciplinary action shall be taken against any student that is based totally or in part on the refusal of the student’s parent/guardian to administer or consent to the administration of psychotropic or psychostimulant medication to the student.

Additional Rules of Student Conduct

In addition to the identification of Prohibited Student Conduct as stated in Board Policy 7:190 and in this Parent/Student Handbook, the following specific examples of student conduct are deemed to be unacceptable and may result in interventions or other consequences, including but not limited to suspension or expulsion, each to be determined on a case by case basis. This list is not intended to be an exhaustive list, and any conduct which is determined to constitute gross disobedience or misconduct may also result in interventions and/or disciplinary consequences. Each individual school may also establish additional rules of conduct consistent with the policies of the District.

1. Classroom disruptions;
2. Failure to follow directions;
3. Littering the premises;

4. Tardiness to class;
5. Possession of prohibited articles including music players, games, and other electronic devices;
6. Display of cell phones, camera phones, cameras, and/or pagers on school grounds except as provided in the Student Conduct section of the handbook under “Electronic Devices;
7. Other misbehaviors as stipulated in the school/classroom plan;
8. Out of supervised area;
9. Altering/forgery of notes or excuses;
10. Disrespect/insubordination towards school personnel (verbal, written, or gestures, etc.);
11. Profanity/vulgarity;
12. Gambling on school property;
13. Verbal confrontation with another student;
14. Reckless behavior/dangerous actions/horseplay;
15. Non-physical sexual harassment;
16. Bullying/intimidation/ harassment of peers;
17. Inappropriate physical contact/aggression;
18. Vandalism;
19. Possession, display, and/or distribution of pornographic material;
20. Trespassing on District property;
21. Instigation/provocation of student confrontation;
22. Possession or use of laser pointers;
23. Use of cell phones, including texting, personal cameras, camera phones, and/or pagers on school grounds, after school, and/or at school-sponsored activities, except as provided in the Student Conduct section of handbook under ‘Electronic Devices’;
24. Explicit verbal, written, and/or electronic threats;
25. Fighting;
26. Extortion;
27. Physical sexual touching;
28. Willful failure to comply with the District’s Internet/Technology Acceptable Use Policy, including computer hacking and electronic forgery;
29. Altering/forgery of school records;
30. Possession of matches, lighters and/or flammable materials on or adjacent to school property;
31. Possession or use of shocking devices and/or other harmful devices;
32. Possession, sale, or use of tobacco or nicotine materials, including without limitation, electronic cigarettes;
33. Inappropriate physical contact with school and/or District personnel;
34. Possession, use, distribution, selling or offering for sale of illegal substances or drug paraphernalia;
35. Possession, use, distribution or selling of over-the-counter or prescription medications not prescribed for the student;
36. Being under the influence of drugs, alcohol, or controlled substances during school, at a school-sponsored activity, on school property;
37. Possession, use, distribution or selling of any inhalant, regardless of whether it contains an illegal or controlled substance. This prohibition does not apply to a student’s use of asthma or other legally prescribed inhalant medications prescribed for that student;
38. Possession of weapons or potential weapons and/or ammunition;
39. Possession of “look alike” weapons;
40. Bomb threats;

41. Setting fires, possession or detonation of explosives;
42. Possession of fireworks;
43. Setting false fire alarms or making false police calls;
44. Gang related activities or involvement;
45. Theft or possession and/or sale of stolen property;
46. Hazing, bullying or aggressive behavior;
47. Creation or involvement in riotous action;
48. Other acts of misconduct which may endanger the health and safety of others in school and/or on the bus;
49. Other acts of misconduct which are seriously disruptive to the school environment;
50. Other acts of misconduct which are destructive to school property.

When and Where Conduct Rules Apply

A student is subject to disciplinary action for engaging in prohibited student conduct or misconduct, as described herein whenever the student's conduct is reasonably related to school or school activities, including, but not limited to:

1. On, or within sight of, school grounds before, during, or after school hours or at any time;
2. Off school grounds at a school-sponsored activity or event, or any activity or event that bears a reasonable relationship to school;
3. Traveling to or from school or a school activity, function, or event; or
4. Anywhere, if the conduct interferes with, disrupts, or adversely affects the school environment, school operations, or an educational function, including, but not limited to, conduct that may reasonably be considered to: (a) be a threat or an attempted intimidation of a staff member; or (b) endanger the health or safety of students, staff, or school property;
5. During periods of remote learning.

Disciplinary Measures

School officials shall limit the number and duration of expulsions and out-of-school suspensions to the greatest extent practicable, and, where practicable and reasonable, shall consider forms of non-exclusionary discipline before using out-of-school suspensions or expulsions. School personnel shall not advise or encourage students to drop out voluntarily or issue a monetary fine or fee due to behavioral or academic difficulties. Potential disciplinary measures include, without limitation, any of the following:

1. Notifying parent(s)/guardian(s).
2. Disciplinary conference.
3. Withholding of privileges.
4. Temporary removal from the classroom.
5. Return of property or restitution for lost, stolen, or damaged property.
6. In-school suspension. The Building Principal or designee shall ensure that the student is properly supervised.
7. After-school study or Saturday study provided the student's parent/guardian has been notified. If transportation arrangements cannot be agreed upon, an alternative disciplinary measure must be used. The student must be supervised by the detaining teacher or the Building Principal or designee.

8. Community service with local public and nonprofit agencies that enhances community efforts to meet human, educational, environmental, or public safety needs. The District will not provide transportation. School administration shall use this option only as an alternative to another disciplinary measure, giving the student and/or parent/guardian the choice.
9. Seizure of contraband; confiscation and temporary retention of personal property that was used to violate this policy or school disciplinary rules.
10. Suspension of bus riding privileges in accordance with Board policy 7:220, Bus Conduct.
11. Out-of-school suspension from school and all school activities in accordance with Board policy 7:200, Suspension Procedures. A student who has been suspended may also be restricted from being on school grounds and at school activities.
12. Expulsion from school and all school activities for a definite time period not to exceed 2 calendar years in accordance with Board policy 7:210, Expulsion Procedures. A student who has been expelled may also be restricted from being on school grounds and at school activities.
13. Transfer to an alternative program if the student is expelled or otherwise qualifies for the transfer under State law. The transfer shall be in the manner provided in Article 13A or 13B of the School Code.
14. Notifying juvenile authorities or other law enforcement whenever the conduct involves criminal activity, including but not limited to, illegal drugs (controlled substances), “look-alikes,” alcohol, or weapons or in other circumstances as authorized by the reciprocal reporting agreement between the District and local law enforcement agencies.

The above list of disciplinary measures is a range of options that will not always be applicable in every case. In some circumstances, it may not be possible to avoid suspending or expelling a student because behavioral interventions, other than a suspension and expulsion, will not be appropriate and available, and the only reasonable and practical way to resolve the threat and/or address the disruption is a suspension or expulsion.

Student Disciplinary Due Process

Before receiving disciplinary action, the student will be notified of the wrongful nature of the alleged conduct and given the opportunity to explain or deny the conduct. In taking any disciplinary action, including the expulsion of students, the District will follow procedures required by State and federal law and Board policy.

Isolated Time Out, Time Out and Physical Restraint

Isolated time out, time out, and physical restraint shall only be used if the student’s behavior presents an imminent danger of serious physical harm to the student or others and other less restrictive and intrusive measures were tried and proven ineffective in stopping it. The school may not use isolated time out, time out, and physical restraint as discipline or punishment, convenience for staff, retaliation, a substitute for appropriate educational or behavioral support, a routine safety matter, or to prevent property damage in the absence of imminent danger of serious physical harm to the student or others. The use of prone restraint is prohibited.

Corporal Punishment Prohibited

Corporal punishment is illegal and will not be used. Corporal punishment means a discipline method in which a person deliberately inflicts pain on a student in response to the student’s

unacceptable behavior or in appropriate language, with an aim to halt the offense, prevent its recurrence, or set an example for others.

Weapons Prohibition

A student who is determined to have brought one of the following objects to school, any school-sponsored activity or event, or any activity or event that bears a reasonable relationship to school shall be expelled for a period of at least one calendar year but not more than 2 calendar years:

1. A firearm, meaning any gun, rifle, shotgun, or weapon as defined by Section 921 of Title 18 of the United States Code (18 U.S.C. § 921), firearm as defined in Section 1.1 of the Firearm Owners Identification Card Act (430 ILCS 65/), or firearm as defined in Section 24-1 of the Criminal Code of 2012 (720 ILCS 5/24 1).
2. A knife, brass knuckles, or other knuckle weapon regardless of its composition, a billy club, or any other object if used or attempted to be used to cause bodily harm, including “look alike” of any firearm as defined above.

The expulsion requirement under either paragraph 1 or 2 above may be modified by the Superintendent, and the Superintendent’s determination may be modified by the Board on a case-by-case basis.

This policy’s prohibitions concerning weapons apply regardless of whether: (1) a student is licensed to carry a concealed firearm, or (2) the Board permits visitors, who are licensed to carry a concealed firearm, to store a firearm in a locked vehicle in a school parking area.

Gang Activity Prohibited

Students are prohibited from engaging in gang activity. A "gang" is any group of two or more persons whose purpose includes the commission of illegal acts.

No student shall engage in any gang activity, including, but not limited to:

1. Wearing, using, distributing, displaying, or selling any clothing, jewelry, emblem, badge, symbol, sign, or other things that are evidence of membership or affiliation in any gang;
2. Committing any act or omission, or using any speech, either verbal or non-verbal (such as gestures or hand-shakes) showing membership or affiliation in a gang; and
3. Using any speech or committing any act or omission in furtherance of gang or gang activity, including, but not limited to: (a) soliciting others for membership in any gangs, (b) requesting any person to pay protection or otherwise intimidating or threatening any person, (c) committing any other illegal act or other violation of school District policies, and (d) inciting other students to act with physical violence upon any other person.

Students engaging in any gang-related activity will be subject to one or more of the following disciplinary actions:

- Removal from extra-curricular and athletic activities
- Conference with parent(s)/guardian(s)
- Referral to appropriate law enforcement agency
- Suspension for up to 10 days
- Expulsion not to exceed 2 calendar years

Re-Engagement of Returning Students

The Superintendent or designee shall maintain a process to facilitate the re-engagement of students who are returning from an out-of-school suspension, expulsion, or an alternative school setting. The goal of re-engagement shall be to support the student's ability to be successful in school following a period of exclusionary discipline and shall include the opportunity for students who have been suspended to complete or make up work for equivalent academic credit.

Section 6.40 Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment

Harassment and Intimidation

No person, including a School District employee or agent, or student, shall harass, intimidate, or bully a student on the basis of actual or perceived: race; color; religion; sex; national origin; ancestry; physical appearance; socioeconomic status; academic status; pregnancy; parenting status; homelessness; age; marital status; physical or mental disability; military status; sexual orientation; gender related identify or expression; unfavorable discharge from military service; order of protection status; association with a person or group of with one or more of the aforementioned actual or perceived characteristics or any other distinguishing characteristics is prohibited. The District will not tolerate harassing, intimidating conduct, or bullying whether verbal, physical, sexual, or visual, that affects the tangible benefits of education, that unreasonably interferes with a student's educational performance, or that creates an intimidating, hostile, or offensive educational environment. Examples of prohibited conduct include name-calling, using derogatory slurs, stalking, sexual violence, causing psychological harm, threatening or causing physical harm, threatened or actual destruction of property, or wearing or possessing items depicting or implying hatred or prejudice of one of the characteristics stated above.

Bullying

Bullying, intimidation, and harassment diminish a student's ability to learn and a school's ability to educate. Preventing students from engaging in these disruptive behaviors is an important District goal. Bullying is contrary to State law and to the policies of this District.

Bullying on the basis of basis of actual or perceived: race; color; religion; sex; national origin; ancestry; physical appearance; socioeconomic status; academic status; pregnancy; parenting status; homelessness; age; marital status; physical or mental disability; military status; sexual orientation; gender related identify or expression; unfavorable discharge from military service; order of protection status; association with a person or group of with one or more of the aforementioned actual or perceived characteristics or any other distinguishing characteristics is prohibited in each of the following situations:

1. During any school sponsored education program or activity.
2. While in school, on school property, on school buses or other school vehicles, at designated school bus stops waiting for the school bus, or at school sponsored or school sanctioned events or activities.
3. Through the transmission of information from a school computer, a school computer network, or other similar electronic school equipment.
4. Through the transmission of information from a computer that is accessed at a non-school related location, activity, function, or program or from the use of technology or an electronic device that is not owned, leased, or used by the school District or school if

the bullying causes a substantial disruption to the educational process or orderly operation of a school.

For purposes of this policy, the term bullying includes cyberbullying (bullying through the use of technology or any electronic communication) and means any severe or pervasive physical or verbal act or conduct, including communications made in writing or electronically, directed toward a student that has or can be reasonably predicted to have the effect of one or more of the following:

1. Placing the student in reasonable fear of harm to the student's person or property.
2. Causing a substantially detrimental effect on the student's physical or mental health.
3. Substantially interfering with the student's academic performance.
4. Substantially interfering with the student's ability to participate in or benefit from the services, activities, or privileges provided by a school.

Cyberbullying means bullying through the use of technology or any electronic communication, including without limitation any transfer of signs, signals, writing, images, sounds, data, or intelligence of any nature transmitted in whole or in part by a wire, radio, electromagnetic system, photo-electronic system, or photo-optical system, including without limitation electronic mail, Internet communications, instant messages, or facsimile communications. Cyberbullying includes the creation of a webpage or weblog in which the creator assumes the identity of another person or the knowing impersonation of another person as the author of posted content or messages if the creation or impersonation creates any of the effects enumerated in the definition of bullying. Cyberbullying also includes the distribution by electronic means of a communication to more than one person or the posting of material on an electronic medium that may be accessed by one or more persons if the distribution or posting creates any of the effects enumerated in the definition of bullying.

Bullying may take various forms, including without limitation one or more of the following: harassment, threats, intimidation, stalking, physical violence, sexual harassment, sexual violence, theft, public humiliation, destruction of property, or retaliation for asserting or alleging an act of bullying. This list is meant to be illustrative and non-exhaustive.

Making a Report

Students are encouraged to immediately report bullying, intimidation, and/or harassment. A report may be made orally or in writing to the District Complaint Managers, Nondiscrimination Coordinator, Building Principal, Building Assistant Principal, Academic Advisor, or any staff member with whom the student is comfortable speaking. Anyone, including staff members and parents/guardians, who has information about actual or threatened bullying is encouraged to report it to the District Complaint Manager or any staff member. Anonymous reports are also accepted by phone call or in writing.

Allegations of bullying may be reported using any of the following methods:

1. Contact the District Complaint Managers, Nondiscrimination Coordinator, Building Principal, Building Assistant Principal, Academic Advisor, or any staff member with whom the student is comfortable speaking.
2. Report to the District Administrative Offices, Dwayne Williams, Director of Equity and Student Services, at 815-740-3196.
3. Send a report via email to bullyreport@joliet86.org.

4. By using the Anonymous Bullying Hotline at 815-740-5400.
5. By filling out the Anonymous Bullying Report Form found on the District website at: <https://www.joliet86.org/students-parents/preventing-bullying-intimidation-and-harassment/>

Nondiscrimination Coordinator/Title IX Coordinator:

Name Judith Nash, Ed.D., J.D.
 Address 420 North Raynor Avenue
 Joliet, IL 60435
 Telephone 815-740-3196

Complaint Managers:

Name	John Armstrong, Ph.D., CETL	Sunni McNeal, Ed.D.
Address	420 North Raynor Avenue Joliet, IL 60435	420 North Raynor Avenue Joliet, IL 60435
Telephone	815-740-3196	815-740-3196

Name	Maria Arroyo, Ed.D.	Maria Burgos
Address	420 North Raynor Avenue Joliet, IL 60435	420 North Raynor Avenue Joliet, IL 60435
Telephone	815-740-3196	815-740-3196

Name Dwayne Williams
 Address 420 North Raynor Avenue
 Joliet, IL 60435
 Telephone 815-740-3196

A reprisal or retaliation against any person who reports an act of bullying is prohibited. A student’s act of reprisal or retaliation will be treated as bullying from purposes of determining any consequences or other appropriate remedial actions.

A student will not be punished for reporting bullying or supplying information, even if the school’s investigation concludes that no bullying occurred. However, knowingly making a false accusation or providing knowingly false information will be treated as bullying for purposes of determining any consequences or other appropriate actions.

Notification

Consistent with federal and State laws and rules governing student privacy rights, the school shall make diligent efforts to notify a parent or guardian within 24-hours after the school’s administration is made aware of a student’s involvement in an alleged bullying incident. The term “bullying incident” includes individual instances of bullying, as well as all threats, suggestions, or instances of self-harm determined to be a result of bullying. Notification to a parent or guardian shall include, as appropriate, the availability of social work services, counseling, school psychological services, other interventions, and restorative measures.

District Policies

The District’s policies (7:20, 7:180, 7:190 7:310 and 6:235) relating to bullying can be found on the District website at www.joliet86.org under the District Info/Board of School Inspectors/District

86 Policy. Additionally, this is the link to District Policy 7:180, Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment:

<http://go.boarddocs.com/il/joliet86/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=BSMHUD4A2071>

Be A Hero

Be a Hero by Reporting Bullying and School Violence

Who reports?	YOU, if you have information about bullying, harassment, school violence, and/or a threat of one of these actions. It doesn't matter whether you are the target of bullying or think someone is being bullied, please report it!
What do I report?	Any activity that targets someone to be hurt. Bullying, harassment, school violence, and threats take many forms. One thing they have in common – someone is targeted to be hurt. Examples of these hurtful behaviors include unwanted teasing, intimidation, physical violence, humiliation, spreading false rumors, social exclusion, or theft or destruction of property. Bullying, harassment, school violence, and threats may occur almost anywhere students go – in school buildings, on school grounds or busses, at bus stops, for example. Bullying or harassing may also occur using social networking sites or cell phones.
When should I report?	As soon as possible.
Where or how do I report?	Tell any school staff member. You may do this in person, by phone, or by email. You may be asked to complete a <i>Report Form for Bullying and School Violence</i> . You may make an anonymous tip on your school's hotline or email bullyreport@joliet86.org .
Why should I report?	Fear and abuse have no place in our school. Be a hero and report bullying. If you are being bullied, a report will help you and other students who may also be targeted for bullying.
What will happen after I report?	An Administrator will: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Acknowledge and review your report. 2. Treat your report with privacy and respect. 3. Investigate your report. The school will not bring students who bully and those they bully into the same room to confront each other. All interviews will be private. 4. Take appropriate action that may include increased monitoring and supervision, restructuring schedules, additional resources, and disciplinary action for conduct code violations, among others. 5. Provide you with feedback, if appropriate.

Section 6.42 Discrimination and Harassment on the Basis of Race, Color, and National Origin Prohibited

Discrimination and harassment on the basis of race, color, or national origin negatively affects a student's ability to learn and an employee's ability to work. Providing an educational and workplace environment free from such discrimination and harassment is an important District and School goal. The District and School do not discriminate on the basis of actual or perceived race, color, or national origin in any of its education programs or activities and comply with federal and State non-discrimination laws.

Examples of Prohibited Conduct

Examples of conduct that may constitute discrimination on the basis of race, color, or national origin include: disciplining students more harshly and frequently because of their race, color, or national origin; denying students access to high-rigor academic courses, extracurricular activities, or other educational opportunities based on their race, color, or national origin; denying language services or other educational opportunities to English learners; and assigning students special education services based on a student's race, color, or national origin.

Harassment is a form of prohibited discrimination. Examples of conduct that may constitute harassment on the basis of race, color, or national origin include: the use of racial, ethnic or ancestral slurs or stereotypes; taunts; name-calling; offensive or derogatory remarks about a person's actual or perceived race, color, or national origin; the display of racially-offensive symbols; racially-motivated physical threats and attacks; or other hateful conduct.

Making a Report or Complaint; Investigation Process

Individuals are encouraged to promptly report claims or incidences of discrimination or harassment based on race, color, or national origin to the Nondiscrimination Coordinator, a Complaint Manager, or any employee with whom the student is comfortable speaking. Reports will be processed under the District's Uniform Grievance Procedure.

Reports and complaints of discrimination or harassment will be confidential to the greatest extent practicable, subject to the District's duty to investigate and maintain an educational environment that is productive, respectful, and free of unlawful discrimination, including harassment.

Federal and State Agencies

If the District fails to take necessary corrective action to stop harassment based on race, color, or national origin, further relief may be available through the Illinois Dept. of Human Rights (IDHR) or the U.S. Dept. of Education's Office for Civil Rights. To contact IDHR, go to: <https://dhr.illinois.gov/about-us/contact-idhr.html> or call (312) 814-6200 (Chicago) or (217) 785-5100 (Springfield).

Prevention and Response Program

The District maintains a prevention and response program to respond to complaints of discrimination based on race, color, and national origin, including harassment, and retaliation. The program includes procedures for responding to complaints which:

1. Reduce or remove, to the extent practicable, barriers to reporting discrimination, harassment, and retaliation;

2. Permit any person who reports or is the victim of an incident of alleged discrimination, harassment, or retaliation to be accompanied when making a report by a support individual of the person's choice who complies with the District's policies and rules;
3. Permit anonymous reporting, except that an anonymous report may not be the sole basis of any disciplinary action;
4. Offer remedial interventions or take such disciplinary action as may be appropriate on a case-by-case basis;
5. Offer, but do not require or unduly influence, a person who reports or is the victim of an incident of harassment or retaliation the option to resolve allegations directly with the accused; and
6. Protects a person who reports or is the victim of an incident of harassment or retaliation from suffering adverse consequences as a result of a report of, investigation of, or a response to the incident.

Enforcement

Any District employee who is determined, after an investigation, to have engaged in conduct prohibited by this policy will be subject to remedial action and/or disciplinary action, up to and including discharge.

Any District student who is determined, after an investigation, to have engaged in conduct prohibited by this policy will be subject to remedial action and/or disciplinary action, including but not limited to, suspension and expulsion, consistent with the student discipline information in this handbook.

Any third party who is determined, after an investigation, to have engaged in conduct prohibited by this policy will be addressed in accordance with the authority of the Board in the context of the relationship of the third party to the District, e.g., vendor, parent, invitee, etc. Any person making a knowingly false accusation regarding prohibited conduct will likewise be subject to remedial and/or disciplinary action.

Retaliation Prohibited

Retaliation against any person for bringing complaints, participating in the complaint process, or otherwise providing information about discrimination or harassment based on race, color, or national origin is prohibited.

Individuals should report allegations of retaliation to the Building Principal, an administrator, the Nondiscrimination Coordinator, and/or a Complaint Manager.

Section 6.45 Title IX Grievance Procedure

Discrimination on the basis of sex, including sex-based harassment, affects a student's ability to learn and an employee's ability to work. Providing an educational and workplace environment free from discrimination on the basis of sex is an important District goal.

The District does not discriminate on the basis of sex and prohibits sex discrimination in any education program or activity that it operates, as required by Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (Title IX) and its implementing regulations (34 C.F.R. Part 106), including against applicants for employment, students, parents/guardians, employees, and third parties.

Title IX Sex Discrimination Prohibited

Sex discrimination as defined in Title IX (Title IX Sex Discrimination) is prohibited. A District employee, agent, or student violates this prohibition whenever that person engages in conduct on the basis of sex that causes another person to be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or otherwise be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity operated by the District. Title IX Sex Discrimination includes discrimination on the basis of sex stereotypes, sex characteristics, pregnancy or related conditions, sexual orientation, and/or gender identity.

Sex-based harassment is a form of Title IX Sex Discrimination. Sex-based harassment occurs whenever a person engages in conduct on the basis of sex that satisfies one or more of the following:

1. A District employee, agent, or other person authorized by the District to provide an aid, benefit, or service under the District's education program or activity explicitly or impliedly conditions the provision of an aid, benefit, or service on a person's participation in unwelcome sexual conduct; or
2. Unwelcome sex-based conduct that, based on the totality of the circumstances, is subjectively and objectively offensive and is so severe or pervasive that it limits or denies a person's ability to participate in or benefit from the District's education program or activity; or
3. Sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, or stalking as defined in 34 C.F.R. §106.2.

Definitions from 34 C.F.R. §106.2

Complainant means: (1) a student or employee who is alleged to have been subjected to conduct that could constitute Title IX Sex Discrimination; or (2) a person other than a student or employee who is alleged to have been subjected to conduct that could constitute Title IX Sex Discrimination and who was participating or attempting to participate in the District's education program or activity at the time of the alleged Title IX Sex Discrimination.

Complaint means an oral or written request to the District that objectively can be understood as a request for the District to investigate and make a determination about alleged discrimination under Title IX.

Respondent means a person who is alleged to have violated the District's prohibition on Title IX Sex Discrimination.

Retaliation means intimidation, threats, coercion, or discrimination against any person by the District, a student, or an employee or other person authorized by the District to provide aid, benefit, or service under the District's education program or activity, for the purpose of interfering with any right or privilege secured by Title IX or its regulations, or because the person has reported information, made a Complaint, or participated or refused to participate in any manner in an investigation, proceeding, or hearing under the Title IX regulations.

Making a Report

A person who wishes to make a report under this policy may make a report to the Title IX Coordinator, Nondiscrimination Coordinator, Building Principal, Assistant Building Principal, Dean of Students, a Complaint Manager, or any employee with whom the person is comfortable speaking.

School employees who receive information about conduct that reasonably may constitute Sex Discrimination under this policy shall promptly forward the report or information to the Title IX Coordinator. An employee who fails to promptly make or forward a report or information may be disciplined, up to and including discharge.

The Superintendent shall insert into this policy and keep current the name, office address, email address, and telephone number of the Title IX Coordinator.

Title IX Coordinator:

Judith Nash, Ed.D., J.D.
420 N. Raynor Avenue
Joliet, IL 60435
jznash@joliet86.org
(815) 740-3196

Processing and Reviewing a Report or Complaint

Upon receipt of a report of conduct that reasonably may constitute Title IX Sex Discrimination, the Title IX Coordinator and/or designee shall offer and coordinate supportive measures, as appropriate, for a Complainant.

Further, the Title IX Coordinator will analyze the report to identify and determine whether there is another or an additional appropriate method(s) for processing and reviewing it. For any report received, the Title IX Coordinator shall review Board policies 2:260, *Uniform Grievance Procedure*; 5:10, *Equal Employment Opportunity and Minority Recruitment*; 5:20, *Workplace Harassment Prohibited*; 5:90, *Abused and Neglected Child Reporting*; 5:120, *Employee Ethics; Code of Professional Conduct; and Conflict of Interest*; 7:10, *Equal Educational Opportunities*; 7:20, *Harassment of Students Prohibited*; 7:180, *Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment*; 7:185, *Teen Dating Violence Prohibited*; and 7:190, *Student Behavior*, to determine if the allegations in the report require further action under those policies.

Reports of alleged Title IX Sex Discrimination will be confidential to the greatest extent practicable, subject to the District's duty to investigate and maintain an educational program or activity that is productive, respectful, and free of Title IX Sex Discrimination.

Title IX Complaint Grievance Process

The Superintendent or designee shall implement procedures to ensure the prompt and equitable resolution of all Complaints according to a grievance process that fully complies with 34 C.F.R. §106.45. See the District's Title IX Complaint Grievance Process (Grievance Process) under administrative procedure 2:265-AP2, *Formal Title IX Complaint Grievance Process*.

When a Complaint is filed, the Title IX Coordinator will investigate it and make a determination regarding the outcome of the Complaint or appoint a qualified person(s) to undertake the investigation and make a determination regarding the outcome of the Complaint.

Enforcement

Any District employee who is determined, at the conclusion of the Grievance Process, to have engaged in Title IX Sex Discrimination will be subject to disciplinary action up to and including

discharge. Any third party who is determined, at the conclusion of the Grievance Process, to have engaged in Title IX Sex Discrimination will be addressed in accordance with the authority of the Board in the context of the relationship of the third party to the District, e.g., vendor, parent/guardian, invitee, etc. Any District student who is determined, at the conclusion of the Grievance Process, to have engaged in Title IX Sex Discrimination will be subject to disciplinary action, including, but not limited to, suspension and expulsion consistent with student behavior policies. Any person making a knowingly false accusation regarding Title IX Sex Discrimination will likewise be subject to disciplinary action.

This policy does not increase or diminish the ability of the District or the parties to exercise any other rights under existing law.

Retaliation Prohibited

The District prohibits any form of retaliation, including peer retaliation, in its education program or activity. Any person should report claims of retaliation using this Board policy 2:265, *Title IX Grievance Procedure*.

A student, employee, or other person authorized by the District to provide aid, benefit, or service under the District's education program or activity who retaliates against others for reporting or complaining of violations of this policy or for participating in any manner under this policy will be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including discharge, with regard to employees, or suspension and expulsion, with regard to students.

Section 6.46 Harassment & Teen Dating Violence Prohibited

Harassment Prohibited

No person, including a school district employee, agent, or student, shall harass, intimidate, or bully a student on the basis of actual or perceived race; color; national origin; military status; unfavorable discharge status from military service; sex; sexual orientation; gender identity; gender-related identity or expression; ancestry; age; religion; physical or mental disability; order of protection status; status of being homeless; actual or potential marital or parental status, including pregnancy; physical appearance; socioeconomic status; academic status; association with a person or group with one or more of the aforementioned actual or perceived characteristics; or any other distinguishing characteristic. The District will not tolerate harassing, intimidating conduct, or bullying whether verbal, physical, sexual, or visual, that affects the tangible benefits of education, that unreasonably interferes with a student's educational performance, or that creates an intimidating, hostile, or offensive educational environment. Examples of prohibited conduct include name-calling, using derogatory slurs, stalking, sexual violence, causing psychological harm, threatening or causing physical harm, threatened or actual destruction of property, or wearing or possessing items depicting or implying hatred or prejudice of one of the characteristics stated above.

Sexual Harassment Prohibited (Title IX)

The School and District shall provide an educational environment free of verbal, physical, or other conduct or communications constituting harassment on the basis of sex as defined and otherwise prohibited by State and federal law.

A District employee, agent, or student violates this prohibition whenever that person engages in conduct on the basis of sex that causes another person to be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or otherwise be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity

operated by the District. Sex discrimination includes discrimination on the basis of sex, stereotypes, sex characteristics, pregnancy or related conditions, sexual orientation, and/or gender identity.

Teen Dating Violence Prohibited

Engaging in teen dating violence that takes place at school, on school property, at school-sponsored activities, or in vehicles used for school-provided transportation is prohibited. For purposes of this policy, the term *teen dating violence* occurs whenever a student who is 13 to 19 years of age uses or threatens to use physical, mental, or emotional abuse to control an individual in the dating relationship; or uses or threatens to use sexual violence in the dating relationship.

Making a Report or Complaint

Students are encouraged to promptly report claims or incidents of bullying, intimidation, harassment, sexual harassment, or any other prohibited conduct to the Nondiscrimination Coordinator, Building Principal, Assistant Building Principal, Dean of Students, a Complaint Manager, or any employee with whom the student is comfortable speaking. A student may choose to report to an employee of the student's same gender.

Non-Discrimination Coordinator:

Judith Nash, Ed.D., J.D.
420 N. Raynor Avenue
Joliet, IL 60435
jznash@joliet86.org
815-740-3196

Complaint Managers:

Name	John Armstrong, Ph.D., CETL	Sunni McNeal, Ed.D.
Address	420 North Raynor Avenue Joliet, IL 60435	420 North Raynor Avenue Joliet, IL 60435
Telephone	815-740-3196	815-740-3196
Name	Maria Arroyo, Ed.D.	Maria Burgos
Address	420 North Raynor Avenue Joliet, IL 60435	420 North Raynor Avenue Joliet, IL 60435
Telephone	815-740-3196	815-740-3196
Name	Dwayne Williams	
Address	420 North Raynor Avenue Joliet, IL 60435	
Telephone	815-740-3196	

Any person making a knowingly false accusation regarding prohibited conduct will likewise be subject to discipline.

Investigation Process

Reports and complaints of discrimination or harassment will be confidential to the greatest extent practicable, subject to the District's duty to investigate and maintain an educational environment that is productive, respectful, and free of unlawful discrimination, including harassment.

Enforcement

Any District employee who is determined, after an investigation, to have engaged in conduct prohibited by this policy will be subject to remedial action and/or disciplinary action, up to and including discharge.

Any District student who is determined, after an investigation, to have engaged in conduct prohibited by this policy will be subject to remedial action and/or disciplinary action, including but not limited to, suspension and expulsion, consistent with the student discipline information in this handbook.

Any third party who is determined, after an investigation, to have engaged in conduct prohibited by this policy will be addressed in accordance with the authority of the Board in the context of the relationship of the third party to the District, e.g., vendor, parent/guardian, invitee, etc. Any person making a knowingly false accusation regarding prohibited conduct will likewise be subject to remedial and/or disciplinary action.

Retaliation Prohibited

Retaliation against any person for bringing complaints, participating in the complaint process, or otherwise providing information about discrimination or harassment based on race, color, or national origin is prohibited.

Individuals should report allegations of retaliation to the Building Principal, an administrator, the Nondiscrimination Coordinator, and/or a Complaint Manager.

Section 6.50 Delegation of Authority

Each teacher, and any other school personnel when students are under his or her charge, is authorized to impose any disciplinary measure, other than suspension, expulsion, corporal punishment, or in-school suspension, that is appropriate and in accordance with the policies and rules on student discipline. Teachers, other licensed educational employees, and other persons providing a related service for or with respect to a student, may use reasonable force as needed to maintain safety for other students, school personnel, or other persons, or for the purpose of self-defense or defense of property. Teachers may temporarily remove students from a classroom for disruptive behavior.

The Superintendent, Building Principal, or Assistant Building Principal is authorized to impose the same disciplinary measures as teachers and may suspend students guilty of gross disobedience or misconduct from school (including all school functions) and from riding the school bus, up to 10 consecutive school days, provided the appropriate procedures are followed. The Board may suspend a student from riding the bus in excess of 10 school days for safety reasons.

Section 6.60 Open

Section 6.70 Access to Student Social Networking Passwords & Websites

School officials may conduct an investigation or require a student to cooperate in an investigation if there is specific information about activity on the student's account on a social networking website that violates a school disciplinary rule or policy. In the course of an investigation, the student may be required to share the content that is reported in order to allow school officials to make a factual determination.

Section 6.80 Student Use of Electronic Devices

Prohibited Electronic Devices

Students may not use or possess electronic signaling (paging) devices or two-way radios on school property at any time unless the Building Principal specifically grants permission. Students may not use or possess hand-held electronic games, CD players, MP3 players/iPods®.

Cell Phones and Other Electronic Devices

The possession and use of smartphones, cell phones, and other electronic devices, other than paging devices, two-way radios, hand-held electronic games, CD players, MP3 players/iPods® are subject to the following rules:

1. They must be kept out of sight and in an inconspicuous location, such as a backpack, purse, or locker.
2. They must be turned off during the regular school day unless the supervising teacher grants permission for them to be used or if needed during an emergency.
3. They may not be used in any manner that will cause disruption to the educational environment or will otherwise violate student conduct rules.

They may not be used for creating, sending, sharing, viewing, receiving, or possessing indecent visual depictions as defined in State law, i.e., sexting. Possession is prohibited regardless of whether the depiction violates State law. Any cellular phone or electronic device may be searched upon reasonable suspicion of sexting or other violations of policy. All sexting violations will require school administrators to follow student discipline policies in addition to contacting the police and reporting suspected child abuse or neglect when appropriate.

Electronic study aids may be used during the school day if:

1. Use of the device is provided in the student's IEP; or
2. Permission is received from the student's teacher.

The use of technology as educational material in a curriculum-based program is not a necessity but a privilege and a student does not have an absolute right to use his or her electronic device while at school. The use of personal technology at school must always follow the established rules for cell phones and other electronic devices at school.

Any prohibited electronic device or electronic device that is used inappropriately is subject to being confiscated from the student and released to the parent or guardian. The District is not responsible for the loss or theft of any electronic device brought to school.

SECTION 7 – INTERNET, TECHNOLOGY AND PUBLICATIONS

Section 7.10 Acceptable Use of the District’s Electronic Networks

All use of the District’s electronic networks shall be consistent with the District’s goal of promoting educational excellence by facilitating resource sharing, innovation, and communication. These procedures do not attempt to state all required or prohibited behavior by users. However, some specific examples are provided. By using the District’s Electronic Networks, the user acknowledges that they must comply with the provisions of these procedures. The failure of any user to follow these procedures will result in the loss of privileges, disciplinary action, and/or legal action.

Terms and Conditions

The term electronic networks includes all of the District’s technology resources, including, but not limited to:

1. The District’s local-area and wide-area networks, including wireless networks (Wi-Fi), District-provided Wi-Fi hotspots, and any District servers or other networking infrastructure;
2. Access to the Internet or other online resources via the District’s networking infrastructure or to any District-issued online account from any computer or device, regardless of location;
3. District-owned and District-issued computers, laptops, tablets, phones, or similar devices.

Acceptable Use

Access to the District’s electronic networks must be: (a) for the purpose of education or research, and be consistent with the District’s educational objectives, or (b) for legitimate business use.

Privileges

Use of the District’s electronic networks is a privilege, not a right, and inappropriate use may result in a cancellation of those privileges, disciplinary action, and/or appropriate legal action. The system administrator or Building Principal will make all decisions regarding whether or not a user has violated these procedures and may deny, revoke, or suspend access at any time. His or her decision is final.

Unacceptable Use

The user is responsible for his or her actions and activities involving the electronic networks. Some examples of unacceptable uses are:

- a. Using the electronic networks for any illegal activity, including violation of copyright or other intellectual property rights or contracts, or transmitting any material in violation of any State or federal law;
- b. Using the electronic networks to engage in conduct prohibited by board policy;
- c. Unauthorized downloading of software or other files, regardless of whether it is copyrighted or scanned for malware;
- d. Unauthorized use of personal removable media devices (such as flash or thumb drives);
- e. Downloading of copyrighted material for other than personal use;
- f. Using the electronic networks for private financial or commercial gain;
- g. Wastefully using resources, such as file space;

- h. Hacking or attempting to hack or gain unauthorized access to files, accounts, resources, or entities by any means;
- i. Invading the privacy of individuals, including the unauthorized disclosure, dissemination, and use of information about anyone that is of a personal nature, such as a photograph or video;
- j. Using another user's account or password;
- k. Disclosing any network or account password (including your own) to any other person, unless requested by the system administrator;
- l. Posting or sending material authored or created by another without his/her consent;
- m. Posting or sending anonymous messages;
- n. Creating or forwarding chain letters, spam, or other unsolicited messages;
- o. Using the electronic networks for commercial or private advertising;
- p. Accessing, sending, posting, publishing, or displaying any abusive, obscene, profane, sexual, threatening, harassing, illegal, or knowingly false material;
- q. Misrepresenting the user's identity or the identity of others; and
- r. Using the electronic networks while access privileges are suspended or revoked.

Network Etiquette

The user is expected to abide by the generally accepted rules of network etiquette. These include, but are not limited to, the following:

- a. Be polite. Do not become abusive in messages to others.
- b. Use appropriate language. Do not swear, or use vulgarities or any other inappropriate language.
- c. Do not reveal personal information, including the addresses or telephone numbers, of students or colleagues.
- d. Recognize that the District's electronic networks are not private. People who operate District technology have access to all email and other data. Messages or other evidence relating to or in support of illegal activities may be reported to the authorities.
- e. Do not use the networks in any way that would disrupt its use by other users.
- f. Consider all communications and information accessible via the electronic networks to be private property.

No Warranties

The District makes no warranties of any kind, whether expressed or implied, for the service it is providing. The District will not be responsible for any damages the user suffers. This includes loss of data resulting from delays, non-deliveries, missed-deliveries, or service interruptions caused by its negligence or the user's errors or omissions. Use of any information obtained via the Internet is at the user's own risk. The District specifically denies any responsibility for the accuracy or quality of information obtained through its services.

Indemnification

By using the District's electronic networks, the user agrees to indemnify the District for any losses, costs, or damages, including reasonable attorney fees, incurred by the District relating to, or arising out of, any violation of these procedures.

Security

Network security is a high priority. If the user can identify or suspects a security problem on the network, the user must promptly notify the system administrator or Building Principal. Do not demonstrate the problem to other users. Keep user account(s) and password(s) confidential. Do not use another individual's account. Attempts to log-on to the network as a system administrator will result in cancellation of user privileges. Any user identified as a security risk may be denied access to the networks.

Vandalism

Vandalism will result in cancellation of privileges and other disciplinary action. Vandalism is defined as any malicious attempt to harm or destroy data of another user, the Internet, or any other network. This includes, but is not limited to, the uploading or creation of malware, such as viruses and spyware.

Telephone Charges

The District assumes no responsibility for any unauthorized charges or fees, including telephone charges, texting or data use charges, long-distance charges, per-minute surcharges, and/or equipment or line costs.

Copyright Web Publishing Rules

Copyright law and District policy prohibit the re-publishing of text or graphics found on the Internet or on District websites or file servers/cloud storage without explicit written permission.

- a. For each re-publication (on a website or file server) of a graphic or a text file that was produced externally, there must be a notice at the bottom of the page crediting the original producer and noting how and when permission was granted. If possible, the notice should also include the web address of the original source.
- b. Students engaged in producing web pages must provide library media specialists with email or hard copy permissions before the web pages are published. Printed evidence of the status of public domain documents must be provided.
- c. The absence of a copyright notice may not be interpreted as permission to copy the materials. Only the copyright owner may provide the permission. The manager of the website displaying the material may not be considered a source of permission.
- d. The fair use rules governing student reports in classrooms are less stringent and permit limited use of graphics and text.
- e. Student work may only be published if there is written permission from both the parent/guardian and student.

Use of Email

The District's email system, and its constituent software, hardware, and data files, are owned and controlled by the District. The District provides email to aid students in fulfilling their duties and responsibilities, and as an education tool.

- a. The District reserves the right to access and disclose the contents of any account on its system, without prior notice or permission from the account's user. Unauthorized access by any student to an email account is strictly prohibited.
- b. Each person should use the same degree of care in drafting an email message as would be put into a written memorandum or document. Nothing should be

- transmitted in an email message that would be inappropriate in a letter or memorandum.
- c. Electronic messages transmitted via the District's Internet gateway carry with them an identification of the user's Internet domain. This domain is a registered name and identifies the author as being with the District. Great care should be taken, therefore, in the composition of such messages and how such messages might reflect on the name and reputation of the District. Users will be held personally responsible for the content of any and all email messages transmitted to external recipients.
 - d. Any message received from an unknown sender via the Internet, such as spam or potential phishing emails, should either be immediately deleted or forwarded to the system administrator. Downloading any file attached to any Internet-based message is prohibited unless the user is certain of that message's authenticity and the nature of the file so transmitted.
 - e. Use of the District's email system constitutes consent to these regulations.

Internet Safety

Internet access is limited to only those acceptable uses as detailed in these procedures. Internet safety is supported if users will not engage in unacceptable uses, as detailed in these procedures, and otherwise follow these procedures. Staff members will supervise students while students are using District Internet access to ensure that the students abide by the Terms and Conditions for Internet access contained in these procedures.

Each District computer with Internet access has a filtering device that blocks entry to visual depictions that are: (1) obscene, (2) pornographic, or (3) harmful or inappropriate for students, as defined by the Children's Internet Protection Act and as determined by the Superintendent or designee.

The system administrator and Building Principals shall monitor student Internet access.

Section 7.20 Non-School-Sponsored Publications and Web Sites Accessed or Distributed at School

Creating, distributing, and/or accessing non-school sponsored publications shall occur at a time and place and in a manner that will not cause disruption, be coercive, or result in the perception that the distribution or the publication is endorsed by the School District.

A student or group of students seeking to distribute more than 10 copies of the same material on one or more days to students must comply with the following guidelines:

1. The student(s) must notify the Building Principal of the intent to distribute, in writing, at least 24 hours before distributing the material. No prior approval of the material is required.
2. The material may be distributed at times and locations selected by the Building Principal, e.g., before the beginning or ending of classes at a central location inside the building.
3. The Building Principal may impose additional requirements whenever necessary to prevent disruption, congestion, or the perception that the material is school-endorsed.
4. Distribution must be done in an orderly and peaceful manner, and may not be coercive.

5. The distribution must be conducted in a manner that does not cause additional work for school personnel. Students who distribute material are responsible for cleaning up any materials left on school grounds.
6. Students are prohibited from creating, distributing, and/or accessing at school any publication that:
 - a. Will cause a material and substantial disruption of the proper and orderly operation and discipline of the school or school activities;
 - b. Violates the rights of others, including but not limited to, material that is libelous, slanderous or obscene, invades the privacy of others, or infringes on a copyright;
 - c. Is socially inappropriate or inappropriate due to the students' maturity level, including but not limited to, material that is obscene, pornographic, or pervasively lewd and vulgar, contains indecent and vulgar language, or sexting as defined by School Board policy and Student Handbook;
 - d. Is reasonably viewed as promoting illegal drug use;
 - e. Is distributed in kindergarten through eighth grade and is primarily prepared by non-students, unless it is being used for school purposes. However, material from outside sources or the citation to such sources may be allowed, as long as the material to be distributed or accessed is primarily prepared by students; or
 - f. Incites students to violate any Board policy.
7. A student may use the School District's Uniform Grievance Procedure to resolve a complaint.
8. Whenever these guidelines require written notification, the appropriate administrator may assist the student in preparing such notification.

A student or group of students seeking to distribute 10 or fewer copies of the same publication on one or more days to students must distribute such material at times and places and in a manner that will not cause substantial disruption of the proper and orderly operation and discipline of the school or school activities and in compliance with paragraphs 4, 5, 6, and 7.

Section 7.25 Open

Section 7.27 Access to Non-School Sponsored Publications

Non-School Sponsored Publications Accessed or Distributed On Campus

Creating, distributing, and/or accessing non-school sponsored publications shall occur at a time and place and in a manner that will not cause disruption, be coercive, or result in the perception that the distribution or the publication is endorsed by the School District.

Students are prohibited from creating, distributing, and/or accessing at school any publication that:

1. Will cause a material and substantial disruption of the proper and orderly operation and discipline of the school or school activities;
2. Violates the rights of others, including but not limited to material that is libelous, slanderous or obscene, invades the privacy of others, or infringes on a copyright;
3. Is socially inappropriate or inappropriate due to maturity level of the students, including but not limited to material that is obscene, pornographic, or pervasively lewd and vulgar, contains indecent and vulgar language, or *sexting* as defined by School Board policy and the Student Handbook;
4. Is reasonably viewed as promoting illegal drug use;

5. Is distributed in kindergarten through eighth grade and is primarily prepared by non-students, unless it is being used for school purposes. However, material from outside sources or the citation to such sources may be allowed, as long as the material to be distributed or accessed is primarily prepared by students; or
6. Incites students to violate any Board policies.

Accessing or distributing *on-campus* includes accessing or distributing on school property or at school-related activities. A student engages in gross disobedience and misconduct and may be disciplined for: (1) accessing or distributing forbidden material, or (2) for writing, creating, or publishing such material intending for it to be accessed or distributed at school.

Non-School Sponsored Publications Accessed or Distributed Off-Campus

A student engages in gross disobedience and misconduct and may be disciplined for creating and/or distributing a publication that: (1) causes a substantial disruption or a foreseeable risk of a substantial disruption to school operations, or (2) interferes with the rights of other students or staff members.

Section 7.30 Open

Section 7.40 Student Data Privacy; Notice to Parents About Educational Technology

Vendors

Annual Notice to Parents about Educational Technology Vendors Under the Student Online Personal Protection Act

School Districts throughout the State of Illinois contract with different educational technology vendors for beneficial K-12 purposes such as providing personalized learning and innovative educational technologies, and increasing efficiency in school operations.

Under Illinois' Student Online Personal Protection Act, or SOPPA (105 ILCS 85/), educational technology vendors and other entities that operate Internet websites, online services, online applications, or mobile applications that are designed, marketed, and primarily used for K-12 school purposes are referred to in SOPPA as operators. SOPPA is intended to ensure that student data collected by operators is protected, and it requires those vendors, as well as school Districts and the Ill. State Board of Education, to take a number of actions to protect online student data.

Depending upon the particular educational technology being used, our District may need to collect different types of student data, which is then shared with educational technology vendors through their online sites, services, and/or applications. Under SOPPA, educational technology vendors are prohibited from selling or renting a student's information or from engaging in targeted advertising using a student's information. Such vendors may only disclose student data for K-12 school purposes and other limited purposes permitted under the law.

In general terms, the types of student data that may be collected and shared include personally identifiable information (PII) about students or information that can be linked to PII about students, such as:

- Basic identifying information, including student or parent/guardian name and student or parent/guardian contact information, username/password, student ID number

- Demographic information
- Enrollment information
- Assessment data, grades, and transcripts
- Attendance and class schedule
- Academic/extracurricular activities
- Special indicators (e.g., disability information, English language learner, free/reduced meals or homeless/foster care status)
- Conduct/behavioral data
- Health information
- Food purchases
- Transportation information
- In-application performance data
- Student-generated work
- Online communications
- Application metadata and application use statistics
- Permanent and temporary school student record information

Operators may collect and use student data only for K-12 purposes, which are purposes that aid in the administration of school activities, such as:

- Instruction in the classroom or at home (including remote learning)
- Administrative activities
- Collaboration between students, school personnel, and/or parents/guardians
- Other activities that are for the use and benefit of the school District

Section 7.50 Use of Artificial Intelligence

“Artificial intelligence” or “AI” is intelligence demonstrated by computers, as opposed to human intelligence. "Intelligence" encompasses the ability to learn, reason, generalize, and infer meaning. Examples of AI technology include ChatGPT and other chatbots and large language models.

AI is not a substitute for schoolwork that requires original thought. Students may not claim AI generated content as their own work. The use of AI to take tests, complete assignments, create multimedia projects, write papers, or complete schoolwork without permission of a teacher or administrator is strictly prohibited. The use of AI for these purposes constitutes cheating or plagiarism.

In certain situations, AI may be used as a learning tool or a study aid. Students who wish to use AI for legitimate educational purposes must have permission from a teacher or an administrator. Students may use AI as authorized in their Individualized Education Program (IEP).

Students may not use AI, including AI image or voice generator technology, to violate school rules or school district policies.

In order to ensure academic integrity, tests, assignments, projects, papers, and other schoolwork may be checked by AI content detectors and/or plagiarism recognition software.

SECTION 8 - SEARCH AND SEIZURE

Section 8.10 Search and Seizure

In order to maintain order safety and security in the schools, school authorities are authorized to conduct reasonable searches of school property and equipment, as well as of students and their personal effects. "School authorities" includes school liaison police officers.

School Property and Equipment, as well as Personal Effects Left There by Students

School authorities may inspect and search school property and equipment owned or controlled by the school (such as lockers, desks, and parking lots), as well as personal effects left there by a student, without notice to or the consent of the student. Students have no reasonable expectation of privacy in these places or areas or in their personal effects left there.

The Superintendent may request the assistance of law enforcement officials to conduct inspections and searches of lockers, desks, parking lots, and other school property and equipment for illegal drugs, weapons, or other illegal or dangerous substances or materials, including searches conducted through the use of specially trained dogs.

Students Searches

School authorities may search a student and/or the student's personal effects in the student's possession (such as purses, wallets, knapsacks, book bags, lunch boxes, etc.) when there is a reasonable ground for suspecting that the search will produce evidence the particular student has violated or is violating either the law or the school or District's student rules and policies. The search will be conducted in a manner that is reasonably related to its objective of the search and not excessively intrusive in light of the student's age and sex, and the nature of the infraction.

When feasible, the search should be conducted as follows:

- a. Outside the view of others, including students;
- b. In the presence of a school administrator or adult witness; and
- c. By a certificated employee or police officer of the same sex as the student.

School officials may require a student to cooperate in an investigation if there is specific information about activity on the student's account on a social networking website that violates the school's disciplinary rules or school District policy. In the course of the investigation, the student may be required to share the content that is reported in order for the school to make a factual determination. School officials may not request or require a student or his or her parent/guardian to provide a password or other related account information to gain access to the student's account or profile on a social networking website.

Seizure of Property

If a search produces evidence that the student has violated or is violating either the law or the school or District's policies or rules, evidence may be seized and impounded by school authorities, and disciplinary action may be taken. When appropriate, evidence may be transferred to law enforcement authorities.

Questioning of Students Suspected of Committing Criminal Activity

Before a law enforcement officer, school resource officer, or other school security person detains and questions on school grounds a student under 18 years of age who is suspected of committing a criminal act, the building principal or designee will: (a) Notify or attempt to notify the student's parent/guardian and document the time and manner in writing; (b) Make reasonable efforts to ensure the student's parent/guardian is present during questioning or, if they are not present, ensure that a school employee (including, but not limited to, a social worker, psychologist, nurse, guidance counselor, or any other mental health professional) is present during the questioning; and (c) If practicable, make reasonable efforts to ensure that a law enforcement officer trained in promoting safe interactions and communications with youth is present during the questioning.

SECTION 9 - EXTRACURRICULAR AND ATHLETIC ACTIVITIES

Section 9.10 Extracurricular Activities and Eligibility

The District 86 Board of School Inspectors encourages students to broaden their skills, knowledge and citizenship by participating in school-sponsored clubs, councils, interscholastic and intramural athletics, theatrical productions, and other activities.

In order to participate in such school activities, however, each student must maintain academic eligibility. If the student does not maintain academic eligibility, he/she will be barred from participating.

Requirements for Participation in Extracurricular Athletic Activities

Student participation in school-sponsored extracurricular athletic activities is contingent upon the following:

1. A current certificate of physical fitness issued by a licensed physician, an advanced practice nurse or physician assistant. The preferred certificate of physical fitness is the Illinois Elementary School Association's "Pre-Participation Physical Examination Form."
2. A permission slip to participate in the specific athletic activity signed by the student's parent/guardian.
3. Proof the student is covered by medical insurance.
4. Signed documentation agreeing to comply with the School District's policies and procedures on student athletic concussions and head injuries.
5. If implemented, a signed agreement by the student not to ingest or otherwise use any drugs on the IHSA's most current banned substance list (without a written prescription and medical documentation provided by a licensed physician who performed an evaluation for a legitimate medical condition) and a signed agreement by the student and the student's parent/guardian agreeing to IHSA's Performance-Enhancing Substance Testing Program; and,
6. If implemented, a signed agreement by the student and the student's parent/guardian authorizing compliance with the School District's Extracurricular Drug and Alcohol Testing Policy.

Illinois Elementary School Association

Eligibility for most athletics is also governed by the rules of the Illinois Elementary School Association and, if applicable, these rules will apply in addition to this Extracurricular and Athletic

Activities Code of Conduct. In the case of a conflict between IESA and this Code, the most stringent rule will be enforced.

Academic Eligibility

Selection of members or participants in extracurricular and athletic activities is at the discretion of the designated teachers, sponsors, and coaches.

In order to be eligible to participate in extracurricular and athletic activities, a student must maintain their academic eligibility. Any student failing to meet academic requirements will be suspended from the sport or activity until all academic requirements are met.

Absence from School on Day of Extracurricular or Athletic Activity

A student must be in attendance for ½ of the school day to be eligible for any extracurricular or athletic activity on that day unless the absence has been approved in writing by the principal. Exceptions may be made by the designated teacher, sponsor or coach for justifiable reasons, including: 1) a pre-arranged medical absence; 2) a death in the student's family; or 3) a religious ceremony or event.

A student who has been suspended from school is also suspended from participation in all extracurricular and athletic activities for the duration of the suspension.

A student who is absent from school on a Friday before a Saturday event may be withheld from Saturday extracurricular or athletic activities at the sole discretion of the designated teacher, sponsor or coach.

Travel

All students must travel to extracurricular and athletic activities and return home from such activities with his or her team by use of school approved transportation. A written waiver of this rule may be issued by the teacher, sponsor or coach in charge of the extracurricular or athletic activity upon advance written request of a student's parent/guardian and provided the parent/guardian appears and accepts custody of the student. Oral requests will not be honored and oral permissions are not valid.

Code of Conduct

This Code of Conduct applies to all extracurricular and athletic activities and is enforced at all times, including after school, on days when school is not in session, and whether on or off school property.

This Code does not contain a complete list of inappropriate behaviors. Violations will be treated cumulatively, with disciplinary penalties increasing with subsequent violations. A student may be excluded from extracurricular or athletic activities while the school is conducting an investigation into the student's conduct.

The student shall not:

1. Violate the school rules and School District policies on student discipline including policies and procedures on student behavior;
2. Ingest or otherwise use, possess, buy, sell, offer to sell, barter, or distribute a beverage containing alcohol (except for religious purposes);

3. Ingest or otherwise use possess, buy, sell, offer to sell, barter, or distribute tobacco or nicotine in any form;
4. Ingest or otherwise use, possess, buy, sell, offer to sell, barter, or distribute any product composed purely of caffeine in a loose powdered form or any illegal substance (including mood-altering and performance enhancing drugs or chemicals) or paraphernalia;
5. Use, possess, buy, sell, offer to sell, barter, or distribute any object that is or could be considered a weapon or any item that is a look alike weapon. This prohibition does not prohibit legal use of weapons in cooking and in athletics, such as archery, martial arts practice, target shooting, hunting, and skeet;
6. Attend a party or other gathering and/or ride in a vehicle where alcoholic beverages and/or controlled substances are being consumed by minors;
7. Act in an unsportsmanlike manner;
8. Violate any criminal law, including but not limited to, assault, battery, arson, theft, gambling, eavesdropping, vandalism and reckless driving;
9. Haze or bully other students;
10. Violate the written rules for the extracurricular or athletic activity;
11. Behave in a manner that disrupts or adversely affects the group or school;
12. Be insubordinate or disrespectful toward the activity's sponsors or team's coaching staff;
or
13. Falsify any information contained on any permit or permission form required by the extracurricular or athletic activity.

Hazing is any humiliating or dangerous activity expected of a student to belong to a team or group, regardless of his or her willingness to participate. *Bullying* includes cyber-bullying (bullying through the use of technology or any electronic communication) and means any physical or verbal act or conduct, including communications made in writing or electronically, directed toward a student or students that has or can be reasonably predicted to have the effect of one or more of the following:

1. Placing the student or students in reasonable fear of harm to the student's or students' person or property;
2. Causing a detrimental effect on the student's or students' physical or mental health;
3. Interfering with the student's or students' academic performance; or
4. Interfering with the student's or students' ability to participate in or benefit from the services, activities, or privileges provided by a school.

Examples of prohibited conduct include name-calling, using derogatory slurs, stalking, sexual violence, causing psychological harm, threatening or causing physical harm, threatened or actual destruction of property, or wearing or possessing items depicting or implying hatred or prejudice of one of the characteristics stated above.

Due Process Procedures

Students who are accused of violating the Code of Conduct are entitled to the following due process:

1. The student should be advised of the disciplinary infraction with which he or she is being charged.
2. The student shall be entitled to a hearing before an appropriate administrator.
3. The student will be able to respond to any charges leveled against him or her.

4. The student may provide any additional information he or she wishes for the administrator to consider.
5. The administrator, with the help of other staff members if needed, may interview material witnesses or others with evidence concerning the case.
6. If the administrator finds, after reviewing the evidence, that the violation occurred, he or she will impose sanctions on the student, as follows:
 - a. Sanctions for violations other than drug and alcohol will be based on the nature of the offense and the number of offenses, and may include suspension from all extracurricular or athletic activities for one of the time periods described below:
 - A specified period of time or percentage of performances, activities or competitions;
 - The remainder of the season or for the next season; or
 - The remainder of the student's school career.
 - b. Sanctions for alcohol and other drug violations, including tobacco, nicotine in any form, mood-altering or performance enhancing drugs, products composed purely of caffeine in a loose powdered form, paraphernalia or any other illegal substance, will be based on the following:

First violation

 - Use, ingestion, possession, buying, selling, offering to sell, bartering, or distributing: A suspension of one third of the total number of performances, activities, or competitions or the remainder of the season, whichever is shorter. This penalty will be reduced if the student is enrolled in a school-approved alcohol or drug counseling program.
 - Attendance at a party or riding in a vehicle where alcoholic beverages and/or controlled substances are being consumed by minors: A suspension of one sixth of the total number of performances, activities or competitions, or the remainder of the season, whichever is shorter.
 - The student will be required to practice with the group, regardless of the violation (unless suspended or expelled from school).

Second violation

 - Use, ingestion, possession, buying, selling, offering to sell, bartering, or distributing: A suspension of 12 weeks or 1 season, including suspension from all performances, activities, or competitions during this period. To participate again in any extracurricular or athletic activity, the student must successfully participate in and complete a school-approved alcohol or drug counseling program and follow all recommendations from that program.
 - Attendance at a party or riding in a vehicle where alcoholic beverages and/or controlled substances are being consumed by minors: A suspension of one third of the season and all extracurricular group performances, activities, or competitions during this period.
 - The student may be required to practice with the group (unless suspended or expelled from school).

Third violation

 - Use, ingestion, possession, buying, selling, offering to sell, bartering, or distributing: A suspension from extracurricular or athletic activities for the remainder of the student's school career.

- Attendance at a party or riding in a vehicle where alcoholic beverages and/or controlled substances are being consumed by minors: A suspension of one calendar year from the date of the suspension, including all extracurricular and athletic activities during this period.
7. The appropriate administrator will make a written report of his or her decision and rationale. The student may appeal the decision to the Principal or Principal's designee.

All students remain subject to all the School District's policies and the school's student/parent handbook.

Modification of Athletic or Team Uniform

Students may modify their athletic or team uniform for the purpose of modesty in clothing or attire that is in accordance with the requirements of the student's religion or the student's cultural values or modesty preferences.

Section 9.20 Open

Section 9.30 Student Athlete Concussions and Head Injuries

The District has protocols in place that implement the Youth Sports Concussion Safety Act. These protocols are in place to manage concussions and head injuries suffered by students. Some quick facts regarding the District's policy and protocols are listed below.

- A. The District has a Concussion Oversight Team that based on national standards has developed:
 - 1. A return-to-play protocol governing a student's return to interscholastic athletics practice or competition following a force of impact believed to have caused a concussion.
 - 2. A return-to-learn protocol governing a student's return to the classroom following a force of impact believed to have caused a concussion.
- B. Each student and the student's parent/guardian shall be required to sign a concussion information receipt form each school year before participating in an interscholastic athletic activity. Student athletes and their parents/guardians will be provided with educational materials from the Illinois High School Association regarding the nature and risk of concussions and head injuries, including the risks inherent in continuing to play after a concussion or head injury. Student athletes and their parents/guardians will be informed about the District's policy in the Agreement to Participate or other written instrument that a student athlete and his or her parent/guardian must sign before the student is allowed to participate in a practice or interscholastic competition.
- C. In the event a student athlete exhibits concussion symptoms:
 - 1. A student athlete who exhibits signs, symptoms, or behaviors consistent with a concussion in a practice or game shall be removed from participation or competition at that time.
 - 2. A student athlete who has been removed from an interscholastic contest for a possible concussion or head injury may not return to that contest unless cleared to do so by a physician licensed to practice medicine in all its branches in Illinois.

3. If not cleared to return to that contest, a student athlete may not return to play or practice until the student athlete has provided his or her school with written clearance from a physician licensed to practice medicine in all its branches in Illinois.
- D. A student shall be removed from an interscholastic athletic practice or competition immediately if any of the following individuals believes that the student sustained a concussion during the practice and/or competition: a coach, a physician, a game official, an athletic trainer, the student's parent/guardian, the student, or any other person deemed appropriate under the return-to-play protocol.
- E. A student who was removed from interscholastic athletic practice or competition shall be allowed to return only after all statutory prerequisites are completed, including without limitation, the return-to-play and return-to-learn protocols developed by the Concussion Oversight Team. An athletic team coach or assistant coach may not authorize a student's return-to-play or return-to-learn.
- F. All student athletes are required to view the Illinois High School Association's video about concussions.

SECTION 10 - SPECIAL EDUCATION

Section 10.10 Education of Children with Disabilities

Special Education- FAPE - 504 Plans

Joliet Public Schools District 86 will provide a free appropriate public education (FAPE) in the least restrictive environment and necessary related services to all children with disabilities enrolled in the District as required by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and implementing provisions of the Illinois School Code, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and the Americans with Disabilities Act. The term "children with disabilities," as used in this policy, means children between the ages of 3 and 21 (inclusive) for whom it is determined, through definitions and procedures described in the Illinois State Board of Education's Special Education rules, that special education services are needed.

It is the intent of the District to ensure that students who are disabled within the definition of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 are identified, evaluated and provided with appropriate educational services. Students may be disabled within the meaning of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act even though they do not require services pursuant to IDEA. Individuals with disabilities will be provided an opportunity to participate in all school-sponsored services, programs, or activities.

For students eligible for services under IDEA, the District will follow procedures for identification, evaluation, placement, and delivery of services to children with disabilities provided in the Illinois State Board of Education's Special Education Rules. For those students who are not eligible for services under IDEA, but, because of disability as defined by Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, need or are believed to need special instruction or related services, the District will establish and implement a system of procedural safeguards. The safeguards will cover students' identification, evaluation, and educational placement. Also, this system will include notice, an opportunity for the student's parents/guardians to examine relevant records, an impartial hearing with opportunity for participation by the student's parents/guardians and representation by counsel, and a review procedure.

If necessary, students may be placed in non-public special education programs or education facilities.

Special Instruction

Special services may be provided to those students who require them as a supplement to the regular education program. Services may be available in such areas as speech/language, resource services, occupational therapy, physical therapy, adapted physical education, social work/counseling, nursing, etc.

Understanding RtI/MTSS

Response to Intervention (RtI), also known as a multi-tiered system of supports (MTSS), is an approach for redesigning and establishing teaching and learning environments that are effective, efficient, relevant, and durable for all students, families, and educators. RtI/MTSS involves an education process that matches instructional and intervention strategies and supports to a student's needs in an informed, ongoing approach for planning, implementing, and evaluating the effectiveness of instruction, curricular supports, and interventions. RtI/MTSS is also a process designed to help schools focus on and provide high-quality instruction and interventions to students who may be struggling with learning. Use of an RtI/MTSS process can help avoid a "wait to fail" situation because students get help promptly within the general education environment.

RtI/MTSS has three important parts:

1. A multi-tiered system of curriculum, instruction, assessment, and interventions;
2. Using a problem solving method for decision making at each tier; and
3. Using data to inform instruction at each tier.

Child Find

It is the policy of the Board of School Inspectors not to discriminate against any otherwise qualified individual with a disability, solely by reason of his/her disability, in admission or access to, or treatment or employment in, any program or activity. It is the intent of the District to ensure that students who are disabled within the definition of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 or the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) are identified, evaluated and provided with appropriate educational services.

Child Find Process

Every building in the District follows a common child find process if a staff member or parent has a concern regarding their child and/or suspicion of an educationally related problem. Parents are encouraged to contact the appropriate building personnel. Submitting these concerns in writing may be beneficial to the decision making process. A copy of "Explanation of Procedural Safeguards Available to Parents of Students with Disabilities" can be obtained by calling the Student Services Department at the District Office.

Preschool screenings for three- and four-year old children suspected of having a disability are conducted throughout the school year. Parents of a preschool-aged child who suspect a disability should contact the District Office.

Vision and Hearing Screening

Each year vision screenings are conducted for preschool, kindergarten, second and eighth grade students. Hearing screenings are completed on all preschool, kindergarten, first, second and third

grade students. All students with special needs, those who are new to the District, those with specific parent or teacher concerns, and children with known hearing losses are screened yearly.

Early Childhood Screening

The District offers screening and evaluations for children 3 to 5 years of age and for school-aged students in grades K-8. The children between the ages of 3 and 5 will be screened in the areas of motor, communications, social development and personal skills. In addition, a Speech Pathologist conducts speech screening during this time. The children will also have their hearing and vision tested by a State certified technician. After the screening is completed, the results are shared with the parents. If you suspect your child may have a disability which would require special services, please contact the Student Services Department at 815-740-3196.

Section 10.20 Discipline of Students with Disabilities

Behavioral Interventions

Behavioral interventions shall be used with students with disabilities to promote and strengthen desirable behaviors and reduce identified inappropriate behaviors. The School Board will establish and maintain a committee to develop, implement, and monitor procedures on the use of behavioral interventions for children with disabilities.

Discipline of Special Education Students

The District shall comply with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004 and the Illinois State Board of Education's Special Education rules when disciplining special education students. No special education student shall be expelled if the student's particular act of gross disobedience or misconduct is a manifestation of his or her disability.

Isolated Time Out, Time Out, and Physical Restraint

Isolated time out, time out, and physical restraint shall only be used if the student's behavior presents an imminent danger of serious physical harm to the student or others, and other less restrictive and intrusive measures were tried and proven ineffective in stopping it. The School may not use isolated time out, time out, or physical restraint as discipline or punishment, convenience for staff, retaliation, as a substitute for appropriate educational or behavioral support, a routine safety matter, or to prevent property damage in the absence of imminent danger of serious physical harm to the student or others. The use of prone restraint is prohibited.

Section 10.30 Exemption from Physical Education Requirement

A student who is eligible for special education may be excused from physical education courses in either of the following situations:

1. He or she (a) is in grades 3-12, (b) his or her IEP requires that special education support and services be provided during physical education time, and (c) the parent/guardian agrees or the IEP team makes the determination; or
2. He or she (a) has an IEP, (b) is participating in an adaptive athletic program outside of the school setting, and (c) the parent/guardian documents the student's participation as required by the Superintendent or designee.

A student requiring adapted physical education will receive that service in accordance with the student's Individualized Education Program.

Section 10.40 Open

Section 10.50 Request to Access Classroom or Personnel for Special Education Evaluation or Observation

The parent/guardian of a student receiving special education services, or being evaluated for eligibility, is afforded reasonable access to educational facilities, personnel, classrooms, and buildings. This same right of access is afforded to an independent educational evaluator or a qualified professional retained by or on behalf of a parent or child.

For further information, please contact the building principal.

Section 10.60 Related Service Logs

For a child with an Individualized Education Program (IEP), the school District must create related service logs that record the type of related services administered under the child's IEP and the minutes of each type of related service that has been administered. The school will provide a child's parent/guardian a copy of the related service log at the annual review of the child's IEP and at any other time upon request.

Section 10.70 PUNS (Prioritization of Urgency of Need for Services) – Database Information for Students and Parents or Guardians

The Illinois Department of Human Services (IDHS) maintains a statewide database known as the PUNS database (Prioritization of Urgency of Need for Services) that records information about individuals with intellectual disabilities or developmental disabilities who are potentially in need of services.

IDHS uses the data on PUNS to select individuals for services as funding becomes available, to develop proposals and materials for budgeting, and to plan for future needs. The PUNS database is available for children with intellectual disabilities or developmental disabilities with unmet service needs.

Registration to be included on the PUNS database is the first step toward receiving developmental disabilities services in this State. A child who is not on the PUNS database will not be in the queue for State developmental disabilities services.

For more information and to sign up for PUNS, see the Illinois Department of Human Services PUNS information page at <https://www.dhs.state.il.us/page.aspx?item=41131>.

You may also contact the following District employee for assistance:

Sunni McNeal, Ed.D.
420 N. Raynor Ave., Joliet, IL 60435
815-740-3196

SECTION 11 – STUDENT PRIVACY PROTECTIONS

Section 11.10 Surveys

In General

All surveys requesting personal information from students, as well as any other instrument used to collect personal information from students, must advance or relate to the District's educational objectives, or assist students' career choices. This applies to all surveys, regardless of whether the student answering the questions can be identified or who created the survey.

Surveys by Third Parties

Before a school official or staff member administers or distributes a survey or evaluation created by a third party to a student, the student's parent/guardian may inspect the survey or evaluation, upon their request and within a reasonable time of their request. This applies to every survey: (1) that is created by a person or entity other than a District official, staff member, or student, (2) regardless of whether the student answering the questions can be identified, and (3) regardless of the subject matter of the questions.

Parents who object to the disclosure of information concerning their child to a third party may do so in writing to the building principal.

Surveys Requesting Certain Personal Information

School officials and staff members will not request, nor disclose, the identity of any student who completes any survey or evaluation (created by any person or entity, including the school or District) containing one or more of the following items:

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 family;
3. Sexual behavior or attitudes;
4. Illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating or demeaning behavior;
5. Critical appraisals of other individuals with whom students have 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 student or the student's parent/guardian; or
8. Income (other than as required by law to determine eligibility for participation in a program or for receiving financial assistance under such a program).

The District will obtain prior written consent from parents before students are required to submit to any such survey funded in whole or in part by U.S. Department of Education funds. For any such survey not funded in whole or in part by U.S. Department of Education funds, parents will receive prior notice of the survey and an opportunity to opt their children out of participating, in accordance with the procedures set forth below.

When a student does participate in such a survey, his/her privacy will be protected through procedures designed to insure that his or her identity will not be disclosed.

Survey Opt-Out/Inspection Request Procedures

The student's parent/guardian may: (1) inspect the survey or evaluation upon, and within a reasonable time of, their request, and/or (2) refuse to allow their child to participate in the survey. The school will not penalize any student whose parent/guardian exercised this option.

Parents who wish to opt their children out of participation in such surveys identified herein must submit a signed and dated written opt-out notice to the building principal at least two (2) school days prior to the activity date. The notice must identify the activity and state that the parent elects not to allow his/her child to participate in the activity. The school will not penalize any student whose parent/guardian exercised this option.

Prohibition on Selling or Marketing Students' Personal Information

No school official or staff member shall market or sell personal information concerning students (or otherwise provide that information to others for that purpose). The term personal information means individually identifiable information including: (1) a student or parent's first and last name, (2) a home or other physical address (including street name and the name of the city or town), (3) a telephone number, (4) a Social Security identification number, or (5) driver's license number or State identification card.

Unless otherwise prohibited by law, the above paragraph does not apply: (1) if the student's parent(s)/guardian(s) have consented; or (2) to the collection, disclosure, or use of personal information collected from students for the exclusive purpose of developing, evaluating or providing educational products or services for, or to, students or educational institutions, such as the following:

1. College or other postsecondary education recruitment, or military recruitment.
2. Book clubs, magazines, and programs providing access to low-cost literary products.
3. Curriculum and instructional materials used by elementary schools and secondary schools.
4. Tests and assessments to provide cognitive, evaluative, diagnostic, clinical, aptitude, or achievement information about students (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.
5. The sale by students of products or services to raise funds for school-related or education-related activities.
6. Student recognition programs.

Under no circumstances may a school official or staff member provide a student's personal information to a business organization or financial institution that issues credit or debit cards.

A parent/guardian who desires to opt their child out of participation in activities provided herein or who desires a copy or access to a survey or any other material described herein may contact the Building Principal.

A complete copy of the District's Student and Family Privacy Rights policy may be obtained from the Superintendent's office or accessed on the District's website.

Section 11.20 Student Records

A school student record is any writing or other recorded information concerning a student and by which a student may be identified individually that is maintained by a school or at its direction or by a school employee, regardless of how or where the information is stored, except for certain records kept in a staff member's sole possession; records maintained by law enforcement officers working in the school; video and other electronic recordings (including electronic recordings made on school busses) that are created in part for law enforcement, security, or safety reasons or purposes, though such electronic recordings may become a student record if the content is used for disciplinary or special education purposes regarding a particular student.

The District maintains two types of school records for each student: the permanent record and the temporary record.

The permanent record includes:

1. Basic identifying information, including the student's name and address, birth date and place, gender, and the names and addresses of the student's parent(s)/guardian(s);
2. Evidence required by the Missing Children's Records Act. 325 ILCS 50/5(b)(1);
3. Academic transcripts, including grades, class rank, graduation date, grade level achieved, scores on college entrance examinations, and the unique student identifier assigned and used by the Illinois State Board of Education's Student Information System;
4. Attendance record;
5. Health record defined by the Illinois State Board of Education as "medical documentation necessary for enrollment and proof of dental examinations, as may be required under Section 27-8.1 of the School Code; and,
6. Record of release of permanent record information that includes each of the following:
 - a. The nature and substance of the information released;
 - b. The name and signature of the official records custodian releasing such information;
 - c. The name and capacity of the requesting person and the purpose for the request;
 - d. The date of release; and,
 - e. A copy of any consent to a release.

The permanent record may include:

1. Honors and awards received, and
2. Information concerning participation in school-sponsored activities or athletics, or offices held in school-sponsored organizations.

All information not required to be kept in the student permanent record is kept in the student temporary record and must include:

1. Record of release of temporary record information that includes the same information as listed above for the record of release of permanent records;
2. Scores received on the State assessment tests administered in the elementary grade levels (that is, kindergarten through grade 8);

3. Completed home language survey;
4. Information regarding serious disciplinary infractions (that is, those involving drugs, weapons, or bodily harm to another) that resulted in expulsion, suspension, or the imposition of punishment or sanction;
5. Any final finding report received from a Child Protective Service Unit provided to the school under the Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act; no report other than what is required under Section 8.6 of that Act shall be placed in the student record;
6. Health-related information, defined by the Illinois State Board of Education as “current documentation of a student's health information, not otherwise governed by the Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities Confidentiality Act or other privacy laws, which includes identifying information, health history, results of mandated testing and screenings, medication dispensation records and logs (e.g., glucose readings), long-term medications administered during school hours, and other health-related information that is relevant to school participation, e.g., nursing services plan, failed screenings, yearly sports physical exams, interim health histories for sports”;
7. Accident report, defined by the Illinois State Board of Education as “documentation of any reportable student accident that results in an injury to a student, occurring on the way to or from school or on school grounds, at a school athletic event or when a student is participating in a school program or school-sponsored activity or on a school bus and that is severe enough to cause the student not to be in attendance for one-half day or more or requires medical treatment other than first aid. The accident report shall include identifying information, nature of injury, days lost, cause of injury, location of accident, medical treatment given to the student at the time of the accident, or whether the school nurse has referred the student for a medical evaluation, regardless of whether the parent, guardian or student (if 18 years or older) or an unaccompanied homeless youth ... has followed through on that request”;
8. Any documentation of a student’s transfer, including records indicating the school or school District to which the student transferred;
9. Completed course substitution form for any student who, when under the age of 18, is enrolled in vocational and technical course as a substitute for a high school or graduation requirement;
10. Information contained in related service logs maintained by the District for a student with an individualized education program under 105 ILCS 5/14-8.02f(d). 105 ILCS 10/2(f), amended by P.A. 101-515.

The temporary record may include:

1. Family background information;
2. Intelligence test scores, group and individual;
3. Aptitude test scores;
4. Reports of psychological evaluations, including information on intelligence, personality and academic information obtained through test administration, observation, or interviews;
5. Elementary and secondary achievement level test results;
6. Participation in extracurricular activities, including any offices held in school-sponsored clubs or organizations;
7. Honors and awards received;
8. Teacher anecdotal records;
9. Other disciplinary information;

10. Special education records;
11. Records associated with plans developed under section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973;
12. Verified reports or information from non-educational persons, agencies, or organizations of clear relevance to the student's education.

FERPA Notice

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and the Illinois Student Records Act afford parents/guardians and students over 18 years of age ("eligible students") certain rights with respect to the student's school records. They are:

- 1. The right to inspect and copy the student's education records within 10 business days of the day the District receives a request for access.**

The degree of access a student has to his or her records depends on the student's age. Students less than 18 years of age have the right to inspect and copy only their permanent record. Students 18 years of age or older have access and copy rights to both permanent and temporary records. A parent/guardian or student should submit to the building principal a written request that identifies the record(s) he or she wishes to inspect. Within 10 business days, the building principal will make arrangements for access and notify the parent/guardian or student of the time and place where the records may be inspected. In certain circumstances, the District may request an additional 5 business days in which to grant access. The District charges \$.35 per page for copying but no one will be denied their right to copies of their records for inability to pay this cost.

These rights are denied to any person against whom an order of protection has been entered concerning the student.

- 2. The right to request the amendment of the student's education records that the parent/ guardian or eligible student believes are inaccurate, irrelevant, or improper.**

A parent/guardian or eligible student may ask the District to amend a record that is believed to be inaccurate, irrelevant, or improper. Requests should be sent to the building principal and should clearly identify the record the parent/guardian or eligible student wants changed and the specific reason a change is being sought.

If the District decides not to amend the record, the District will notify the parent/guardian or eligible student of the decision and advise him or her of their right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment. Additional information regarding the hearing procedures will be provided to the parent/guardian or eligible student when notified of the right to a hearing.

- 3. The right to permit disclosure of personally identifiable information contained in the student's education records, except to the extent that the FERPA or Illinois School Student Records Act authorizes disclosure without consent.**

Disclosure without consent is permitted to school officials with legitimate educational or administrative interests. A school official is a person employed by the District as an

administrator, supervisor, instructor, or support staff member (including health or medical staff and law enforcement unit personnel); a person serving on the School Board. A school official may also include a 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 personally identifiable information from education records (such as an attorney, auditor, medical consultant, therapist, or educational technology vendor); or any parent/guardian 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 or contractual obligation with the District.

Upon request, the District discloses education records without consent to officials of another school District in which a student has enrolled or intends to enroll, as well as to any person as specifically required by State or federal law. Before information is released to these individuals, the parents/guardians or eligible student will receive prior written notice of the nature and substance of the information, and an opportunity to inspect, copy, and challenge such records.

Academic grades and references to expulsions or out-of-school suspensions cannot be challenged at the time a student's records are being forwarded to another school to which the student is transferring.

Disclosure is also permitted without consent to: any person for research, statistical reporting or planning, provided that no student or parent/guardian can be identified; another school district that overlaps attendance boundaries with the District, if the District has entered into an intergovernmental agreement that allows for sharing of student records and information with the other district; any person named in a court order; appropriate persons if the knowledge of such information is necessary to protect the health or safety of the student or other persons; and juvenile authorities when necessary for the discharge of their official duties who request information before adjudication of the student.

4. The right to a copy of any school student record proposed to be destroyed or deleted.

The permanent record is maintained for at least 60 years after the student transfers, graduates, or permanently withdraws. The temporary record is maintained for at least 5 years after the student transfers, graduates, or permanently withdraws. Temporary records that may be of assistance to a student with a disability who graduates or permanently withdraws, may, after 5 years, be transferred to the parent/guardian or to the student, if the student has succeeded to the rights of the parent/guardian. Student temporary records are reviewed every 4 years or upon a student's change in attendance centers, whichever occurs first.

5. The right to prohibit the release of directory information.

Throughout the school year, the District may release directory information regarding students, limited to:

- Name
- Grade level
- Photographs, videos, or digital images used for informational or news-related purposes (whether by a media outlet or by the school) of a student participating in school or school-sponsored activities, organizations, and athletics that have appeared in school publications, such as yearbooks, newspapers, or sporting or fine arts programs
- Academic awards and honors
- Information in relation to school-sponsored activities, organizations, and athletics.

Any parent/guardian or eligible student may prohibit the release of any or all of the above information by delivering a written objection to the building principal within 30 days of the date of this notice.

The right contained in this statement: No person may condition the granting or withholding of any right, privilege or benefits or make as a condition of employment, credit, or insurance the securing by any individual of any information from a student's temporary record which such individual may obtain through the exercise of any right secured under State law.

6. 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, SW
Washington DC 20202-4605

Records Custodian

The Assistant Superintendent for Equity and Student Services, or designee, is designated as the official records custodian of student records for students enrolled in the District. He/she will be responsible for the maintenance, care, and security of all school student records for those students. He/she will also be responsible to ensure compliance with confidentiality requirements of the Illinois School Code, the Illinois School Student Records Act, the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act Amendments of 1997, and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974. The District's records custodian will also be in charge of the records of students who have transferred or otherwise left the District. The principal of each school in the District will act as assistant records custodian of student records for students enrolled at that school. The records custodian will be responsible for ensuring the confidentiality of any personally identifiable information.

Media Release of Student Information

Joliet Public Schools often have opportunities to highlight, through the media, various activities of children who are taking part in programs and/or receiving services. From time to time the District may want to identify your child by way of name, school, grade, and/or photographic, digital or video images in various in-District and out-of-District forms of media such as newsletters, school newspapers, yearbooks, general newspapers, event programs, video presentations, communications to parents/guardians, television, radio, District website, school displays, and other informational releases.

During the registration process, there is a Release of Student Information Form for Parents/Guardians to fill out which gives permission for the release of the above information.

Section 11.30 Physical Exams or Screenings

No school official or staff member shall subject a student to a non-emergency, invasive physical examination or screening as a condition of school attendance. The term invasive physical examination means any medical examination that involves the exposure of private body parts, or

any act during such examination that includes incision, insertion, or injection into the body, but does not include a hearing, vision, or scoliosis screening.

The above paragraph does not apply to any physical examination or screening that:

1. Is permitted or required by an applicable State law, including physical examinations or screenings that are permitted without parental notification;
2. Is administered to a student in accordance with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C. §1400 et seq.);
3. Is otherwise authorized by Board policy.

SECTION 12 – PARENTAL RIGHTS NOTIFICATION

Section 12.10 Open

Section 12.20 Standardized Testing

Students and parents/guardians should be aware that the State and District require students to take certain standardized tests, including the following: Illinois Assessment of Readiness, ACCESS, PSAT 8/9, Kindergarten Individual Development Survey, aimswebPlus, and STAR Assessments.

Parents/Guardians are encouraged to cooperate in preparing students for the standardized testing, because the quality of the education the school can provide is partially dependent upon the school's ability to continue to prove its success in the state's standardized tests. Parents/Guardians can assist their students achieve their best performance by doing the following:

1. Encourage students to work hard and study throughout the year;
2. Ensure students get a good night's sleep the night before exams;
3. Ensure students eat well the morning of the exam, particularly ensuring they eat sufficient protein;

4. Remind and emphasize for students the importance of good performance on standardized testing;
5. Ensure students are on time and prepared for tests, with appropriate materials;
6. Teach students the importance of honesty and ethics during the performance of these and other tests;
7. Encourage students to relax on testing day.

Section 12.30 Homeless Child's Right to Education

When a child loses permanent housing and becomes a homeless person as defined by law, or when a homeless child changes his or her temporary living arrangements, the parent or guardian of the homeless child has the option of either:

1. Continuing the child's education in the school of origin for as long as the child remains homeless or, if the child becomes permanently housed, until the end of the academic year during which the house is acquired; or
2. Enrolling the child in any school that non-homeless students who live in the attendance area in which the child is actually living are eligible to attend.

For assistance and support with homeless families, contact the Student Services Coordinator and/or Homeless Liaison at (815) 740-3196.

Section 12.40 Family Life & Sex Education Classes

Students will not be required to take or participate in any class or courses in comprehensive sex education, including in grades 6-8, instruction on both abstinence and contraception for the prevention of pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV/AIDS; family life instruction, including in grades 6-8, instruction on the prevention, transmission, and spread of AIDS; instruction on diseases; recognizing and avoiding sexual abuse; or instruction on donor programs for organ/tissue, blood donor, and transplantation, if his or her parent or guardian submits a written objection. The parent or guardian's decision will not be the reason for any student discipline, including suspension or expulsion. Nothing in this Section prohibits instruction in sanitation, hygiene or traditional courses in biology.

Parents or guardians may examine the instructional materials to be used in any District sex education class or course.

Section 12.50 Open

Section 12.60 English Learners

The school offers opportunities for resident English Learners to achieve at high levels in academic subjects and to meet the same challenging State standards that all children are expected to meet. Parents/guardians of English Learners will be informed how they can: (1) be involved in the education of their children; (2) be active participants in assisting their children to attain English proficiency, achieve at high levels within a well-rounded education, and meet the challenging State academic standards expected of all students; and (3) participate and serve on the District's Transitional Bilingual Education Programs Parent Advisory Committee.

For questions related to this program or to express input in the school's English Learners program, contact the Coordinator of EL Services at (815) 740-3196.

Section 12.70 School Visitation Rights

The School Visitation Rights Act permits employed parents/guardians, who are unable to meet with educators because of a work conflict, the right to time off from work under certain conditions to attend necessary school functions such as parent-teacher conferences, academic meetings and behavioral meetings. Letters verifying participation in this program are available from the school office upon request.

Section 12.80 Integrated Pest Management

Illinois law requires Integrated Pest Management (IPM) for all Illinois public schools. IPM is a method for managing damage by pests with the least possible hazard to people, property and the environment. This method for managing pests includes the careful use of pesticides such as insecticides, herbicides, rodenticides and fungicides.

Integrated Pest Management also requires that parents or guardians have prior notice of pesticide applications. In order to provide timely information to parents or guardians who would like to be notified of these pesticide applications, the school District develops a registry each year. Forms will be available in each school.

Notification will be given before application of the pesticide. Prior notice is not required if there is imminent threat to health or property.

Section 12.90 Mandated Reporters - Child Abuse or Neglect

Any District employee, who has reasonable cause to believe a child, known to him/her in their professional or official capacity, may be an abused or neglected child, is required to immediately report or cause a report to be made in confidence to the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) and to the Superintendent or designee.

Reports to DCFS will be made by telephone to the Central Register, which may be contacted 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, at (800)252-2873 or (800)25A-BUSE. In accordance with the law, DCFS will be responsible for investigating suspected cases of abuse and neglect beyond the initial reports.

District personnel will not disclose the whereabouts of any child who has been removed from school premises and taken into protective custody as a victim of suspected child abuse, except as may be required by law. Inquiries concerning such a child will be directed to DCFS or to local law enforcement personnel, where appropriate.

Section 12.100 Unsafe School Choice Option

The unsafe school choice option allows students to transfer to another District school or to a public charter school within the District. The unsafe school choice option is available to: (1) All students attending a persistently dangerous school, as defined by State law and identified by the Illinois State

Board of Education; and (2) Any student who is a victim of a violent criminal offense that occurred on school grounds during regular school hours or during a school-sponsored event.

Section 12.105 Student Privacy

The District has adopted and uses several policies and procedures regarding student privacy, parental access to information and administration of certain physical examinations to students. Copies of these policies are available upon request.

Section 12.110 Sex Offender Notification Law

State law prohibits a convicted child sex offender from being present on school property when children under the age of 18 are present, except for in the following circumstances as they relate to the individual's child(ren):

1. To attend a conference at the school with school personnel to discuss the progress of their child.
2. To participate in a conference in which evaluation and placement decisions may be made with respect to their child's special education services.
3. To attend conferences to discuss issues concerning their child such as retention or promotion.

In all other cases, convicted child sex offenders are prohibited from being present on school property unless they obtain written permission from the superintendent or school board.

Anytime that a convicted child sex offender is present on school property – including the three reasons above - he/she is responsible for notifying the principal's office upon arrival on school property and upon departure from school property. It is the responsibility of the convicted child sex offender to remain under the direct supervision of a school official at all times he/she is in the presence or vicinity of children.

A violation of this law is a Class 4 felony.

Information about sex offenders or violent offenders against youth is available to the public on the Illinois State Police (ISP) website. The ISP website contains the following:

Illinois Sex Offender Registry, <https://isp.illinois.gov/Sor/Disclaimer>

Illinois Murderer and Violent Offender Against Youth Registry,
<https://isp.illinois.gov/MVOAY/Disclaimer>

Frequently Asked Questions Concerning Sex Offenders, <https://isp.illinois.gov/Sor/FAQs>

Section 12.120 Open

Section 12.130 Parent Notices Required by the Every Student Succeeds Act

The Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) as amended by The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) requires school Districts to notify parents of their rights under the act. The following

notifications meet the intent of the law. Additional information may be obtained by contacting your child's school.

I. Teacher Qualifications

A parent/guardian may request, and the District will provide in a timely manner, the professional qualifications of your student's classroom teachers, including, at a minimum, whether:

- a. The teacher has met the State qualifications and licensing criteria for the grade levels and subject areas in which the teacher provides instruction;
- b. The teacher is teaching under emergency or other provisional status;
- c. The teacher is teaching in the field of discipline of the certification of the teacher;
- d. Paraprofessionals provide services to the student and, if so, their qualifications.

II. Testing Transparency

The State and District require students to take certain standardized tests. For additional information, see handbook procedure Section 12:20.

A parent/guardian may request, and the District will provide in a timely manner, information regarding student participation in any assessments mandated by law or District policy, which shall include information on any applicable right you may have to opt your student out of such assessment.

III. Annual Report Card

Each year, the District is required to disseminate an annual report card that includes information on the District as a whole and each school served by the District, with aggregate and disaggregated information for each required subgroup of students including: student achievement on academic assessments (designated by category), graduation rates, District performance, teacher qualifications, and certain other information required by federal law. When available, this information will be placed on the District's website at www.joliet86.org.

IV. Parent & Family Engagement Compact

Parental Involvement (Title I)

Parents/guardians of students with limited English proficiency and those receiving Title I services are invited to provide input to the programs through parent involvement programs at participating schools.

The school annually has a meeting for Parents/Guardians, which will be determined by each individual school.

At the meeting, the school will discuss parental involvement, and opportunities for Parents/Guardians to get involved in the education of their children. Parents/Guardians are encouraged to attend the meeting and participate in the discussions that occur. Parents/Guardians should use the meeting as an opportunity to ask questions, make suggestions, and learn about all of the opportunities and programming available for Parents/Guardians to be fully involved in the education process.

The school and its teachers provide meetings, including parent/teacher conferences, at flexible times to accommodate a variety of parent schedules. Parents/Guardians will be given notice of meeting availability at the beginning of each year, and at least two weeks before conferences or other regularly scheduled meetings, to provide sufficient opportunity to schedule and attend meetings with teachers. Additionally, teachers are available regularly

to meet with Parents/Guardians to discuss the success of their child. Parents/Guardians will be involved in an organized and timely way when any programs are created, considered, or altered, and will be continually involved in the ongoing development of programming, curriculum, and policy.

The school provides Parents/Guardians with access to:

- a) School performance profiles required by Federal law and their child's individual student assessment results, including an interpretation of such results;
- b) A description and explanation of the curriculum in use at the school, the forms of assessment used to measure student progress, and the proficiency levels students are expected to meet;
- c) Opportunities for regular meetings to formulate suggestions, share experiences with other Parents/Guardians, and participate as appropriate in decisions relating to the education of their children if such Parents/Guardians so desire; and
- d) Timely responses to suggestions.

Everyone is responsible for the success of the students at the school. While the school provides the best education we can, it is critical to the success of students that parents assist us in meeting the goals of education set forth by the state, the federal government and ourselves.

In order to better assist in educating the students, we need the help of all parents and guardians. We ask that you help us educate children by monitoring attendance, homework completion, and television watching; by volunteering in your child's classroom; and participating, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of children and positive use of extracurricular time.

The school endeavors to do its best to provide all information in the language best understood by parents and guardians. Questions about language alternatives should be directed to the Coordinator of EL Services at (815) 740-3196.

Parents/Guardians of participating children have a right to appeal the contents of this policy. This District will submit any parent comments when this plan is submitted to the State. Any questions or concerns should be directed to Ankhe Bradley, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction at (815) 740-3196.

The state's resources on parental involvement can be located at <http://isbe.net>. The state's website on parental involvement provides information, training, and support for parents and schools on various websites which may be useful or interesting to parents and students, and provides advice and information about how to get involved and participate in the educational process. Resources are provided by search, by county, and by categorical query.

V. Unsafe School Choice Option

The unsafe school choice option allows students to transfer to another District school or to a public charter school within the District under certain circumstances. For additional information, see handbook procedure Section 12:100.

VI. Student Privacy

VII. Students have certain privacy protections under federal law. For additional information, see handbook procedure Section 12.105.

VIII. English Learners

The school offers opportunities for resident English Learners to achieve at high levels in academic subjects and to meet the same challenging State standards that all children are expected to meet. For additional information, see handbook procedure Section 12:60.

IX. Homeless Students

For information on supports and services available to homeless students, see handbook procedure Section 12:30.

For further information on any of the above matters, please contact the building principal.

Section 12.140 Instructional Material

A student's parent(s)/guardian(s) may inspect, upon their request, any instructional material used as part of their child's educational curriculum within a reasonable time of their request.

The term "instructional material" means instructional content that is provided to a student, regardless of its format, printed or representational materials, audio-visual materials, and materials in electronic or digital formats (such as materials accessible through the Internet). The term does not include academic tests or academic assessments.

Section 12.150 Parent Organizations

District 86 supports the formation of strong and effective parent organizations in each school in the District, as long as membership in the organizations is open and unrestricted. While such parent organizations will have no administrative authority and cannot determine District policy, their suggestions and assistance are always welcome.

Building principals are encouraged to work closely with parent organizations and to recommend that teachers do the same. The building principal or a designee will serve as the advisor to parent organizations in his/her school. As such he/she will be a resource person who provides information about school programs, policies, problems, concerns, and emerging issues.

The Director for Communications and Development will assist and act as a resource to parent organizations in getting information to the local media and onto the District website when applicable.

Section 12.160 Bilingual Parent Advisory Committee

The mission of the Bilingual Parent Advisory Committee (BPAC) is to enhance and enrich achievement for all students by serving as a District liaison promoting educational and cultural resources for students, families, and staff to meet the needs of students. Through the BPAC, parents will be provided opportunities for practical involvement to effectively express their views and ensure that bilingual programs are planned, operated, and evaluated with the involvement of, and in consultation with, parents of children served by the programs.

Section 12.170 Child Safety at School Dismissal

The safe return home after school of all students is an on-going concern of the District. Parent cooperation is necessary to help minimize problems that may occur in picking up students after

dismissal time. The following guidelines apply to parents who (a) choose to pick up their children at the regular dismissal time and/or (b) choose to pick up their children following an after school activity which is held after regular dismissal time:

1. All transportation or other arrangements must be made and explained to the student and appropriate school personnel beforehand;
2. Students are expected to be picked up promptly by the parent at dismissal time or upon completion of an after school event;
3. The school must be provided with a current emergency number to call in case the parent cannot be reached.

Vehicles **MAY NOT** be parked or located in the bus lanes or fire lanes at **ANY TIME**. Bus lanes and fire lanes are clearly marked. Vehicles located in these locations may be ticketed and/or towed by the police. All drivers must obey the directions of school staff.

In the event a child is not picked up within a reasonable time after dismissal or an after school activity, every effort will be made to contact a responsible person to insure that the child is returned safely home. However, repeated instances of failing to pick up a child, particularly a young child, may result in a warning notice, loss of after school activity privileges and/or notification to the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS).

Section 12.180 Pick Up of Children by Someone Other than the Parent/Guardian

In order to assure the safety and well-being of children, parents must provide the school with current names and phone numbers of those adults who may pick their children up from school. Anyone picking up a child from school who is not currently listed on the child's registration record will not be allowed to take the child. Attempts will be made to contact parents by telephone. Therefore, it is absolutely critical for your child's well-being that you keep the school advised of any phone number or address change including emergency contact numbers.

Section 12.190 Asbestos Management Plan

District 86 is required by federal law to identify and manage asbestos that may be found in building materials in a school. Our District has in place a management plan for asbestos containing building materials that provides for a re-inspection report to be filed on a three- year basis. Our plan is available for your inspection. If you are interested in reviewing the information contained within the plan, please contact the building principal.

Section 12.200 Student Fundraising Activities

The Board of School Inspectors recognizes that the participation of students, under faculty supervision, in the process of planning and obtaining financial support for their own activities may be desirable as part of the educational process.

Funds raised through student efforts will be subject to the control of the building principal, with the advice and consent of the sponsors. Fundraising plans approved by the building principal will be submitted to Superintendent for approval. The funds will be used to the maximum extent possible for educational, recreational or cultural purposes for which they were designated to serve.

The use of students to promote the fundraising activities of parent groups or other non- school sponsored groups will be generally discouraged, except in the case of activities that are preapproved by the building principal. Such exceptions may be granted if the proposed fundraising activities are of a school-wide nature when such participation can be a positive experience for students and the proceeds will be contributed to a recognized humanitarian purpose.

Each fundraising activity is always optional. Under no circumstances will any student be compelled to participate or donate, or be penalized for not participating or donating. Door-to-door solicitation is not required by any fundraising activity and is discouraged.

Section 12.210 Valuables

The school is not responsible for articles that are lost or stolen. Students are cautioned not to bring large amounts of money or other valuables to school, nor should students leave valuables anywhere in the school, including desks or lockers.

Section 12.220 Methods of Communication

Keeping families informed is a priority for your school and the District. The following communication vehicles are used to share information:

Website

The District website provides frequently updated information on news and school events (www.joliet86.org).

School Newsletters

Schools send home monthly school newsletters.

Community Newsletter

A District 86 community newsletter is mailed to all households within the District boundaries several times a year.

Social Media

The District maintains social media accounts on Facebook and X (formerly Twitter) in both English and Spanish. In addition, all District 86 schools have an X page.

Emails

Emails are sent to parents/guardians by the District, schools, and/or teachers as needed throughout the school year through School Messenger.

Remind

Teachers also use the Remind App to communicate with families.

Automated Telephone Calls

The District and/or schools also send out automated telephone calls as needed throughout the school year. Please make sure your child's school has the most up to date numbers on file.