

GARFIELD HEIGHTS BOARD OF EDUCATION  
GARFIELD HEIGHTS, OHIO

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS  
Minutes – Regular Board Meeting  
September 21, 2020

The Board of Education of the Garfield Heights City School District met in regular session on Monday, September 21, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. with Mr. Joseph M. Juby, President of the Board, presiding.

ROLL CALL

Present: Mr. Juby, Mrs. Kitson, Mrs. Daniels, Ms. King, Ms. Thomas

Absent:

**RECOMMEND ADOPTION OF AGENDA AS PRESENTED**

Moved by Mrs. Daniels, seconded by Ms. King to approve the agenda as adopted.

Ayes: Daniels, King, Kitson, Thomas, Juby

Nays: None

**MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**READING & APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Moved by Mrs. Kitson, seconded by Ms. Thomas to approve the following minutes:

Minutes from the Special Board Meeting of August 3, 2020  
Minutes from the Special Board Meeting of August 13, 2020  
Minutes from the Regular Board Meeting of August 24, 2020

**BOARD PRESIDENT’S REPORT**

Good evening and welcome to our September Board Meeting. We hope everyone had a successful week and half of school. If anyone wishes to address the Board on agenda or non-agenda items please email Mr. Sluka at [asluka@ghbulldogs.org](mailto:asluka@ghbulldogs.org). We hope everyone stays safe & healthy. That concludes my report.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Cuyahoga Valley Career Center – Christine A. Kitson**

Next Board meeting will be Thursday September 24, 2020 at 6:30 pm. The state report cards were released and the CVCC received no grade. Lastly, CVCC filed an application with the state to offer free lunches to students.

**Student Activities - Ashley M. Thomas, M. Ed.**

Our fall HS and middle school seasons have begun. We have successfully hosted varsity football, JV football, freshman football, cross-country, girls soccer, middle school football, varsity volleyball and JV volleyball. There are ZERO COVID related illnesses or positive tests to report. Lack of numbers have caused the cancelation of varsity boys soccer, middle school cross-country and forced us to combine our middle school boys soccer team and girls soccer team into one coed team.

We were recently observed by the state as part of their COVID compliance procedures. They check for items like signage, announcements, directional arrows, flow of traffic, sanitation methods, face coverings, social distancing, bleacher setup and other COVID related necessities. I am happy to report that we scored a perfect passing grade in every category and were told that we were the best school this compliance officer has visited. Major recent purchases include football reconditioning, new football helmets and shoulder pads, football game day supplies, soccer game day supplies, volleyball game day supplies, an upgrade to our outside scoreboard and face coverings for all of our high school and middle school athletes.

**Legislative Liaison – Joseph M. Juby**

**City Liaison – Millette King**

The next city council meeting will be held on Monday September 28th at 7:00pm. You can call in at 1-978-990-5000. The code is 347932. Please make sure you mute yourself.

**Policy Liaison – Joseph M. Juby & Nichelle N. Daniels**

The Board Policy Committee meet on Thursday September 10th to review the updates from OSBA.

On May 6, 2020, the U.S. Department of Education issued the long-awaited final Title IX regulations, which go into effect August 14, 2020. In August the Board Approved Policies ACA, ACAA and ACAA-R. The Title IX regulations specifically define sexual harassment and establish detailed procedures for how school districts must respond to allegations of sexual harassment

The following policies all received updates for Title IX: GCPD, JFCF, JFCR-R, JG, JGD, KGDA, JGE, KLD.

For Policy JED, OSBA updated COVID Language for Student Absences:

The Board directs the Superintendent/designee to develop appropriate procedures for tracking student attendance based on the mode of learning. The District monitors daily absences for trends related to COVID-19.

Students will not be penalized for absences related to contracting COVID-19 or having to quarantine or isolate due to COVID-19 exposure/symptoms, regardless of whether the student is participating in-person, remotely or both.

Policies JF, JG, KJA update House Bill 164, which enacted the “Ohio Student Religious Liberties Act of 2019”. No language was changed in these polices, just the addition of HB164.

## **PRESENTATION**

## **RECOGNITIONS/COMMENDATIONS**

## **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

Thank you, Mr. President. Since we last met for our formal monthly meeting, a few significant milestones have passed. School began for the 2020-2021 School Year in a remote setting for students in grades 1<sup>st</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> on Wednesday, September 9<sup>th</sup>. Kindergarten students began the school year on September 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> respectively. As we have toured the buildings during the first several weeks of the school year, the remote learning process is successfully underway, and students and staff members have been excited and engaged. Students and staff are making the most out of learning via screen, but learning is taking place, nonetheless. I thank everyone, including the families, our staff and our students, for working hard all summer to prepare for this moment. Your flexibility and patience is very much appreciated.

I also thank the individuals who participated in the Chromebook and educational materials distribution during the final week of August. This effort was underway at each building to ensure that students and families had the resources they needed to be prepared for the temporary remote learning period. Thank you to the Board members who showed their support at the buildings on one particular morning as well. The organization of the materials, the distribution process, and the happiness from the families was evident, as the entire community prepared to continue their educational journeys, once again. Keep in mind that at the moment, our plan is to resume in-person learning in a Hybrid Setting on Monday, November 9<sup>th</sup>. As we approach that date, the District is dedicated to sharing exactly who will attend school in-person... and when. The District will also communicate what measures have been, and will be taken, to ensure the safety and security of the staff and students in the building. Please stay tuned.

In other news, I want to thank the Board of Education for their desire to resume the Strategic Planning process, as evidenced by our facilitators' presentation at last Monday's Work Session. The COVID-19 pandemic compelled us to press pause on the kick-off last year, but we are resuming, and the community can expect to learn more about the Garfield Heights City School's initiative to refresh our mission, vision for the future, our goals and what a Portrait of a Garfield Heights Graduate will look like. Stay tuned for more information in the coming weeks and month relative to the District's Strategic Planning efforts.

To close, I want to wish my condolences to the Psenicka family, who owns and operates the Neighborhood News, on the unexpected passing of the owner and editor, Mike last week. You are in our thoughts and prayers.

Thank you, Mr. President.

**REMARKS FROM THE PUBLIC REGARDING AGENDA ITEMS**

**REPORTS & RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE TREASURER:**

Moved by Mr. Juby, seconded by Mrs. Daniels to approve the financials for August 2020 as presented in Exhibit "A".

Ayes: Juby, Daniels, King, Kitson, Thomas  
Nays: None

Moved by Mr. Juby, seconded by Mrs. Daniels to approve Resolution No. 2020-037, a Resolution adopting the 2020-2021 Estimated Revenues/Permanent Appropriation Measure (Budget for the period July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021), as presented in Exhibit "B"

Ayes: Juby, Daniels, King, Kitson, Thomas  
Nays: None

**RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION:**

**RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SUPERINTENDENT TO THE BOARD:**

**PERSONNEL:**

Moved by Mrs. Daniels, seconded by Ms. King to approve the Employee Leaves as presented in Exhibit "C".

Ayes: Daniels, King, Kitson, Thomas, Juby  
Nays: None

Moved by Mrs. Daniels, seconded by Ms. King to accept the resignation of Sandy Parsons, General Cafeteria at the Middle School, effective August 5, 2020.

Ayes: Daniels, King, Kitson, Thomas, Juby  
Nays: None

Moved by Mrs. Daniels, seconded by Ms. King to accept the resignation of Lashaunte Jackson, Bus Driver effective September 7, 2020. She will be added to the substitute list for bus drivers for the 2020-2021 school year.

Ayes: Daniels, King, Kitson, Thomas, Juby  
Nays: None

Moved by Mrs. Daniels, seconded by Ms. King to accept the resignation of Celia Shields, Lead Cafeteria Staff/Cook at William Foster effective September 30, 2020.

Ayes: Daniels, King, Kitson, Thomas, Juby  
Nays: None

Moved by Mrs. Daniels, seconded by Ms. King to accept the resignation of Nicholas Howard, Housekeeper at the High School, effective October 2, 2020.

Ayes: Daniels, King, Kitson, Thomas, Juby  
Nays: None

Moved by Mrs. Daniels, seconded by Ms. King to terminate the probationary contract for the following classified employees for job abandonment effective August 31, 2020:

Brianne Gardner - Bus Aide  
William Fitzpatrick - PT Vehicle Driver  
Anthony Cloud - Bus Aide  
Amir Cloud - Bus Aide  
Jamir Cloud - Bus Aide

Ayes: Daniels, King, Kitson, Thomas, Juby  
Nays: None

Moved by Mrs. Daniels, seconded by Ms. King to approve mentor training for the following certified staff members to be paid the rate of \$26.02 per hour out of general fund after school as follows:

James Portik    Marcie O'Hanlon    Alyssa Reichard

Ayes: Daniels, King, Kitson, Thomas, Juby  
Nays: None

Moved by Mrs. Daniels, seconded by Ms. King to extend a continuing contract to the following teacher(s) effective at the beginning of the 2020-2021 school year as follows:

Eric Malek – HS	Amanda Sizler - HS	Tiffany Clendenning- HS
Elysia Augustine – HS	Jana Jenkins – MS	Leah Keefe - MS
Nicole Ramos - MS	Lana Mastroianni – MS	Chris Eppley – EW

Ayes: Daniels, King, Kitson, Thomas, Juby  
Nays: None

Moved by Mrs. Daniels, seconded by Ms. King to approve the following classified transfer/change of assignments for the 2020-2021 school year as follows:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Previous Position</u>	<u>New Position</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Step</u>
Ruth Davis (eff: 9/1/20)	General Café (1C) – MS	Housekeeper (1D) - MS	6	7

Ayes: Daniels, King, Kitson, Thomas, Juby  
Nays: None

Moved by Mrs. Daniels, seconded by Ms. King to approve the year-long academic supplemental positions for the 2020-20201 school year as presented in Exhibit “ D”.

Ayes: Daniels, King, Kitson, Thomas, Juby  
Nays: None

Moved by Mrs. Daniels, seconded by Ms. King to approve the athletic supplemental contracts for the 2020-2021 as follows:

Football:

Jason Osborne - Head Coach - HS  
 Chris Cole - Assistant Varsity Coach - HS  
 Michael McQueen - Head Coach - MS  
 Darrell Copeland - Assistant Coach - MS

Volleyball

Antoine Gates - Head Coach - H S  
 Kyra Gates - Assistant Coach - HS  
 Brittani Maddox - Assistant Coach - HS  
 Melissa Dunn - Grade 8 - MS  
 Michael Galaska - Grade 7 - MS

Soccer:

Ryan Schuman - Assistant Girls Coach - HS  
 Keith Kneisel - Head Boys Coach - MS  
 Rebecca Shotliff - Head Girls Coach - MS

Cheerleading Supervisor:

Sherri Williams - Head Varsity - HS  
 April Kossman - Head Coach - MS

Moved by Mrs. Daniels, seconded by Ms. King to approve the following grant funded Title I certified tutors, effective September 22, 2020 as follows:

<u>Maple Leaf</u>	<u>Middle School</u>
Jennifer Persons	Amy Hynes

Ayes: Daniels, King, Kitson, Thomas, Juby  
 Nays: None

Moved by Mrs. Daniels, seconded by Ms. King to approve Jon Peterson Scholarship, Autism Scholarship, and any other district IEP development need at an hourly stipend of \$26.02/hour curriculum rate for the 2020-2021 school year for Intervention Specialist to be paid out of the IDEA-B grant money.

Ayes: Daniels, King, Kitson, Thomas, Juby  
 Nays: None

Moved by Mrs. Daniels, seconded by Ms. King to approve an hourly stipend at the curriculum rate of \$26.02/hour for Home Instruction for the 2020-2021 school year to be paid out of the IDEA-B Grant money.

Ayes: Daniels, King, Kitson, Thomas, Juby  
 Nays: None

Moved by Mrs. Daniels, seconded by Ms. King to approve ten days per diem for April Gregan, school psychologist, to complete testing and reports for students with disabilities as documented on a timesheet.

Ayes: Daniels, King, Kitson, Thomas, Juby  
Nays: None

Moved by Mrs. Daniels, seconded by Ms. King to approve Sandy Powers as a principal coach and PBIS support using the Governors' Wellness funds for the 2020-21 school year at a per diem rate of \$400.00 per day to be paid by the timesheet.

Ayes: Daniels, King, Kitson, Thomas, Juby  
Nays: None

**POLICY:**

Moved by Ms. Thomas, seconded by Mrs. Daniels to approve the first and second readings of the proposed board policies as presented in Exhibit " E".

Ayes: Thomas, Daniels, King, Kitson, Juby  
Nays: None

**CONTRACTS:**

Moved by Mr. Juby, seconded by Mrs. Daniels to approve a service agreement between the Garfield Heights City Schools and PSI Associates, Inc. for the 2020-2021 school year for Remedial/Title I Teacher Services for non-public schools, to be paid from Title funds.

Ayes: Juby, Daniels, King, Kitson, Thomas  
Nays: None

Moved by Mr. Juby, seconded by Mrs. Daniels to approve the Personal Services Agreement with Afnan Alsharif for the 2020- 2021 school year at the rate of \$41.00 per hour for 6 hours per day, not to exceed 24 hours per school week.

Ayes: Juby, Daniels, King, Kitson, Thomas  
Nays: None

Moved by Mr. Juby, seconded by Mrs. Daniels to approve curriculum and professional development services on data analysis to improve instruction from Lea Travis, ESC consultant, in the amount of \$7,500.00, not to exceed 10 days, to be paid out of Title funds.

Ayes: Juby, Daniels, King, Kitson, Thomas  
Nays: None

Moved by Mr. Juby, seconded by Mrs. Daniels to approve curriculum and professional development services in math and science k-12 from Bob Glavan, ESC consultant, in the amount of \$61,510.00, not to exceed 100 days, to be paid out of Title funds.

Ayes: Juby, Daniels, King, Kitson, Thomas  
Nays: None

Moved by Mr. Juby, seconded by Mrs. Daniels to approve the annual service agreement for Beyond Words: Music & Dance Center for 2020- 2021 school year to provide music therapy to students as documented in the IEP.

Ayes: Juby, Daniels, King, Kitson, Thomas  
Nays: None

Moved by Mr. Juby, seconded by Mrs. Daniels to approve an agreement with HPS, LLC to participate in HPS group purchasing for food service items for the 2020-2021 school year.

Ayes: Juby, Daniels, King, Kitson, Thomas  
Nays: None

### **RENTALS & FACILITY USAGES:**

### **MISCELLANEOUS:**

Moved by Ms. King, seconded by Mrs. Kitson to approve the 2020-2021 Student Parent Handbook as presented in Exhibit "F".

Ayes: King, Kitson, Daniels, Thomas, Juby  
Nays: None

### **REMARKS FROM THE PUBLIC REGARDING NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

Mrs. Renae Bolton called in expressing her disappointment with the Bulldog Digital Academy and felt that she was misled about the availability of classes. When she picked up her students' schedules, she found that they had several study halls and/or late arrival. She sent a message to Mrs. Hager, who called and confirmed that it was actually true that there are classes that are not available to students in the Digital Academy, primarily due to lack of staffing.

The Guidance Counselor provided several alternatives, including the Virtual Learning Academy and registering for College Credit Plus courses at Tri-C. Though those are viable options, which is not what I had anticipated for this school year. I am extremely disappointed in this entire endeavor.

Administration responded that they have been working diligently on this and that they have had numerous conversations with Mrs. Bolton on this very subject and that she was very aware of the situation prior to signing up for the Bulldog Digital Academy.

### **ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEXT BOARD MEETINGS**

**Board of Education Regular Meeting – 6:00 P.M.  
October 12, 2020**



**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Moved by Mrs. Kitson, seconded by Mrs. Daniels to enter into executive session at 6:51 p.m. for the purpose of discussing GHTA negotiations.

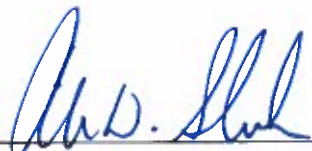
Ayes: Kitson, Daniels, King, Thomas, Juby  
Nays: None

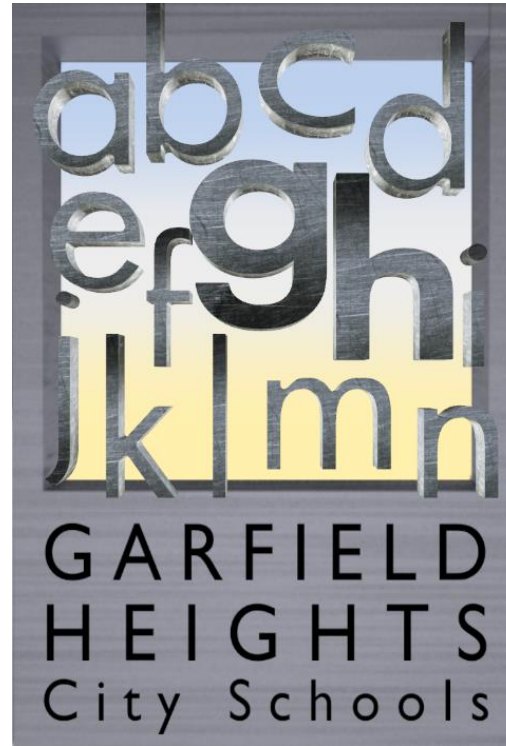
Adjourned from executive session at 7:22 p.m.

Moved by Mrs. Kitson, seconded by Mrs. Daniels to adjourn at 7:23 p.m.

Ayes: Kitson, Daniels, King, Thomas, Juby  
Nays: None

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
President

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Treasurer



# **Financial Report**

**August 31, 2020**

**Garfield Heights City Schools**



**Forecast Comparison - General Operating Fund**

August 2020 Forecast Estimate	August 2020 Actuals	August 2019 Actuals	Variance - Actuals to Estimate	Explanation of Variance Greater than 5%
----------------------------------	------------------------	------------------------	--------------------------------------	--

**Revenue:**

1.010 - General Property Tax (Real Estate)	\$ 3,585,000	\$ 3,584,000	\$ 3,565,236	\$ (1,000)	
1.020 - Public Utility Property Tax	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 427,246	\$ -	
1.035 - Unrestricted Grants-in-Aid	\$ 1,950,000	\$ 1,996,844	\$ 2,076,366	\$ 46,844	
1.040 - Restricted Grants-in-Aid	\$ 54,000	\$ 52,061	\$ 54,224	\$ (1,939)	
1.050 - Property Tax Allocation	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
1.060 - All Other Operating Revenues	\$ 25,000	\$ 24,348	\$ 25,737	\$ (652)	
<b>1.070 - Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$ 5,614,000</b>	<b>\$ 5,657,253</b>	<b>\$ 6,148,809</b>	<b>\$ 43,253</b>	

**Other Financing Sources:**

2.050 - Advances In	\$ 302,500	\$ 117,500	\$ 185,581	\$ -	Have one advance of \$185,000 to return
2.060 - All Other Financing Sources		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
<b>2.080 Total Revenue and Other Financing Sources</b>	<b>\$ 5,916,500</b>	<b>\$ 5,774,753</b>	<b>\$ 6,334,390</b>	<b>\$ (141,747)</b>	

**Expenditures:**

3.010 - Personnel Services	\$ 1,775,000	\$ 1,771,186	\$ 2,722,129	\$ 3,814	
3.020 - Employees' Retirement/Insurance Benefits	\$ 760,000	\$ 759,905	\$ 754,447	\$ 95	
3.030 - Purchased Services	\$ 850,000	\$ 858,893	\$ 781,528	\$ (8,893)	
3.040 - Supplies and Materials	\$ 155,000	\$ 153,798	\$ 256,982	\$ 1,202	
3.050 - Capital Outlay	\$ -	\$ 5,661	\$ 70,865	\$ (5,661)	
4.055 - Debt Service Other	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
4.300 - Other Objects	\$ 100,000	\$ 98,527	\$ 265,456	\$ 1,473	
<b>4.500 - Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$ 3,640,000</b>	<b>\$ 3,647,970</b>	<b>\$ 4,851,407</b>	<b>\$ (7,970)</b>	

**Other Financing Uses:**

5.010 - Operating Transfers-Out	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
5.020 - Advances Out	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
<b>5.050 - Total Expenditures and Other Financing Uses</b>	<b>\$ 3,640,000</b>	<b>\$ 3,647,970</b>	<b>\$ 4,851,407</b>	<b>\$ (7,970)</b>	

**Surplus/(Deficit) for Month**

	\$ 2,276,500	\$ 2,126,783	\$ 1,482,983	\$ (149,717)	
--	--------------	--------------	--------------	--------------	--

**Garfield Heights City Schools**



**Forecast Comparison - General Operating Fund - July 2020 to June 2021**



	FYTD 21 Forecast Estimate	FYTD 21 Actuals	FYTD 20 Actuals	Variance- Current FYTD Actual to Forecast Estimate	Explanation of Variance Greater than 5%
<b>Revenue:</b>					
1.010 - General Property Tax (Real Estate)	\$ 4,435,000	\$ 4,431,000	\$ 7,508,236	\$ (4,000)	
1.020 - Public Utility Property Tax	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 427,246	\$ -	
1.035 - Unrestricted Grants-in-Aid	\$ 3,900,000	\$ 3,946,394	\$ 4,036,459	\$ 46,394	
1.040 - Restricted Grants-in-Aid	\$ 108,000	\$ 106,241	\$ 120,815	\$ (1,759)	
1.050 - Property Tax Allocation	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
1.060 - All Other Operating Revenues	\$ 42,000	\$ 41,414	\$ 58,438	\$ (586)	
<b>1.070 - Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$ 8,485,000</b>	<b>\$ 8,525,049</b>	<b>\$ 12,151,194</b>	<b>\$ 40,049</b>	
<b>Other Financing Sources:</b>					
2.050 - Advances In	\$ 302,500	\$ 117,500	\$ 185,581	\$ (185,000)	
2.060 - All Other Financing Sources	\$ -	\$ 7	\$ -	\$ 7	
<b>2.080 Total Revenue and Other Financing Sources</b>	<b>\$ 8,787,500</b>	<b>\$ 8,642,556</b>	<b>\$ 12,336,775</b>	<b>\$ (144,944)</b>	
<b>Expenditures:</b>					
3.010 - Personnel Services	\$ 4,625,000	\$ 4,610,827	\$ 4,614,645	\$ 14,173	
3.020 - Employees' Retirement/Insurance Benefits	\$ 1,555,000	\$ 1,553,361	\$ 1,494,375	\$ 1,639	
3.030 - Purchased Services	\$ 1,700,000	\$ 1,704,798	\$ 1,584,149	\$ (4,798)	
3.040 - Supplies and Materials	\$ 415,000	\$ 411,510	\$ 468,484	\$ 3,490	
3.050 - Capital Outlay	\$ -	\$ 5,661	\$ 70,865	\$ (5,661)	
4.055 - Debt Service Other	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
4.300 - Other Objects	\$ 112,000	\$ 110,640	\$ 348,416	\$ 1,360	
<b>4.500 - Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$ 8,407,000</b>	<b>\$ 8,396,797</b>	<b>\$ 8,580,934</b>	<b>\$ 10,203</b>	
<b>Other Financing Uses:</b>					
5.010 - Operating Transfers-Out	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
5.020 - Advances Out	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
<b>5.050 - Total Expenditures and Other Financing Uses</b>	<b>\$ 8,407,000</b>	<b>\$ 8,396,797</b>	<b>\$ 8,580,934</b>	<b>\$ 10,203</b>	
<b>Surplus/(Deficit) FYTD</b>	<b>\$ 380,500</b>	<b>\$ 245,759</b>	<b>\$ 3,755,841</b>	<b>\$ (134,741)</b>	

## Garfield Heights City Schools



### Revenue Analysis Report - General Operating Fund Only - FY21



2020-2021	Local Revenue					Intermediatte	State Revenue				Non-Operating*	Total Revenue
	Taxes		Interest	Rentals	Other Local	Restricted Grants-in-Aid	Unrestricted Grants-in-Aid	Property Tax Allocation	Restricted Grants-in-Aid			
	Real Estate	Personal Property										
July	847,000	-	4,182	-	12,884	-	1,949,550	-	54,179	7	2,867,802	
August	3,584,000	-	6,097	-	18,251	-	1,996,844	-	52,061	117,500	5,774,753	
September											-	
October											-	
November											-	
December											-	
January											-	
February											-	
March											-	
April											-	
May											-	
June											-	
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$4,431,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$10,279</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$31,135</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$3,946,394</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$106,240</b>	<b>\$117,507</b>	<b>\$8,642,555</b>	
<b>% of Total</b>	<b>51.27%</b>	<b>0.00%</b>	<b>0.12%</b>	<b>0.00%</b>	<b>0.36%</b>	<b>0.00%</b>	<b>45.66%</b>	<b>0.00%</b>	<b>1.23%</b>	<b>1.36%</b>		

\*Non-Operating Revenue includes advances in, and refund of prior year expenditures.

## Garfield Heights City Schools



### Expenditure Analysis Report - General Operating Fund - FY21

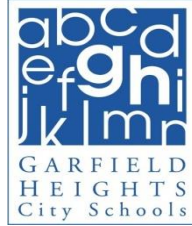


2020-2021	Salaries	Benefits	Purchased Services*	Supplies	Equipment	Other	Non-Operating^	Total Expenses
July	2,839,641	793,456	845,905	257,712	-	12,113	-	4,748,827
August	1,771,186	759,904	858,893	153,798	5,661	98,527	-	3,647,969
September								-
October								-
November								-
December								-
January								-
February								-
March								-
April								-
May								-
June								-
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$4,610,827</b>	<b>\$1,553,360</b>	<b>\$1,704,798</b>	<b>\$411,510</b>	<b>\$5,661</b>	<b>\$110,640</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$8,396,796</b>
<b>% of Total</b>	<b>54.91%</b>	<b>18.50%</b>	<b>20.30%</b>	<b>4.90%</b>	<b>0.07%</b>	<b>1.32%</b>	<b>0.00%</b>	

*\*Purchased Services includes Debt Service Lease Payments*

*^Non-Operating expenses include advances and transfers out.*

## Garfield Heights City Schools

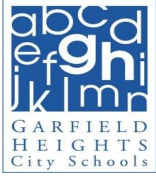


August 31, 2021

FINSUMM Financial Summary

Fund	Fund Name	Beginning Balance	Monthly Receipts	Fiscal Year To Date Receipts	Monthly Expenditures	Fiscal Year To Date Expenditures	Current Fund Balance	Current Encumbrances	Unencumbered Fund Balance
001	General Fund	\$2,934,733.00	\$5,774,753.00	\$8,642,556.00	\$3,647,970.00	\$8,396,797.00	\$3,180,492.00	\$3,349,636.00	-\$169,144.00
002	Bond Retirement	\$4,263,368.00	\$592,000.00	\$747,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$5,010,368.00	\$0.00	\$5,010,368.00
003	Permanent Improvement	\$18,279.00	\$28,366.00	\$35,766.00	\$0.00	\$43,842.00	\$10,203.00	\$266,920.00	-\$256,717.00
004	Building Fund	\$117,280.00	\$4,248.00	\$8,473.00	\$6,558.00	\$11,895.00	\$113,858.00	\$70,755.00	\$43,103.00
006	Food Service	\$1,267,937.00	\$297.00	\$5,320.00	\$52,576.00	\$140,162.00	\$1,133,095.00	\$1,054,867.00	\$78,228.00
007	Special Trust	\$8,719.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$6,719.00	\$6,000.00	\$719.00
008	Endowment Trust	\$102,718.00	\$25.00	\$64.00	\$500.00	\$1,000.00	\$101,782.00	\$500.00	\$101,282.00
009	Uniform Supplies	\$3,707.00	\$621.00	\$1,036.00	\$0.00	\$4,063.00	\$680.00	\$9,121.00	-\$8,441.00
014	Rotary - Internal Services	\$8,170.00	\$280.00	\$330.00	(\$52,931.00)	(\$47,068.00)	\$55,568.00	\$0.00	\$55,568.00
018	Public School Support	\$22,506.00	\$578.00	\$1,265.00	\$0.00	\$8,775.00	\$14,996.00	\$0.00	\$14,996.00
019	Other Grants	(\$86,551.00)	\$0.00	\$89,498.00	\$28,562.00	\$28,562.00	(\$25,615.00)	\$35,857.00	-\$61,472.00
022	District Agency	\$28,488.00	\$0.00	\$100.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$28,588.00	\$0.00	\$28,588.00
024	Employee Benefits Self Insurance	(\$318,349.00)	\$0.00	\$617.00	\$18,489.00	\$43,425.00	(\$361,157.00)	\$1,277,823.00	-\$1,638,980.00
034	Classroom Facilities Maintenance	\$657,473.00	\$40,634.00	\$51,234.00	\$8,932.00	\$122,026.00	\$586,681.00	\$58,642.00	\$528,039.00
200	Student Managed Funds	\$6,185.00	\$36.00	\$36.00	\$2,052.00	\$2,532.00	\$3,689.00	\$2,000.00	\$1,689.00
300	District Managed Funds	\$21,699.00	\$5,766.00	\$5,766.00	\$15,724.00	\$17,041.00	\$10,424.00	\$45,950.00	-\$35,526.00
401	Auxiliary Services	\$55,362.00	\$150,534.00	\$150,564.00	\$20,376.00	\$65,540.00	\$140,386.00	\$192,412.00	-\$52,026.00
439	Public School Preschool	\$2,830.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$15,927.00	\$25,478.00	(\$22,648.00)	\$503.00	-\$23,151.00
440	Entry Year Programs	\$183.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$183.00	\$0.00	\$183.00
451	OneNet (Data Communication)	\$8.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$8.00	\$0.00	\$8.00
452	Schoolnet Professional Development	\$9.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$9.00	\$0.00	\$9.00
461	Vocational Education Enhancements	\$3,199.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,199.00	\$0.00	\$3,199.00
463	Alternative Schools	\$334.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$334.00	\$0.00	\$334.00
467	Student Wellness and Success	\$369,593.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$44,212.00	\$101,106.00	\$268,487.00	\$2,634.00	\$265,853.00
499	Miscellaneous State Grants	\$3,461.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,461.00	\$68,569.00	-\$65,108.00
506	Race to the Top	\$604.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$604.00	\$0.00	\$604.00
507	ESSER	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$30,309.00	\$30,309.00	(\$30,309.00)	\$188,924.00	-\$219,233.00
510	Corona Relief Fund (CRF)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
516	IDEA-B	\$5,799.00	\$1,876.00	\$1,876.00	\$15,458.00	\$41,933.00	(\$34,258.00)	\$93.00	-\$34,351.00
533	Title IID Technology	\$76.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$76.00	\$0.00	\$76.00
536	Title I - School Improvement Part A	\$0.00	\$6,916.00	\$6,916.00	\$0.00	\$6,915.00	\$1.00	\$0.00	\$1.00
572	Title I - Disadvantaged Children	(\$415,065.00)	\$244,190.00	\$244,216.00	\$128,674.00	\$337,657.00	(\$508,506.00)	\$293,894.00	-\$802,400.00
573	Title V	\$2,074.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,074.00	\$0.00	\$2,074.00
584	Drug Free School	\$7,777.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$7,777.00	\$0.00	\$7,777.00
587	Preschool Handicap	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$2,238.00	\$5,324.00	(\$5,324.00)	\$183.00	-\$5,507.00
590	Title II-A - Improving Teacher Quality	\$9,468.00	\$17,059.00	\$17,059.00	\$68,095.00	\$82,372.00	(\$55,845.00)	\$7,137.00	-\$62,982.00
599	Miscellaneous Federal Grants	\$1,993.00	\$13,950.00	\$13,950.00	\$8,839.00	\$20,992.00	(\$5,049.00)	\$30,766.00	-\$35,815.00
	<b>Grand Totals (ALL Funds)</b>	<b>\$9,104,067.00</b>	<b>\$6,882,129.00</b>	<b>\$10,023,642.00</b>	<b>\$4,063,560.00</b>	<b>\$9,492,678.00</b>	<b>\$9,635,031.00</b>	<b>\$6,963,186.00</b>	<b>\$2,671,845.00</b>

**Garfield Heights City Schools**



**Record of Advances for 2019/2020  
Returned 2020/2021**



INITIAL ADVANCE INFORMATION						ADVANCE RETURN	
Date Approved	Board Resolution	FROM Fund	TO Fund	Fund Name	Amount	Date Returned	Amount
6/15/2020	2020-25	001	14	Rotary Fund	\$50,000.00	8/24/2020	\$50,000.00
6/15/2020	2020-25	001	439-9020	Public School Preschool	\$9,000.00	8/24/2020	\$9,000.00
6/15/2020	2020-25	001	516-9020	IDEA Part B	\$185,000.00	8/24/2020	\$185,000.00
6/15/2020	2020-25	001	590-9019	Title II-A	\$58,500.00	8/24/2020	\$58,500.00
<b>TOTAL Advances for 2019-2020</b>					<b>\$302,500.00</b>		<b>\$302,500.00</b>
<b>Advances Outstanding</b>							<b>\$0.00</b>



**Garfield Heights City Schools**



**Approved Grant Funds for 2020/2021**



This report is a listing of all grant funds authorized and received throughout the 2020/2021 fiscal year.

<b>Fund</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Authorized Amount</b>	<b>Monthly Amount Received</b>	<b>Amount Received Project-To-Date</b>
	<b><u>Intermediate Grants</u></b>			
019/914G	Closing the Achievement Gap	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
019/914G	Striving Readers Grant	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
	<b>Total Intermediate Grants</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
	<b><u>State Grants</u></b>			
439/9021	Public School Preschool	\$80,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
451/9021	Data Communications	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
499/921B	School Bus Purchase	\$68,569.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
	<b>Total State Grants</b>	<b>\$148,569.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
	<b><u>Federal Grants</u></b>			
507/9021	ESSER	\$1,286,359.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
510/9021	Corona Relief Grant	\$178,607.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
516/9021	IDEA-B Special Education	\$1,052,891.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
516/921R	IDEA-B Resoration	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
516/921L	IDEA Early Literacy SSIP	\$14,800.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
536/9021	Title I Non Competitive School Imp.	\$44,492.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
572/9021	Title I	\$2,052,992.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
587/9021	Preschool Special Education	\$18,750.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
587/921P	IDEA Early Childhood Special Education	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
590/9021	Title II-A Improving Teacher Quality	\$250,744.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
599/9021	Title IV-A Student Supp/Academic Enrich	\$134,888.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
	<b>Total Federal Grants</b>	<b>\$3,569,557.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>

**Garfield Heights City Schools**

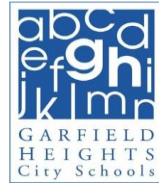


**Cash Reconciliation**



**August 31, 2020**

<b>FINSUM Balance</b>		<b>\$9,635,031.00</b>
<b>Bank Balance:</b>		
Key Bnk - Property Tax/Foundation Receipts	\$ 3,340,496.00	
PNC - General	\$ 899,915.00	
JP MorganChase - Payroll	\$ (55,067.00)	
		\$ 4,185,344.00
<b>Investments:</b>		
STAR Ohio	3,032,124.00	
Red Tree	2,400,090.00	
PNC-Sweep	2.00	
Citizens-Sweep	<u>175,144.00</u>	
		\$ 5,607,360.00
<b>Change Fund:</b>		
HS School Store	50.00	
HS Library	50.00	
High School Athletics	1,050.00	
		\$ 1,150.00
Less: Outstanding Checks-PNC Bank (General Fund)		(158,823.00)
Adjustments		0.00
In Transits		0.00
<b>Bank Balance</b>		<b>\$ 9,635,031.00</b>
<b>Variance</b>		<b>\$ -</b>



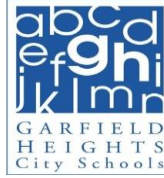
**Investment Report  
August 31, 2020**



<u>FINANCIAL INSTITUTION</u>	<u>INVESTMENT TYPE</u>	<u>COST</u>	<u>MARKET VALUE</u>	<u>YIELD RATE</u>	<u>MATURITY DATE</u>
Citizens Bank	Public Super NOW	\$ 6,705.22	\$ 6,705.22	0.00	N/A
Citizens Bank	Municipal Money Market	\$ 168,439.03	\$ 168,439.03	0.00	N/A
PNC Bank	Business Perf Money Market	\$ 2.30	\$ 2.30	0.85	N/A
Red Tree Investment	Money Mkt Fund	\$ 100,179.18	\$ 100,179.18	0.05	N/A
Red Tree Investment	Agency Note	\$ 125,000.00	\$ 125,014.90	0.55	27-Apr-22
Red Tree Investment	Agency Note	\$ 99,725.00	\$ 100,098.64	0.34	22-May-23
Red Tree Investment	Agency Note	\$ 150,000.00	\$ 150,005.98	0.55	30-Jun-23
Red Tree Investment	U.S. Treasury Note	\$ 54,866.80	\$ 55,367.30	1.64	31-Oct-20
Red Tree Investment	Certificate of Deposit	\$ 99,700.00	\$ 100,262.50	2.07	13-Oct-20
Red Tree Investment	Certificate of Deposit	\$ 109,890.00	\$ 110,388.74	2.27	28-Oct-20
Red Tree Investment	Certificate of Deposit	\$ 248,850.60	\$ 253,493.70	2.54	28-May-21
Red Tree Investment	Certificate of Deposit	\$ 75,000.00	\$ 75,972.90	1.76	17-Jun-21
Red Tree Investment	Certificate of Deposit	\$ 114,827.50	\$ 119,358.50	3.30	15-Nov-21
Red Tree Investment	Certificate of Deposit	\$ 114,942.50	\$ 119,538.82	2.92	31-Jan-22
Red Tree Investment	Certificate of Deposit	\$ 114,885.00	\$ 119,599.31	2.94	07-Feb-22
Red Tree Investment	Certificate of Deposit	\$ 114,850.50	\$ 119,715.11	2.85	14-Mar-22
Red Tree Investment	Certificate of Deposit	\$ 114,965.50	\$ 119,605.63	2.66	04-Apr-22
Red Tree Investment	Certificate of Deposit	\$ 129,805.00	\$ 135,373.55	1.71	31-May-22
Red Tree Investment	Certificate of Deposit	\$ 114,798.75	\$ 122,755.71	2.91	13-Mar-23
Red Tree Investment	Certificate of Deposit	\$ 29,997.00	\$ 32,056.53	2.87	29-Mar-23
Red Tree Investment	Certificate of Deposit	\$ 114,770.00	\$ 127,581.34	3.64	05-Dec-23
Red Tree Investment	Certificate of Deposit	\$ 58,941.00	\$ 64,137.78	2.89	10-Apr-24
Red Tree Investment	Certificate of Deposit	\$ 114,655.00	\$ 125,249.37	2.71	13-Jun-24
Red Tree Investment	Commercial Paper	\$ 99,678.69	\$ 99,892.00	0.43	05-Mar-21
Red Tree Investment	Commercial Paper	\$ 99,761.67	\$ 99,848.00	0.66	27-Apr-21
Red Tree Investment	Accrued Interest	\$ -	\$ 8,943.90		
STAROhio	State Pool	\$ 3,032,124.16	\$ 3,032,124.16	0.29	N/A
<b>Total Investment Amount</b>		<b>\$ 5,607,360.40</b>	<b>\$ 5,691,710.10</b>		
		<b>Monthly Interest</b>	<b>FYTD 2021 Interest</b>		
	General Fund	\$ 6,097.00	\$ 10,279.00		
	Food Service	296.00	\$ 765.00		
	Auxiliary Services-Trinity	17.00	\$ 56.00		
	Auxiliary Services-St. Benedict	16.00	\$ 30.00		
	Blaugrund Scholarship	25.00	\$ 42.00		
		<b>\$ 6,451.00</b>	<b>\$ 11,172.00</b>		

## Garfield Heights City Schools

**August 31, 2020**



**Appropriation Summary**

Fund	Permanent Appropriation	Prior FY Carryover Encumbrances	FYTD Expendable	FYTD Actual Expenditures	MTD Actual Expenditures	Current Encumbrances	FYTD Unencumbered Balance	FYTD Percent Exp/Enc
001 General Fund	\$25,000,000.00	\$717,370.00	\$25,717,370.00	\$8,396,797.00	\$3,647,970.00	\$3,349,636.00	13,970,937.00	45.68%
002 Bond Retirement	\$500,000.00	\$0.00	500,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	500,000.00	0.00%
003 Permanent Improvement	\$150,000.00	\$0.00	150,000.00	\$43,842.00	\$0.00	\$266,920.00	(160,762.00)	207.17%
004 Building Fund	\$100,000.00	\$57,221.00	157,221.00	\$11,895.00	\$6,558.00	\$70,755.00	74,571.00	0.00%
006 Food Service	\$1,000,000.00	\$14,150.00	1,014,150.00	\$140,162.00	\$52,576.00	\$1,054,867.00	(180,879.00)	117.84%
007 Special Trust	\$5,000.00	\$8,000.00	13,000.00	\$2,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$6,000.00	5,000.00	61.54%
008 Edowment Trust	\$500.00	\$0.00	500.00	\$1,000.00	\$500.00	\$500.00	(1,000.00)	300.00%
009 Uniform Supplies	\$25,000.00	\$0.00	25,000.00	\$4,063.00	\$0.00	\$9,121.00	11,816.00	52.74%
014 Rotary - Internal Services	\$50,000.00	\$5,563.00	55,563.00	(\$47,068.00)	(\$52,931.00)	\$0.00	102,631.00	-84.71%
018 Public School Support	\$10,000.00	\$0.00	10,000.00	\$8,775.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	1,225.00	87.75%
019 Other Grants	\$100,000.00	\$15,186.00	115,186.00	\$28,562.00	\$28,562.00	\$35,857.00	50,767.00	55.93%
022 District Agency	\$0.00	\$360.00	360.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	360.00	0.00%
024 Employee Benefits	\$350,000.00	\$48,971.00	398,971.00	\$43,425.00	\$18,489.00	\$1,277,823.00	(922,277.00)	0.00%
034 Classroom Facilities Maintenance	\$200,000.00	\$42,554.00	242,554.00	\$122,026.00	\$8,932.00	\$58,642.00	61,886.00	0.00%
200 Student Managed Funds	\$25,000.00	\$0.00	25,000.00	\$2,532.00	\$2,052.00	\$2,000.00	20,468.00	18.13%
300 District Managed Funds	\$50,000.00	\$4,172.00	54,172.00	\$17,041.00	\$15,724.00	\$45,950.00	(8,819.00)	116.28%
401 Auxiliary Services	\$200,000.00	\$56,112.00	256,112.00	\$65,540.00	\$20,376.00	\$56,112.00	134,460.00	47.50%
439 Public School Preschool	\$50,000.00	\$83.00	50,083.00	\$25,478.00	\$15,927.00	\$503.00	24,102.00	51.88%
451 OneNet (Data Communication)	\$9,000.00	\$0.00	9,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	9,000.00	0.00%
467 Student Wellness and Success	\$250,000.00	\$0.00	250,000.00	\$101,106.00	\$44,212.00	\$2,634.00	146,260.00	41.50%
499 Miscellaneous State Grants	\$50,000.00	\$0.00	50,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$68,569.00	(18,569.00)	137.14%
507 ESSER	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$30,309.00	\$30,309.00	\$188,924.00	(219,233.00)	#DIV/0!
510 Corona Relief Fund (CRF)	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0.00	#DIV/0!
516 IDEA-B	\$200,000.00	\$59,479.00	259,479.00	\$41,933.00	\$15,458.00	\$93.00	217,453.00	16.20%
536 Title I - School Improvement Part A	\$50,000.00	\$6,916.00	56,916.00	\$6,915.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	50,001.00	12.15%
572 Title I - Disadvantaged Children	\$500,000.00	\$309,282.00	809,282.00	\$337,657.00	\$128,674.00	\$293,894.00	177,731.00	78.04%
587 Preschool Handicap	\$20,000.00	\$48.00	20,048.00	\$5,324.00	\$2,238.00	\$183.00	14,541.00	27.47%
590 Title II-A - Improving Teacher Quality	\$50,000.00	\$18,259.00	68,259.00	\$82,372.00	\$68,095.00	\$7,137.00	(21,250.00)	131.13%
599 Miscellaneous Federal Grants	\$25,000.00	\$30,541.00	55,541.00	\$20,992.00	\$8,839.00	\$30,766.00	3,783.00	93.19%
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$28,969,500.00</b>	<b>\$1,394,267.00</b>	<b>\$30,363,767.00</b>	<b>\$9,492,678.00</b>	<b>\$4,063,560.00</b>	<b>\$6,826,886.00</b>	<b>\$14,044,203.00</b>	<b>53.75%</b>

**Garfield Heights City Schools**



**Check Register for Checks > \$5,000  
August 2020**



<b>Vendor</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Fund</b>	<b>Description</b>
CDW Government, Inc.	\$ 6,897.00	001	HPE Smart Storage controller and accessories
Ohio Schools Council	\$ 5,250.00	001	Network support
Classlink, Inc.	\$ 14,375.00	001	Rosters hosting and license renewal
Suburban Health Consortium	\$ 482,387.00	024	Employee Health Care for April
Brainpop LLC	\$ 9,941.00	572	Access to BainPop software
BPI Information Systems	\$ 5,600.00	001	Maintenance agreement for HS vmware server
City of Cleveland	\$ 6,205.00	001	July Water Service
Illuminating Co.	\$ 41,519.00	001	July Electrical Service
Ohio Deparment JFS	\$ 8,909.00	Various	Unemployment Charges
De Lange Landen	\$ 6,459.00	001	Lease-Purchase Payment
Forecast5 Analytics	\$ 11,740.00	001	Forecasting Software
Ohio Bureau of Workers Comp	\$ 10,210.00	001	Workers Comp Charges
Damon Industries	\$ 10,218.00	001	COVID Maintenance Cleaning Supplies
Zenith Systems	\$ 8,365.00	001	Exacqvision software support
AT&T	\$ 5,945.00	001	Telephone Service
Peardeck	\$ 8,000.00	001	License renewal
Dude Solutions	\$ 11,670.00	001	Facility use, maintenance and tech support requests
Comdoc Leasing	\$ 49,020.00	001	Semi-Annual Copier Lease Payments
PSI	\$ 14,673.00	001	Nurse Health Aides Contract
Riddell/All American	\$ 9,825.00	300	Football Helmut Reconditioning
Todd Associates	\$ 142,914.00	001	Property, Liability and FleetInsurance Coverages
Walter & Haverfield LLP	\$ 13,201.00	001	Legal Fees
EMS Linq Inc.	\$ 21,410.00	001	Oneview/DASL fee for registration,web site hosting
Really Great Reading	\$ 29,023.00	019	Instructional reading materials
Peters Kalail & Markakis	\$ 7,905.00	001	Legal Fees
Illuminating Co.	\$ 51,608.00	001	August Electrical Service
Connect	\$ 47,275.00	001	ProgressBook and Core Service Fees
NEORS	\$ 10,967.00	001	July Sewer Fees
American Financial Res.	\$ 12,364.00	401	Trinity printer lease payment
Applewood Centers	\$ 5,684.00	001	OOD tuition
CDW Government, Inc.	\$ 19,245.00	001	Site Licenses and Webcams for Classrooms
Prosource Technology	\$ 9,668.00	001	Central intercept X for endpoint and server
Really Great Reading	\$ 15,207.00	Various	Instructional reading materials
Simple Solutions	\$ 25,473.00	001	Standards base math instructional materials
CDW Government, Inc.	\$ 34,122.00	572	Cases for chromebooks
Black Box Network Services	\$ 7,425.00	001	Donoma voicemail software fee
JP Morgan Chase	\$ 950,764.00	Various	August #1 Payroll
JP Morgan Chase	\$ 992,594.00	Various	August #2 Payroll

## Garfield Heights City Schools



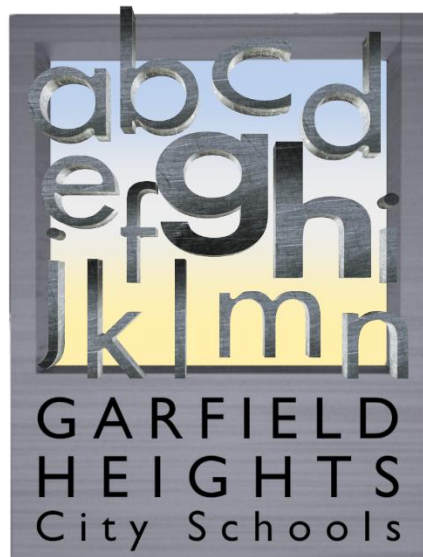
### Legal Fees Analysis Report - FY21



	General	COVID-!9 Issues	BOR/BTA	GHTA	OAPSE	Special Ed	Personnel	Cell Tower	Lighting Transpt Project	Lease-Purchase/ AIF	Totals
July	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
August	1,917	9,183	7,905	182	-	-	2,727	-	-	-	21,914
September											-
October											-
November											-
December											-
January											-
February											-
March											-
April											-
May											-
June											-
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$1,917</b>	<b>\$9,183</b>	<b>\$7,905</b>	<b>\$182</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$2,727</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$21,914</b>

# **GARFIELD HEIGHTS**

## **CITY SCHOOLS**



### **ESTIMATED REVENUES**

### **PERMANENT APPROPRIATION/ BUDGET**

## **Fiscal Year 2021**

# Garfield Heights City Schools

## **ESTIMATED REVENUE/ PERMANENT APPROPRIATION (BUDGET) FY 2021**

The Fiscal Year 2021 Estimated Revenue/Permanent Appropriation Measure contains **Estimated Revenue/Resources** and requested/proposed **Permanent Appropriations /Budget Expenditures** for all funds of Garfield Heights City Schools.

Per the Ohio Revised Code, a permanent appropriation measure must be Board approved by September 30 of each fiscal year. Ohio law also prohibits an appropriation amount to be in excess of total available resources (beginning unencumbered balance + estimated revenues).

The permanent appropriation amounts requested for the General Fund are shown at the function level which is the second level of reporting in the Uniform School Accounting System (USAS). This category includes the following:

Instruction (1000) – Regular, Special, Other

Support Services (2000) – Pupils, Staff, Board, Administration, Fiscal, Business,  
Operation and Maintenance of Plant, Transportation, Central

Community Services (3000)

Extracurricular Activities (4000)

Facilities Acquisition (5000)

Debt Service (6000)

Transfers, Advances, Refunds of Prior Year Receipts (7000)

Also shown are the General Fund budget totals for the third level of reporting which is at the object level:

Personal Services (100)

Employee Retirement and Insurance (200)

Purchased Services (400)

Materials/Supplies (500)

Capital Outlay (600/700)

Debt Service (800)

Other Expenditures (800)

Other Financing Sources (900)

All other fund requested appropriations/budgets are at the fund level, which is the first level of reporting as stipulated under Ohio law.



## **GENERAL FUND**

**General Fund (001):** This is the general operating fund of the district.

### **Estimated Revenues/Resources**

At the end of FY20, the General Fund had a carryover unencumbered/unreserved balance of **\$2,217,359**. This is not to be confused with the ending cash balance. The unencumbered balance is used for budgetary purposes. Revenue for Fiscal Year 2021 is currently estimated to be **\$45,105,000**. Combined with the unencumbered balance, total estimated resources available to appropriate for the General Fund is **\$47,322,359**.

**Total Local Revenues includes the following:**

**Property Taxes (General and Public Utility Tangible Property):** These amounts are based on latest financial forecast projections.

**Other Tax** is the amount of property taxes the district receives from City View TIF and Shared Income Tax. The TIF amount is based on the amount received in the prior fiscal year.

**Other Local Revenues (Tuition, Interest income, Rental, and Miscellaneous):** These amounts are based on the current forecast and history

**Total State Revenues are:**

**State Basic Aid** amount is based on current state funding SFPR amounts and includes projected future cuts from the Governor to make up state's shortfall. Pupil transportation and special education state reimbursements are also included in this Foundation revenue amount.

**Homestead/Rollback** is based on a percentage of the real property taxes for qualified residential homeowners only.

**Tangible Personal Property Reimbursement** is based on a what the district is expected to receive based on the state's phase out amount of the district's loss of its Tangible Personal Property Tax.

**Total Other Financing Sources** is the return of advances made in the prior year.

**Total Revenues are estimated to decrease by 2.1% from Fiscal Year 2020 actual amount received due to a projected decrease in the collection of delinquent taxes and state basic aid.**

**In breaking down our revenue sources: 40.2% comes from local sources with the majority being property taxes and 59.2% comes from the State of Ohio. The remaining .7% is from Other Financing Sources. This is consistent with previous years.**

## **Permanent Appropriations/Budget**

The proposed appropriations for the General Fund are built on a combination of requested amounts, expected costs in the various areas and anticipated budget needs for the various service areas, departments and buildings. The amount represented in the parenthesis is the percentage of total expenditures. While the General Fund Permanent Appropriation/Budget is shown by two categories, Function and Object, I am commenting on the object areas below as this category matches up with the monthly financial reports and the five-year forecast.

**Salaries and Wages/100 - \$25,345,500 (54.1%)** The salary and wage amount shown reflects projected wages. This amount is based on the estimated salaries that will be earned by all employees who currently have contracts for the school year. In addition, the salary/wage amount includes projected estimates for incentives, substitutes, overtime, and any supplemental contracts. Lastly, all termination benefit (severance) payments are reflected here. The requested appropriated Salary and Wages amount is a 2.3% **increase** from FY20 actual.

**Employee Retirement and Insurance/200 - \$9,215,360 (19.7%)** Included here are the Board's incurred costs for retirement (14% of wages earned) and for Medicare on new employees hired after 1986 (1.45% of wages earned). Health insurance costs are also considered a fringe benefit. Health insurance premiums for medical, prescription, vision and life insurance are estimated to increase 4% in the aggregate for family coverage and single coverage. This also takes into account the change in health care coverage premium amounts. Workers' Compensation, which is based on a percentage of the payroll, and Unemployment is included here as a fringe benefit. The Employee Retirement and Insurance requested appropriation amount is a 2.6% **increase** from FY20 actual.

**Purchased Services/400 - \$9,910,500 (21.1%)** The purchased service areas are costs incurred by the district for services provided by outside agencies, vendors, sources, etc. Areas where there is expected to be slight decreases include Other Education (1900) and Support Services-Operation/Maintenance of Plant/Utilities (2700). Special need student costs and Out of District tuition are estimated to decrease slightly along with utilities. The requested Purchased Service appropriation is an overall .8% **decrease** from FY20 actual expenditures.

**Supplies and Materials/500 - \$875,000 (1.9%)** The administrative team has determined the material and supply needs for their buildings/departments. While the district needed to purchase additional instructional supplies this fiscal year for each of the buildings, other supply areas was reduced due to remote learning is taking place. Therefore, the Supplies and Materials requested appropriation amount is a **decrease** of 3.3% than was actually expended in FY20.

**Capital Outlay/600 - \$150,000 (0.3%)** This is mainly for technology equipment that needs to be replaced due to outdated computers and servers. We also are using alternative funding for technology needs during this time of remote learning. Therefore, the appropriation amount for Capital Outlay is a 17.1% **decrease** from what was actually expended in FY20.

**Facilities Acquisition/Debt Service/Lease Purchase - \$82,350 (.2%)** This amount represents debt service payment an equipment lease purchase approved in 2017. Therefore, the requested appropriation amount reflects the obligation due this fiscal year.

**Other Objects/800 - \$681,500 (1.5%)** This amount represents dues and fees for professional organizations, state audit fees, county auditor/treasurer fees, contingencies, liability insurance and election expense. The appropriation amount for Other Objects is a slight .6% **increase** from FY20 actual.

**Other Financing Uses/900 - \$600,000 (1.3%)** includes transfers, advances, and refunds of prior year receipts. Transfers are expected to increase slightly based on projected needs in various Grant funds to supplement their programming, Employee Benefits Self-Insurance Fund to cover spousal reimbursements and to the Athletic Fund (300-926A). Any advance-out amount will be offset in the following fiscal year with an advance-in.

**The total requested appropriation amount for the General Fund is \$46,860,210. This is a 1.5% increase over prior year actual expenditures.**

**Note: The appropriated/budget amount does not mean that the whole amount will be needed. Events do take place during the school year that will not be anticipated. Therefore, revisions/amendments to the appropriated amounts may be necessary. The Board will be fully apprised when that situation occurs.**

While revenues are anticipated to decrease slightly and program expenditures are projected to increase slightly, the district **will** need to utilize its carryover cash balance from fiscal year 2020.

**Ohio law mandates that a district cannot appropriate more than total available resources. Total available resources are calculated by adding the beginning unencumbered balance and total estimated revenues.**

## **BOND RETIREMENT FUND**

**Bond Retirement (002):** A fund provided for the retirement of serial bonds and short term loans. All revenue derived from general or special levies, either within or exceeding the ten-mill limitation, which is levied for debt charges on bonds or loans, shall be paid into this fund.

The estimated revenue is the approved bond levy being assessed on the same valuations used for the General Fund. The principal and interest payment amounts appropriated are the amount of debt obligation being incurred by the district this fiscal year. An amortization schedule of annual debt service requirements has been established. The district has five debt issues that are paid from this fund: 2012 Refunded Issue, 2015 Refunded Issue, 2016 Refunded Issue and the Energy Conservation Bond Issue.

## **PERMANENT IMPROVEMENT FUND**

**Permanent Improvement Fund (003):** The Permanent Improvement fund accounts for those monies generated through a separate property tax levy. Proceeds of the fund may be used to acquire, construct, or improve any property or asset with a useful life of five years or more (Chapter 5705.01(E), R.C.).

The appropriation amounts for the Permanent Improvement (PI) funds are limited by the revenue generated from the PI levy. This amount is also estimated using the same property valuations for the General Fund. The PI fund shows requested appropriated amounts for building maintenance and improvement projects and technology equipment to be purchased for this school year. Also included here is an annual lease-purchase payment for the transportation project.

## **BUILDING FUND**

**Building Fund (004):** Used to record financial transactions related to the construction and/or renovation projects.

The appropriation amount being requested for additional equipment being purchased for the Transportation Center that was not included the original budget.

## **FOOD SERVICE FUND**

**Food Services Fund (006):** Used to record financial transactions related to the food service operation.

The Food Service Fund's requested appropriation is based on estimated wages, retirement and health benefit costs for cafeteria personnel in addition to the estimated food costs for the coming fiscal year. The food costs are based on prior history and projected needs. Estimated revenues are based on prior year food sales and projected federal funding from the CEP and breakfast programs. The district has now added the High School to the CEP program.

## **EXPENDABLE TRUST**

**Expendable Trust (007):** A fund used to account for assets held by a school system in a trustee capacity or as an agent for individuals, private organizations, and other governmental and/or other funds.

The requested appropriation for these funds are based on each fund's scholarship amounts granted as detailed in the trust agreements. The appropriation amount being requested is based on the awarding of the same number of scholarships as in fiscal year 2020.

## **NONEXPENDABLE TRUST FUNDS**

**Blaugrund Scholarship Nonexpendable Trust Fund (008):** Used for annual scholarship awarded by the district. Nonexpendable infers that only interest can be used and not the principal.

The requested appropriation for this fund is limited to the interest revenue projected to be generated.

## **UNIFORM SCHOOL SUPPLIES FUND**

**Uniform School Supplies Fund (009):** Accounts for the purchase and resale of school supplies.

Appropriations for these funds are limited to the total estimated/available resources from collection of schools fees for various instructional supply items such as workbooks, art, technology, and any other applicable instructional supply item. The requested appropriation amount is building based. The only building that collects fees is the High School. Due to the high volume of waived fees, this fund will not break even and will need a transfer from the General Fund to avoid a year-end deficit.

## **ROTARY FUND**

**Internal Services Rotary (014):** A fund provided to account for operations that provide goods or services to other governmental units on a cost-reimbursement basis. The use of the fund may be applied to situations where the district acts as fiscal agent for a multi-district program.

The requested appropriation is based on estimated amounts that may be collected and disbursed to offset costs for such purposes as field trips not part of the curriculum.

## **PUBLIC SCHOOL SUPPORT**

**Public School Support Fund (018):** Accounts for specific revenue sources (profit from vending machines, picture sales, etc) that are restricted to expenditures for specific purposes that could be curricular and extra-curricular related as approved by the Board.

The requested appropriation amounts for these funds are limited to their projected total estimated revenue/available resources.

## **OTHER LOCAL GRANTS**

**Other Grant Fund (019):** Accounts for specific revenue sources except for state and federal grants that are legally restricted to expenditures for specific purposes.

The requested appropriation amounts are based on estimated intermediate grant amounts projected to be received this fiscal year. The two main grants are the Closing the Achievement Gap and UPK Preschool Program. Both of these grants come from Cuyahoga County.

## **DISTRICT ROTARY**

**District Rotary Fund (022):** Used to account for those assets held by a school district as an agent for individuals, private organization, other governmental units, and/or other funds. This fund is used to keep track of State Athletic Tournaments held in the district and turned over to the Ohio High School Athletic Association.

The district currently hosts two OHSAA tournaments, Division III Basketball and Division IV Wrestling. The requested appropriation amounts are based on estimated tournament fees to be generated and corresponding costs to be incurred.

## **EMPLOYEE BENEFITS SELF INSURANCE FUND**

**Employee Benefits Self-Insurance Fund (024):** A fund provided to account for monies received from other funds as payment for providing medical, hospitalization, life, dental, vision, or any other similar employee benefits. The Employee Benefits Self-Insurance Fund may make payments for services provided to employees, for reimbursements to employees who have paid providers, to third party administrators for claim payment or administration, for stop-loss coverage or for any other reinsurance or other similar purposes.

The requested appropriation amount is based on the projected/estimated cost of health insurance to be incurred and paid from this fund. This fund will also need a transfer-in from the General Fund to cover the cost for spousal reimbursements.

## **CLASSROOM FACILITIES MAINTENANCE FUND**

**Classroom Facilities Maintenance Fund (034):** A fund used to account for the proceeds of a levy for the maintenance of facilities.

As a requirement from the Ohio School Facility Commission, the district is required to set-a-side a half mill for classroom facilities maintenance. This half mill comes from the Permanent Improvement continuing levy. The appropriation amount is based on the projected/estimated revenue generated from this half mill and projected maintenance needs and lease-purchase payment for the LED lighting project.

## **STUDENT MANAGED ACTIVITY**

**Student Managed Activity Funds (200):** Accounts for student activity programs that have student participation in the activity and have students involved in management of the program.

The requested appropriation amounts are limited to their total estimated/available resources from donations and fund raisers as outlined in each club's policy and purpose statements/estimated financial activity. The appropriation amounts are based on past history and projected needs as determined by the advisor. Student Managed activity funds includes: Honor Society-HS/MS, Art Club, Spanish Club, Community Service and the individual Senior Classes.

## **DISTRICT MANAGED ACTIVITY FUNDS**

**District Managed Fund (300):** Accounts for those student activity programs which have student participation in the activity but do not have students involved in management of the program.

The requested appropriation amounts are limited to their projected total estimated/available resources from their extracurricular activity area. The appropriation amounts are based on past history and projected needs as determined by the coordinator of each of these student activity areas. District Managed activity funds included here are: Youth Drama, Garfield Mirror, Music Express, Vocal Music-HS/MS, Band-HS/MS, Drama-HS/MS, Library, Band-Maple Leaf, Yearbook, Athletics-HS/MS, Track-HS/MS, Dance Line, Cheerleaders-HS/MS, and Academic Team.

### ***State Grant Funds (400)***

## **AUXILIARY SERVICES**

**Auxiliary Services Fund (401):** Funds used to account for monies which provide services and materials to pupils attending non-public schools within the school district.

The requested appropriations for these funds are limited to the amount of state grant money each non-public school (Trinity and St. Benedict) are estimated to receive this fiscal year. This allocation is based on the number of students enrolled in each of these schools.

## **EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION**

**Early Childhood Education Fund (439):** A fund to assist school districts in paying the cost of preschool programs for three and four year old students.

The budget/appropriation for this fund is based on the salary/benefit amount of the teacher funded by this grant. Since the teacher's salary/benefit is higher than the actual grant amount, the General Fund will need to offset the difference through a transfer.

## **ONENET CONNECTIVITY**

**Data Communications Fund (451):** Provided to account for money used for the installation and ongoing support of the data communication links connecting the school buildings to the Ohio Educational Computer Network and to the Internet.

The budget/appropriation for this fund is limited to the amount of state grant money estimated to be allocated to the district this fiscal year along with any unused funds carried over from the previous fiscal year(s).

## **STUDENT WELLNESS AND SUCCESS**

**Student Wellness Fund (467):** Funding created by Governor DeWine to provide additional state funding for wellness and success funding for 11 outlined initiatives. The district uses this funding for the following two initiative's Family Engagement and support services and physical health care services.

The budget/appropriation amount reflects a grant amounts allocated to the district this fiscal year along with any unused funds carried over from the previous fiscal year.

## **MISCELLANEOUS**

**Miscellaneous State Fund (499):** Provided to account for money used for various miscellaneous state grants.

The budget/appropriation amount reflects a grant received for the purchase of a school bus.

## ***Federal Grant Funds (500)***

## **ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOL EMERGENCY RELIEF (ESSER)**

**Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER) (507):** We have allocated our funds in the following areas: purchase of supplies to sanitize and clean facilities; purchase of educational technology; and other activities necessary to maintain the operation and continuity of services and "continuing to employ existing staff."

The appropriation for this fund is limited to the amount of federal grant money we have been allocated through the state's CCIP.

## **21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY COLLEGE NOW**

**21<sup>st</sup> Century College Now (509):** This is a five-year grant obtained by College Now to offer school districts a test prep program for ACT and SAT to their High School students. While College Now obtained the grant, being that this is federal program, the requirement is that it must be accounted for through the public school district utilizing College Now's program.

The appropriation for this fund is limited to the amount of federal grant money that College Now was awarded.



## **CORONA RELIEF**

**Corona Relief Fund (510):** Grants to assist school districts in providing additional technology to students in need during remote learning. This also includes the Broadband Connectivity Grant.

The appropriation for this fund is limited to the amount of federal grant money we have been allocated through the state's CCIP.

## **IDEA TITLE VI-B**

**IDEA, Part B, Special Education, Education of Handicapped Children Fund (516):** Grants to assist states in providing an appropriate public education to all children with disabilities.

The appropriation for this fund is limited to the amount of federal grant money we been allocated through the state's CCIP along with any carry over from the previous fiscal year.

## **TITLE I**

**Title I, Disadvantaged Children/Targeted Assistance Fund (572):** To provide financial assistance to State and Local educational agencies to meet the special needs of educationally deprived children. Included are the Even Start and Comprehensive School Reform programs.

The appropriation for this fund is limited to the amount of federal grant money we have been allocated through the state's CCIP along with any carry over from the previous fiscal year.

## **EARLY CHILDHOOD SPECIAL EDUCATION**

**IDEA Preschool Grant for the Handicapped Fund (587):** To address the improvement and expansion of services for handicapped children ages three (3) through five (5) years.

The appropriation for this fund is limited to the amount of federal grant money we have been allocated through the state's CCIP.

## **TITLE II-A**

**Title II-A Improving Teacher Quality Fund (590):** A grant used for professional development of staff.

The appropriation for this fund is limited to the amount of federal grant money we have been allocated through the state's CCIP along with any carry over from the previous fiscal year.

## **TITLE IV-A**

**Title IV-A Student Support and Academic Enrichment Fund (599):** A grant used to account for monies to help pay for a summer learning program for students who will be entering kindergarten in the fall.

The appropriation for this fund is limited to the amount of federal grant money we been allocated through the state's CCIP along with any carry over from the previous fiscal year.

**GENERAL FUND  
(001)**

GENERAL FUND 001	ACTUAL FY20	EST REV/ BUDGET FY21	Percent of Total
<b>BEGINNING BALANCE</b>	<b>3,068,444</b>	\$ 2,217,359	
<b>REVENUES</b>			
TOTAL LOCAL REVENUES	18,934,160	18,114,500	40.2%
TOTAL STATE REVENUES	26,932,328	26,688,000	59.2%
TOTAL OTHER FINANCING SOURCES	185,581	302,500	0.7%
<b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>	<b>46,052,069</b>	<b>45,105,000</b>	<b>100.1%</b>
<b>TOTAL AVAILABLE RESOURCES</b>	<b>49,120,513</b>	<b>47,322,359</b>	
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>			
1100 REGULAR INSTRUCTION	17,860,797	18,320,000	39.1%
1200 SPECIAL INSTRUCTION	2,819,852	2,905,000	6.2%
1900 OTHER INSTRUCTION	9,480,017	9,455,000	20.2%
2100 SUPPORT SERVICES - PUPILS	2,806,425	2,895,000	6.2%
2200 SUPPORT SERVICES - INSTRUCTIONAL STAFF	1,205,133	1,098,000	2.3%
2300 SUPPORT SERVICES - BOARD OF EDUCATION	90,435	88,060	0.2%
2400 SUPPORT SERVICES - ADMINISTRATION	4,032,360	4,130,000	8.8%
2500 SUPPORT SERVICES - FISCAL	997,661	1,010,500	2.2%
2600 SUPPORT SERVICES - BUSINESS	374,770	377,500	0.8%
2700 SUPPORT SERVICES - OPERATION/MAINTENANCE PLAN	3,520,337	3,590,000	7.7%
2800 SUPPORT SERVICES - PUPIL TRANSPORTATION	1,259,797	1,231,500	2.6%
2900 SUPPORT SERVICES - CENTRAL	671,196	695,000	1.5%
4000 EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES	377,612	382,300	0.8%
6100 DEBT SERVICE	134,012	82,350	0.2%
7200 TRANSFERS OUT	252,061	300,000	0.6%
7400 ADVANCES OUT	302,500	300,000	0.6%
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES BY FUNCTION</b>	<b>46,185,784</b>	<b>46,860,210</b>	<b>100.0%</b>
Personal Services	24,763,857	<b>25,345,500</b>	54.0%
Employee Retirement and Insurance	8,979,031	<b>9,215,360</b>	19.7%
Purchased Services	9,990,319	<b>9,910,500</b>	21.1%
Supplies and Materials	905,169	<b>875,000</b>	1.9%
Capital Outlay	180,989	<b>150,000</b>	0.3%
Facilities Acqu/Debt Service/Lease Purchase	134,100	<b>82,350</b>	0.2%
Other Objects	677,758	<b>681,500</b>	1.5%
Other Financing Uses	554,561	<b>600,000</b>	1.3%
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES BY OBJECT</b>	<b>46,185,784</b>	<b>46,860,210</b>	<b>100.0%</b>
ENDING BALANCE	2,934,729	\$ <b>462,149</b>	
LESS ENCUMBRANCES	<b>717,370</b>		
UNENCUMBERED BALANCE	\$ 2,217,359		

**BOND RETIREMENT  
(002)**

<b>BOND RETIREMENT FUND 002</b>	<b>ACTUAL FY20</b>	<b>EST REV/ BUDGET FY21</b>
BEGINNING BALANCE	\$ 3,890,127	\$ 4,263,369
TOTAL REVENUES:	4,117,169	3,250,000
AVAILABLE RESOURCES	<u>8,007,296</u>	<u>7,513,369</u>
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	<u>3,743,927</u>	<u>3,838,675</u>
ENDING BALANCE	4,263,369	\$ 3,674,694
LESS ENCUMBRANCES	0	
UNENCUMBERED BALANCE	<u><u>\$ 4,263,369</u></u>	

**PERMANENT IMPROVEMENT  
(003)**

<b>PERMANENT IMPROVEMENT FUND 003</b>	<b>ACTUAL FY20</b>	<b>EST REV/ BUDGET FY21</b>
BEGINNING BALANCE	\$ 21,123	\$ 18,279
TOTAL REVENUES	214,868	180,500
AVAILABLE RESOURCES	<u>235,991</u>	<u><b>198,779</b></u>
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	<u>217,712</u>	<u><b>197,000</b></u>
ENDING BALANCE	18,279	<u>\$ 1,779</u>
LESS ENCUMBRANCES	0	
UNENCUMBERED BALANCE	<u><u>\$ 18,279</u></u>	

**BUILDING FUND  
(004)**

<b>BUILDING FUND 004</b>	<b>ACTUAL FY20</b>	<b>EST REV/ BUDGET FY21</b>
BEGINNING BALANCE	\$ 47,289	\$ 60,060
TOTAL REVENUES	88,025	43,000
AVAILABLE RESOURCES	<u>135,314</u>	<b>103,060</b>
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	<u>18,033</u>	<b>95,000</b>
ENDING BALANCE	117,281	<u>\$ 8,060</u>
LESS ENCUMBRANCES	57,221	
UNENCUMBERED BALANCE	<u><u>\$ 60,060</u></u>	

**FOOD SERVICE  
(006)**

<b>FOOD SERVICE 006</b>	<b>ACTUAL FY20</b>	<b>EST REV/ BUDGET FY21</b>
BEGINNING BALANCE	\$ 1,389,648	\$ 1,253,787
TOTAL REVENUES	1,653,973	1,600,000
AVAILABLE RESOURCES	3,043,621	<b>2,853,787</b>
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	1,775,684	<b>1,850,000</b>
ENDING BALANCE	1,267,937	\$ 1,003,787
LESS ENCUMBRANCES	14,150	
UNENCUMBERED BALANCE	\$ 1,253,787	

**EXPENDABLE TRUST FUND  
(007)**

<b>EXPENDABLE TRUST FUND 007</b>	<b>ACTUAL FY20</b>	<b>EST REV/ BUDGET FY21</b>
BEGINNING BALANCE	\$ 16,869	\$ 719
TOTAL REVENUES:	2,600	2,500
AVAILABLE RESOURCES	<u>19,469</u>	<u><b>3,219</b></u>
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	<u>10,750</u>	<u><b>2,500</b></u>
ENDING BALANCE	8,719	<u>\$ 719</u>
LESS ENCUMBRANCES	8,000	
UNENCUMBERED BALANCE	<u>\$ 719</u>	

**NON EXPENDABLE TRUST  
(008)**

<b>NON EXPENDABLE TRUST 008</b>	<b>ACTUAL FY20</b>	<b>EST REV/ BUDGET FY21</b>
BEGINNING BALANCE	\$ 102,556	\$ 102,718
TOTAL REVENUES	1,662	500
AVAILABLE RESOURCES	<u>104,218</u>	<b>103,218</b>
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	1,500	<b>500</b>
ENDING BALANCE	102,718	<u>\$ 102,718</u>
LESS ENCUMBRANCES	0	
UNENCUMBERED BALANCE	<u>\$ 102,718</u>	



**UNIFORM SCHOOL SUPPLIES  
(009)**

<b>UNIFORM SCHOOL SUPPLIES FUND 009</b>	<b>ACTUAL FY20</b>	<b>EST REV/ BUDGET FY21</b>
BEGINNING BALANCE	\$ 12	\$ 3,707
TOTAL REVENUES	47,065	40,000
AVAILABLE RESOURCES	<u>47,077</u>	<b>43,707</b>
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	<u>43,370</u>	<b>40,000</b>
ENDING BALANCE	3,707	<u>\$ 3,707</u>
LESS ENCUMBRANCES	0	
UNENCUMBERED BALANCE	<u>\$ 3,707</u>	

**ROTARY  
(014)**

<b>ROTARY 014</b>	<b>ACTUAL FY20</b>	<b>EST REV/ BUDGET FY21</b>
BEGINNING BALANCE	\$ 72,278	\$ 2,606
TOTAL REVENUES	76,641	81,000
AVAILABLE RESOURCES	<u>148,919</u>	<u><b>83,606</b></u>
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	<u>140,750</u>	<u><b>75,000</b></u>
ENDING BALANCE	8,169	<u>\$ 8,606</u>
LESS ENCUMBRANCES	<u>5,563</u>	
UNENCUMBERED BALANCE	<u><u>\$ 2,606</u></u>	

**PUBLIC SCHOOL SUPPORT  
(018)**

PUBLIC SCHOOL SUPPORT 018	ACTUAL FY20	EST REV/ BUDGET FY21
BEGINNING BALANCE	\$ 2,157	\$ 22,459
TOTAL REVENUES	27,126	5,000
AVAILABLE RESOURCES	<u>24,947</u>	<u><b>23,123</b></u>
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	<u>6,824</u>	<u><b>17,000</b></u>
ENDING BALANCE	22,459	<u>\$ 6,123</u>
LESS ENCUMBRANCES	0	
UNENCUMBERED BALANCE	<u><u>\$ 22,459</u></u>	

**OTHER GRANTS  
(019)**

<b>OTHER GRANT FUNDS 019</b>	<b>ACTUAL FY20</b>	<b>EST REV/ BUDGET FY21</b>
BEGINNING BALANCE	\$ 45,583	\$ (46,811)
TOTAL REVENUES	150,168	277,701
AVAILABLE RESOURCES	<u>195,751</u>	<u><b>230,890</b></u>
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	<u>241,972</u>	<u><b>188,646</b></u>
ENDING BALANCE	(46,221)	<u>\$ 42,244</u>
LESS ENCUMBRANCES	590	
UNENCUMBERED BALANCE	<u><u>\$ (46,811)</u></u>	

**DISTRICT AGENCY  
(022)**

<b>DISTRICT AGENCY FUND 022</b>	<b>ACTUAL FY20</b>	<b>EST REV/ BUDGET FY21</b>
BEGINNING BALANCE	\$ 24,589	\$ 28,129
TOTAL REVENUES	12,326	10,000
AVAILABLE RESOURCES	<u>36,915</u>	<b>38,129</b>
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	<u>8,426</u>	<b>10,000</b>
ENDING BALANCE	28,489	<u>\$ 28,129</u>
LESS ENCUMBRANCES	360	
UNENCUMBERED BALANCE	<u>\$ 28,129</u>	

**BENEFIT SELF INSURANCE  
(024)**

<b>BENEFIT SELF INSURANCE FUND 024</b>	<b>ACTUAL FY20</b>	<b>EST REV/ BUDGET FY21</b>
BEGINNING BALANCE	\$ 91	\$ (367,321)
TOTAL REVENUES	50,000	720,000
AVAILABLE RESOURCES	<u>50,091</u>	<u><b>352,679</b></u>
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	<u>368,441</u>	<u><b>350,000</b></u>
ENDING BALANCE	\$ (318,350)	<u>\$ 2,679</u>
LESS ENCUMBRANCES	48,971	
UNENCUMBERED BALANCE	<u>\$ (367,321)</u>	

**CLASSROOM FACILITIES MAINTENANCE  
(034)**

<b>CLASSROOM FACILITIES MAINTENANCE FUND 034</b>	<b>ACTUAL FY20</b>	<b>EST REV/ BUDGET FY21</b>
BEGINNING BALANCE	\$ 904,086	\$ 614,918
TOTAL REVENUES	\$ 279,817	280,500
AVAILABLE RESOURCES	<u>\$ 1,183,903</u>	<b>895,418</b>
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	<u>\$ 526,431</u>	<b>584,800</b>
ENDING BALANCE	\$ 657,472	<u>\$ 310,618</u>
LESS ENCUMBRANCES	\$ 42,554	
UNENCUMBERED BALANCE	<u>\$ 614,918</u>	

**STUDENT MANAGED ACTIVITY**  
**(200)**

<b>STUDENT MANAGED ACTIVITY 200</b>	<b>ACTUAL FY20</b>	<b>EST REV/ BUDGET FY21</b>
BEGINNING BALANCE	\$ 9,616	\$ 6,185
TOTAL REVENUES	17,025	30,000
AVAILABLE RESOURCES	<u>26,641</u>	<u><b>36,185</b></u>
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	<u>20,456</u>	<u><b>28,000</b></u>
ENDING BALANCE	\$ 6,185	<u><u>\$ 8,185</u></u>
LESS ENCUMBRANCES	-	
UNENCUMBERED BALANCE	<u><u>\$ 6,185</u></u>	



**DISTRICT MANAGED ACTIVITY**  
**(300)**

<b>DISTRICT MANAGED ACTIVITY 300</b>	<b>ACTUAL FY20</b>	<b>EST REV/ BUDGET FY21</b>
BEGINNING BALANCE	\$ 1,694	\$ 17,526
TOTAL REVENUES	221,079	178,500
AVAILABLE RESOURCES	<u>222,773</u>	<u><b>196,026</b></u>
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	<u>201,075</u>	<u><b>163,500</b></u>
ENDING BALANCE	\$ 21,698	<u><u>\$ 32,526</u></u>
LESS ENCUMBRANCES	4,172	
UNENCUMBERED BALANCE	<u><u>\$ 17,526</u></u>	

**AUXILIARY SERVICES**  
**(401)**

AUXILIARY SERVICES FUND 401	ACTUAL FY20	EST REV/ BUDGET FY21
BEGINNING BALANCE	\$ 75,926	(\$19,080)
TOTAL REVENUES	622,463	487,891
AVAILABLE RESOURCES	698,389	468,811
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	647,873	468,811
ENDING BALANCE	\$ 50,516	\$ -
LESS ENCUMBRANCES	56,112	
UNENCUMBERED BALANCE	(19,080)	

**EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION CHALLENGE  
(439)**

<b>EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION 439</b>	<b>ACTUAL FY20</b>	<b>EST REV/ BUDGET FY21</b>
BEGINNING BALANCE	\$ 5,415	\$ 2,747
TOTAL REVENUES	106,968	80,000
AVAILABLE RESOURCES	<u>112,383</u>	<u><b>82,747</b></u>
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	<u>109,552</u>	<u><b>82,747</b></u>
ENDING BALANCE	2,830	<u>\$ -</u>
LESS ENCUMBRANCES	83	
UNENCUMBERED BALANCE	<u><u>\$ 2,747</u></u>	

**ONENET CONNECTIVITY  
(451)**

<b>ONENET CONNECTIVITY 451</b>	<b>ACTUAL FY20</b>	<b>EST REV/ BUDGET FY21</b>
BEGINNING BALANCE	\$ 22,125	\$ 8
TOTAL REVENUES	9,000	9,000
AVAILABLE RESOURCES	<u>31,125</u>	<u>9,008</u>
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	<u>31,117</u>	<u>9,000</u>
ENDING BALANCE	8	<u>\$ 8</u>
LESS ENCUMBRANCES	0	
UNENCUMBERED BALANCE	<u>\$ 8</u>	

**STUDENT WELLNESS AND SUCCESS  
(467)**

STUDENT WELLNESS AND SUCCESS FUND 467

	<b>ACTUAL FY20</b>	<b>EST REV/ BUDGET FY21</b>
BEGINNING BALANCE	\$ -	\$ 369,593
TOTAL REVENUES	959,528	1,237,850
	<u>0</u>	
AVAILABLE RESOURCES : TOTAL REVENUES	<u>959,528</u>	<b>1,607,443</b>
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	<u>589,935</u>	<b>1,607,443</b>
ENDING BALANCE	369,593	<u>\$ -</u>
LESS ENCUMBRANCES	<u>0</u>	
UNENCUMBERED BALANCE	<u>\$ 369,593</u>	

**MISCELLANEOUS STATE GRANTS  
(499)**

<b>MISCELLANEOUS STATE GRANT FUNDS 499</b>	<b>ACTUAL FY20</b>	<b>EST REV/ BUDGET FY21</b>
BEGINNING BALANCE	6,144	\$ 3,461
TOTAL REVENUES	0	68,569
AVAILABLE RESOURCES	<u>6,144</u>	<u><b>72,030</b></u>
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	<u>2,683</u>	<u><b>68,569</b></u>
ENDING BALANCE	3,461	<u>\$ 3,461</u>
LESS ENCUMBRANCES	0	
UNENCUMBERED BALANCE	<u>\$ 3,461</u>	

**ELEMENTARY AND SCONDARY  
SCHOOL EMERGENCY RELIEF  
(507)**

<b>ESSER 507</b>	<b>ACTUAL FY20</b>	<b>EST REV/ BUDGET FY21</b>
BEGINNING BALANCE	\$ -	\$ -
TOTAL REVENUES	-	1,492,079
AVAILABLE RESOURCES	-	<b>1,492,079</b>
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	-	<b>1,492,079</b>
ENDING BALANCE	-	\$ -
LESS ENCUMBRANCES	-	
UNENCUMBERED BALANCE	<u>\$ -</u>	

**21ST CENTURY COLLEGE NOW  
(509)**

21ST CENTURY COLLEGE NOW 509	ACTUAL FY20	EST REV/ BUDGET FY21
BEGINNING BALANCE	\$ -	\$ -
TOTAL REVENUES	-	200,000
AVAILABLE RESOURCES	-	<b>200,000</b>
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	-	<b>200,000</b>
ENDING BALANCE	-	\$ -
LESS ENCUMBRANCES	-	
UNENCUMBERED BALANCE	<u>\$ -</u>	



**CORONA RELIEF FUND  
(510)**

<b>CORONA RELIEF FUND 510</b>	<b>ACTUAL FY20</b>	<b>EST REV/ BUDGET FY21</b>
BEGINNING BALANCE	\$ -	\$ -
TOTAL REVENUES	-	234,347
AVAILABLE RESOURCES	-	<b>234,347</b>
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	-	<b>234,347</b>
ENDING BALANCE	-	\$ -
LESS ENCUMBRANCES	-	
UNENCUMBERED BALANCE	<u>\$ -</u>	

**IDEA TITLE VI-B  
(516)**

<b>TITLE VI-B FUND 516</b>	<b>ACTUAL FY20</b>	<b>EST REV/ BUDGET FY21</b>
BEGINNING BALANCE	\$ -	\$ 101,510
TOTAL REVENUES	1,249,946	1,222,695
AVAILABLE RESOURCES	<u>1,249,946</u>	<u><b>1,324,205</b></u>
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	<u>1,100,707</u>	<u><b>1,324,018</b></u>
ENDING BALANCE	\$ 149,239	<u><u>\$ 187</u></u>
LESS ENCUMBRANCES	<u>53,465</u>	
UNENCUMBERED BALANCE	<u><u>\$ 95,774</u></u>	

**TITLE I**  
**(572)**

<b>TITLE I FUND 572</b>	<b>ACTUAL FY20</b>	<b>EST REV/ BUDGET FY21</b>
BEGINNING BALANCE	\$ -	\$ (48,945)
TOTAL REVENUES	1,281,283	2,608,588
AVAILABLE RESOURCES	<u>1,281,283</u>	<u><b>2,559,643</b></u>
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	<u>1,330,228</u>	<u><b>2,559,643</b></u>
ENDING BALANCE	<b>(48,945)</b>	<u>\$ -</u>
LESS ENCUMBRANCES	0	
UNENCUMBERED BALANCE	<u><u>\$ (48,945)</u></u>	

**EARLY CHILDHOOD SPECIAL EDUCATION  
(587)**

<b>EARLY CHILDHOOD SPECIAL EDUCATION FUND 587</b>	<b>ACTUAL FY20</b>	<b>EST REV/ BUDGET FY21</b>
BEGINNING BALANCE	\$ 736	\$ (43)
TOTAL REVENUES	25,560	18,750
AVAILABLE RESOURCES	<u>26,296</u>	<u><b>18,707</b></u>
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	<u>26,291</u>	<u><b>18,750</b></u>
ENDING BALANCE	5	<u><u>\$ (43)</u></u>
LESS ENCUMBRANCES	48	
UNENCUMBERED BALANCE	<u><u>(43)</u></u>	

**TITLE II-A**  
**(590)**

<b>TITLE II-A FUND 590</b>	<b>ACTUAL FY20</b>	<b>EST REV/ BUDGET FY21</b>
BEGINNING BALANCE	\$ -	\$ 37,459
TOTAL REVENUES	152,866	482,758
AVAILABLE RESOURCES : TOTAL REVENUES	<u>152,866</u>	<u>520,217</u>
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	<u>97,148</u>	<u>520,217</u>
ENDING BALANCE	55,718	<u>\$ -</u>
LESS ENCUMBRANCES	18,259	
UNENCUMBERED BALANCE	<u>\$ 37,459</u>	

**Title IV-B**  
**Student Support and Academic Enrichment**  
**(599)**

<b>TITLE IV STUDENT SUPPORT 599</b>	<b>ACTUAL FY20</b>	<b>EST REV/ BUDGET FY21</b>
BEGINNING BALANCE	\$ 2,050	\$ (28,546)
TOTAL REVENUES	74,606	252,737
AVAILABLE RESOURCES	<u>76,656</u>	<u><b>224,191</b></u>
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	<u>74,661</u>	<u><b>224,191</b></u>
ENDING BALANCE	1,995	<u>\$ -</u>
LESS ENCUMBRANCES	30,541	
UNENCUMBERED BALANCE	<u><u>\$ (28,546)</u></u>	

*Employee Leaves*

<i>Last</i>	<i>First</i>	<i>Bldg</i>	<i>Type</i>	<i>Date Out</i>	<i>Date Back</i>	<i>Notes</i>
Estvanic	Matthew	HS	Paternity LOA	09/20/20	10/05/20	Paternity LOA (FMLA)
Hepner	Donna	WF	Medical LOA	09/08/20	09/28/20	Medical LOA
Keshock	C. Rob	WF	Intermittent Medical LOA	09/04/20	06/11/21	Intermittent Medical LOA for family members (FMLA)
Merda	Paul	HS	Medical LOA	09/04/20	11/09/20	Medical LOA (FMLA)
Tekancic	Kelly	WF	Intermittent Medical LOA	09/04/20	06/11/21	Intermittent Medical LOA for family member (FMLA)
Warren	Melanie	MS	Medical LOA	09/28/20	1-2 weeks	Medical LOA

**GARFIELD HEIGHTS CITY SCHOOLS**  
**Supplemental Contracts**  
**2020 - 2021**

<b>Last</b>	<b>First</b>	<b>Supplemental</b>	<b>BOE</b>
		<b>Resident Educator Year One</b>	
Bandiera	Katie	Mentor (Per Teacher)	9/21/2020
Guzoski	Bethany	Mentor (Per Teacher)	9/21/2020
Booher	Candice	Mentor (Per Teacher)	9/21/2020
Mihalyov	Matt	Mentor (Per Teacher)	9/21/2020
Corrado	Jennifer	Mentor (Per Teacher)	9/21/2020
Zappola	Mark	Mentor (Per Teacher)	9/21/2020
Kijowski	Paula	Mentor (Per Teacher)	9/21/2020
		<b>Curriculum Leaders - HS</b>	
Milosevic	Michelle	<i>Mathematics</i>	9/21/2020
Dunbrook	Joseph	<i>Science</i>	9/21/2020
Lindsay	Helen	<i>English</i>	9/21/2020
Grant	Charles	<i>Social Studies</i>	9/21/2020
DeSalvo	Melissa	<i>Special Education</i>	9/21/2020
Marksberry	Bobbie	<i>Pupil Services</i>	9/21/2020
		<b>Instructional Leaders - MS</b>	
Cohn	Stacey	<i>Math</i>	9/21/2020
Mihalyov	Matt	<i>Science</i>	9/21/2020
Routh	Sarah	<i>Social Studies</i>	9/21/2020
Kossman	April	<i>Language Arts</i>	9/21/2020
Keefe	Leah	<i>Special Education</i>	9/21/2020
		<b>Team Leaders - MS</b>	
Brenneman	Kristen	<i>Grade 6</i>	9/21/2020
Kossman	April	<i>Grade 6</i>	9/21/2020
Skocdopole	Katie	<i>Grade 6</i>	9/21/2020
Kyser	Paula	<i>Grade 7</i>	9/21/2020
Majors	Dawn	<i>Grade 7</i>	9/21/2020
Harreld	Benjamin	<i>Grade 7</i>	9/21/2020
Routh	Sarah	<i>Grade 8</i>	9/21/2020
Higginbotham	Megan	<i>Grade 8</i>	9/21/2020
Guzoski	Bethany	<i>Grade 8</i>	9/21/2020
Lubera	Ethan	<i>Exploratory</i>	9/21/2020
		<b>Team Leaders - Bulldog Academy</b>	
Flood	Melissa	<i>Kindergarten/Grade 1</i>	9/21/2020
Molnar	Jennifer	<i>Grade 2</i>	9/21/2020
Brown	Christina	<i>Grade 3</i>	9/21/2020
Frank	Lori	<i>Grade 4</i>	9/21/2020
Mullins	Lisa	<i>Grade 5</i>	9/21/2020
		<b>Grade Level Lead Teachers - Elmwood</b>	
Close	Sara	<i>Grade Kindergarten</i>	9/21/2020
Arnold	Danielle	<i>Grade One</i>	9/21/2020
Russ	Kimberly	<i>Grade Two</i>	9/21/2020
LePelley	Terese	<i>Grade Three</i>	9/21/2020



**GARFIELD HEIGHTS CITY SCHOOLS**  
**Supplemental Contracts**  
**2020 - 2021**

<b>Last</b>	<b>First</b>	<b>Supplemental</b>	<b>BOE</b>
Raimer	Betsy	Grade Four	9/21/2020
Carruozzo	Steve	Grade Five	9/21/2020
		<b>Curriculum Advocate</b>	
Brown	Christina	English/Language Arts - EW	9/21/2020
Davis	Kylene	English/Language Arts - WF	9/21/2020
Ratka	Maryann	English/Language Arts - ML	9/21/2020
Klamer	Abigail	Math - EW	9/21/2020
Hrin	Debbie	Math - WF	9/21/2020
Shaw	Jamie	Math - ML	9/21/2020
Carruozzo	Steve	Science - EW	9/21/2020
Frank	Lori	Science - WF	9/21/2020
Mullins	Lisa	Science - ML	9/21/2020
		<b>Grade Level Lead Teachers - William Foster</b>	
Hirter	Amanda	<i>Grade Kindergarten</i>	9/21/2020
Horvath	Diane	<i>Grade One</i>	9/21/2020
Lyons	Sarah	<i>Grade Two</i>	9/21/2020
Thomas	Michael	<i>Grade Three</i>	9/21/2020
Moeller	Tammy	<i>Grade Four</i>	9/21/2020
Kondash	Janette	<i>Grade Five</i>	9/21/2020
		<b>Grade Level Lead Teachers - Maple Leaf</b>	
Booher	Candice	<i>Grade Kindergarten</i>	9/21/2020
Kaliszewski	Janet	<i>Grade One</i>	9/21/2020
Watt	Constance	<i>Grade Two</i>	9/21/2020
Perko	Lisa	<i>Grade Three</i>	9/21/2020
Drennan	Debbie	<i>Grade Four</i>	9/21/2020
Duhn	Emily	<i>Grade Five</i>	9/21/2020
		<b>TCS Chairpersons</b>	
Williams	Sherri	<i>High School</i>	9/21/2020
Bergman	Sylvia	<i>Middle School</i>	9/21/2020
Varga	Angela	<i>Maple Leaf</i>	9/21/2020
Bensie	Melissa	<i>Elmwood</i>	9/21/2020
Bartlett	Laura	<i>William Foster</i>	9/21/2020
		<b>TCS Core Assistant</b>	
Sroka	Katharine	<i>High School</i>	9/21/2020
		<b>PBIS Chairperson</b>	
Raushkolb	Kelly	<i>High School</i>	9/21/2020
Guzoski	Bethany	<i>Middle School</i>	9/21/2020
Drennan	Debbie	<i>Maple Leaf</i>	9/21/2020
Neluna	Megan	<i>Elmwood</i>	9/21/2020
Frank	Lori	<i>William Foster</i>	9/21/2020
		<b>Teacher LPDC Members (Union Elected @ Spring)</b>	

**GARFIELD HEIGHTS CITY SCHOOLS**  
**Supplemental Contracts**  
**2020 - 2021**

<b>Last</b>	<b>First</b>	<b>Supplemental</b>	<b>BOE</b>
Keshock	Robert	<i>Chairperson</i>	9/21/2020
Lopez	Honora	<i>Elmwood</i>	9/21/2020
Frederick	Julie	<i>Maple Leaf</i>	9/21/2020
Keshock	Robert	<i>William Foster</i>	9/21/2020
Keefe	Leah	<i>Middle School</i>	9/21/2020
Barber	Kim	<i>High School</i>	9/21/2020
Mercsak	Sherrie	<i>District Apprentice (appointed)</i>	9/21/2020
		<b>Chemical -OSHA Compliance Coordinator</b>	
Lambert	Brad	<i>Chemical -OSHA Compliance Coordinator</i>	9/21/2020
		<b>Athletic/Student Activities Manager (MS)</b>	
Jenkins	Jana	<i>Middle School Coordinator of Athletics</i>	9/21/2020
		<b>PAC Events Manager</b>	
TBD		<i>PAC Events Manager</i>	
		<b>Band Director</b>	
Pope	Devlin	<i>High School Band</i>	9/21/2020
Balika	Brett	<i>High School Band Aux. Director</i>	9/21/2020
Gurcze	Annaka	<i>High School Band Aux. Director</i>	9/21/2020
Balika	Brett	<i>Middle School Band Director</i>	9/21/2020
Chenoweth	Joshua	<i>Elementary Band Supplemental - ML</i>	9/21/2020
Eppley	Chris	<i>Elementary Band Supplemental - EW</i>	9/21/2020
Keshock	Robert	<i>Elementary Band Supplemental - WF</i>	9/21/2020
		<b>Vocal Music Directors</b>	
Pernod	Stephen	<i>High School/Music Express</i>	9/21/2020
TBD		<i>Middle School/Music Express</i>	
TBD		<i>Maple Leaf</i>	
TBD		<i>William Foster</i>	
Eppley	Chris	<i>Elmwood</i>	9/21/2020
		<b>Yearbook Advisor</b>	
Pavelek	Andrew	<i>High School</i>	9/21/2020
		<b>Academic Team Coach</b>	
TBD		<i>High School</i>	
		<b>Dramatics</b>	
Corrado	Jennifer	<i>Middle School</i>	9/21/2020
		<b>Theater Arts Program</b>	
Benjamin	Stephen	<i>Director of Theater Arts</i>	
		<b>Memory Book Advisor</b>	
TBD		<i>Elmwood</i>	

**GARFIELD HEIGHTS CITY SCHOOLS**  
**Supplemental Contracts**  
**2020 - 2021**

<b>Last</b>	<b>First</b>	<b>Supplemental</b>	<b>BOE</b>
TBD		<i>William Foster</i>	
TBD		<i>Maple Leaf</i>	
Guzoski	Bethany	<i>Middle School</i>	9/21/2020
		<b>Community/School Service Coordinator</b>	
Tomon	Amy	<i>Community/School Service Coordinator</i>	9/21/2020
		<b>Class Advisor High School</b>	
Roalofs	Audrey	<i>Senior Class Advisor</i>	9/21/2020
Mazzolini	Karyn	<i>Junior Class Advisor</i>	9/21/2020
Bandiera	Katie	<i>Sophomore Class Advisor</i>	9/21/2020
Lambert	Brad	<i>Freshman Class Advisor</i>	9/21/2020
		<b>National Honor Society</b>	
Wanderstock	Joni	High School	9/21/2020
Corrado	Jennifer	<i>Middle School</i>	9/21/2020
		<b>Computer Coordinator</b>	
Reid	Brian	<i>Middle School</i>	9/21/2020
Buttolph	Kelli	<i>Maple Leaf</i>	9/21/2020
Mercsak	Sherri	<i>William Foster</i>	9/21/2020
Portik	James	<i>Elmwood</i>	9/21/2020
Skarupa	Amanda	High School	9/21/2020

## SUSPENSION AND TERMINATION OF PROFESSIONAL STAFF MEMBERS

### Suspension

The Board may suspend a professional staff member pending final action to terminate his/her contract if, in its judgment, the character of the charges warrants such action.

### Termination

The contract of a professional staff member may be terminated for good and just cause. Before terminating any contract, the Board furnishes the professional staff member a written notice signed by the Treasurer of its intention to consider termination of his/her contract and specification of the grounds for such consideration. The Board informs the professional staff member of his/her right to request a hearing by the Board or by an independent referee. At such a hearing, both parties may be represented by counsel and present and cross-examine witnesses. A stenographic record of the proceedings is made. After the hearing, the Board makes its determination by majority vote. Any order of termination of a contract states the grounds for termination.

Teachers may only be suspended or terminated under the terms of the collective bargaining agreement and/or State or **Federal** law.

**When the behavior is sexual harassment, the Title IX sexual harassment grievance process will be followed, if applicable, prior to imposing any discipline that cannot be imposed without resolution of the Title IX process.**

[Adoption date:]

LEGAL REFS.: **Education Amendments of 1972, Title IX; 20 USC 1681 et seq.**  
ORC 124.36  
3319.02; 3319.11; 3319.16; 3319.161; 3319.17

CROSS REFS.: **ACAA, Sexual Harassment**  
GBQ, Criminal Records Check

CONTRACT REF.: Teachers' Negotiated Agreement

***NOTE: On May 6, 2020, the U.S. Department of Education issued the long-awaited final Title IX regulations, which go into effect August 14, 2020. The Title IX regulations specifically define sexual harassment and establish detailed procedures for how school districts must respond to allegations of sexual harassment. Districts must follow the Title IX complaint process before the imposition of any disciplinary sanctions or other actions that are not supportive measures when the behavior is sexual harassment. This requirement will likely impact a district's current procedures for handling employee discipline. Districts should ensure that all sexual harassment complaints are handled in accordance with the Title IX regulations that are outlined in ACAA, Sexual Harassment and ACAA-R, Sexual Harassment Grievance Process.***

## SUSPENSION, DEMOTION AND TERMINATION OF SUPPORT STAFF MEMBERS

The employment of support staff members may be terminated for violation of written policies and regulations as set forth by the Board or for incompetency, inefficiency, dishonesty, drunkenness, immoral conduct, insubordination, discourteous treatment of the public, neglect of duty, sexual battery, certain ethics violations, conflict of interest or any other acts of misfeasance, malfeasance or nonfeasance.

The Board may also suspend an employee for a definite period of time or demote, with or without pay, an employee for these same reasons.

The action of the Board to terminate the contract of any employee or to suspend or demote him/her is done in compliance with all statutory and constitutionally mandated procedures, including the opportunity for a hearing prior to the termination and if a hearing is required, prior to the suspension or demotion.

**When the behavior is sexual harassment, the Title IX sexual harassment grievance process will be followed, if applicable, prior to imposing any discipline that cannot be imposed without resolution of the Title IX process.**

[Adoption date:]

LEGAL REFS.: **Education Amendments of 1972, Title IX; 20 USC 1681 et seq.**  
ORC 124.32; 124.33; 124.34; 124.36  
3319.04; 3319.081; 3319.083

CROSS REFS.: **ACAA, Sexual Harassment**  
GBQ, Criminal Records Check

CONTRACT REF.: Support Staff Negotiated Agreement

*NOTE: The grounds for suspension, demotion or termination for a city district differs from the information stated above; city districts should refer to and cite Ohio Revised Code Section 124.32. The collective bargaining agreement may be pertinent.*

***On May 6, 2020, the U.S. Department of Education issued the long-awaited final Title IX regulations, which go into effect August 14, 2020. The Title IX regulations specifically define sexual harassment and establish detailed procedures for how school districts must respond to allegations of sexual harassment. Districts must follow the Title IX complaint process before the imposition of any disciplinary sanctions or other actions that are not supportive measures when the behavior is sexual harassment. This requirement will likely impact a district's current procedures for handling employee discipline. Districts should ensure that all sexual harassment complaints are handled in accordance with the Title IX regulations that are outlined in ACAA, Sexual Harassment and ACAA-R, Sexual Harassment Grievance Process.***

## STUDENT ABSENCES AND EXCUSES

Regular attendance by all students is very important. In many cases, irregular attendance is the major reason for poor schoolwork; therefore, all students are urged to make appointments, do personal errands, etc., outside of school hours.

**The Board directs the Superintendent/designee to develop appropriate procedures for tracking student attendance based on the mode of learning. The District monitors daily absences for trends related to COVID-19.**

**Students will not be penalized for absences related to contracting COVID-19 or having to quarantine or isolate due to COVID-19 exposure/symptoms, regardless of whether the student is participating in-person, remotely or both.**

Reasons for which students may be medically excused include, but are not limited to (*customize to reflect District reasons*):

1. personal illness of the student;
2. illness in the student's family necessitating the presence of the child;
3. quarantine for contagious disease or
4. emergency or other set of circumstances in which the judgment of the Superintendent constitutes a good and sufficient cause for absence from school, which may include but not be limited to absences due to documented medical appointments.

**Any limits that may be in place regarding the number of medical excuses that will be authorized without a doctor's note may be extended if the student or someone in the student's family is in quarantine due to COVID-19 or experiencing symptoms of COVID-19.**

Reasons for which students may be nonmedically excused include, but are not limited to (*customize to reflect District reasons*):

1. needed at home to perform necessary work directly and exclusively for parents or legal guardians for a limited period of time when approved by the Superintendent (applies to students over 14 years of age only);
2. death in the family (applies to absences of up to 18 school hours unless a reasonable cause may be shown for a longer absence);
3. observance of religious holidays consistent with a student's truly held religious belief;



4. traveling out of state to attend a Board-approved enrichment activity or extracurricular activity (applies to absences of up to 24 school hours);
5. college visitation;
6. absences due to a student's placement in foster care or change in foster care placement or any court proceedings related to their foster care status;
7. absences due to a student being homeless; ~~or~~
- 8. temporary internet outage for individual students or households;**
- 9. technical difficulties for individual students or households occurring at inopportune times such as during a teacher-led remote learning lesson;**
- 10. absences due to COVID-19 reasons that are not considered medically excused until alternative arrangements can be made or**
11. as determined by the Superintendent.

The District makes an attempt to contact the parent, guardian, or other person having care of a student who has not notified the school of the student's absence that day regarding that student's absence without legitimate excuse within 120 minutes of the start of the school day. The Board authorizes the Superintendent to determine and use the appropriate notification procedure and methods consistent with State law.

Each student who is absent must immediately, upon return to school, make arrangements with his/her teacher(s) to make up work missed. Students who are absent from school for reasons not permitted by State law may, or may not, be permitted to make up work. Each case is considered on its merits by the principal and the respective teacher(s). Students who are absent due to an in-school or out-of-school suspension are permitted to make up missed classroom assignments in accordance with District level policies and procedures. Students are requested to bring a note to school after each absence explaining the reason for the absence or tardiness in accordance with procedures and timelines defined in District level policies and procedures.

The Board does not believe that students should be excused from school for vacations or other nonemergency trips. The responsibility for such absences resides with the parent(s), and they must not expect any work missed by their child to be retaught by the teacher. If the school is notified in advance of such a trip, reasonable efforts are made to prepare a general list of assignments for the student to do while he/she is absent.

The Board authorizes the Superintendent to establish a hearing and notification procedure for the purpose of denying a student's driving privileges if that student of compulsory school age has been absent without legitimate excuse for more than 60 consecutive hours during a school month or a total of at least 90 hours during a school year.

[Adoption date:]

LEGAL REFS.: ORC 3313.609; 3313.66  
3321.01; 3321.03; 3321.04; 3321.13; 3321.14; 3321.141; 3321.19;  
3321.38  
4510.32  
OAC 3301-69-02

CROSS REFS.: IGAC, Teaching About Religion  
IKB, Homework  
JEDB, Student Dismissal Precautions  
JEE, Student Attendance Accounting (Missing and Absent Children)  
JHC, Student Health Services and Requirements  
JHCC, Communicable Diseases

*NOTE: Boards should ensure that policies and procedures clearly reflect reasons for which a student's absence is deemed excused as well as whether the reason is then classified as a medically or nonmedically excused absence. Districts should review the reasons outlined in Ohio Administrative Code 3301-69-02 when making these determinations. This policy can be further customized to reflect these determinations.*

*In 2009, the Ohio General Assembly enacted House Bill (HB) 1, which directed school districts to count – up to 24 school hours as excused absences – time that a student is absent from school for the sole purpose of traveling out of state to a board-approved enrichment activity or an extracurricular activity. The student is required to make up all missed classroom assignments.*

*In addition, if the student will be out of the state for 24 or more consecutive school hours for a board-approved enrichment activity or extracurricular activity, a classroom teacher employed by the board must accompany the student to provide instructional assistance.*



*HB 166 added a requirement that districts will attempt to contact the parent, guardian, or other person having care of a student regarding that student's absence without legitimate excuse within 120 minutes of the start of the school day using a method consistent with State law. The following methods are acceptable:*

- *A telephone call placed in-person*
- *An automated telephone call (via a system that includes verification that each call was actually placed)*
- *A notification sent through the school's automated student information system*
- *A text message*
- *An email*
- *An in-person visit*
- *Any other notification procedure that has been adopted by resolution of the board of education*

*Schools are not required to notify a parent who notifies the school of the student's absence within the first 120 minutes after the beginning of the school day. In addition, an immunity provision is included in the new law, which states that a school district or any officer, director, employee, or any member of the district board of education is not liable in a civil action for injury, death, or loss to person or property from an employee's action or inaction in good faith compliance with the law.*

*HB 491 requires boards to adopt a policy establishing parameters for completing and grading assignments missed due to a student's suspension. The policy must permit the completion of classroom assignments missed and students must receive at least partial credit for completed assignments. The policy may permit grade reductions and must prohibit the receipt of a failing grade solely on account of the student's suspension. Districts may further customize this policy to reflect parameters or outline in detail in student handbooks.*

***Ohio Department of Education Reset and Restart guidance for the 2020-2021 school year states that pursuant to the Ohio Department of Health guidelines families, caregivers and staff should notify their school if they have been exposed to COVID-19 or if they, or any members of their households, have been diagnosed or presumed to have COVID-19. They should also notify the school if they are quarantined due to known exposure to someone diagnosed or presumed to have COVID-19. The recommended quarantine period is 14 days.***

***The guidance acknowledges the likelihood of increased absences due to illness or quarantine and recommends revising school policies so as to not penalize staff or students for COVID-19 related absences.***

File: JED

***In all cases Districts should communicate what documentation is required for student absences based on the reason for the absence. At minimum, this should be communicated through student handbooks. (i.e., Doctor's documentation, court documents, verification of college visits)***

***THIS IS A REQUIRED POLICY***

## PERMANENT EXCLUSION

The Board may seek the permanent exclusion of a student 16 years of age or older who is either convicted in criminal court or adjudicated delinquent by a juvenile court of any of the following offenses that occur on school grounds or at a school function:

1. illegal conveyance or possession of a deadly weapon or dangerous ordnance, carrying a concealed weapon, aggravated trafficking, trafficking in drugs, trafficking involving the possession of a bulk amount of a controlled substance or the sale of a controlled substance and/or
2. aggravated murder, murder, voluntary or involuntary manslaughter, felonious or aggravated assault, rape, gross sexual imposition or felonious sexual penetration, if the victim is a District employee.

In addition, complicity in any of the above acts may be the basis for permanent exclusion.

**When the behavior is sexual harassment, the Title IX sexual harassment grievance process will be followed, if applicable, prior to imposing any discipline that cannot be imposed without resolution of the Title IX process.**

Any building administrator witnessing, or having knowledge of, one of these acts must report the incident to the Superintendent within 24 hours, whether or not the student is over 16 years of age.

If the Superintendent receives notification that a student has been found guilty of or is adjudicated delinquent for any of the listed offenses, a determination must be made whether the student's continued attendance endangers the health and safety of other students or employees or whether the student's attendance poses a danger of disruption to the graded course of study. If the Superintendent determines that either danger exists, he/she may recommend that the Board adopt a resolution requesting the State Superintendent of Public Instruction to permanently exclude the student from attendance in any Ohio school. Written notice of the Superintendent's recommendation for permanent exclusion is provided to the student and his/her parent(s).

The Board acts upon the Superintendent's recommendation within 14 days. Among the items the Board considers is information on:

1. academic and extracurricular activity record of the student;
2. disciplinary record of the student;
3. social history of the student;

4. response to prior discipline and sanctions;
5. seriousness of the offense and any aggravating circumstances;
6. any mitigating circumstances;
7. evidence regarding the possible danger to other students and employees if the student remains in the District;
8. evidence regarding the probable disruption of the graded course of study and
9. availability of less serious sanctions that would permit the student to stay in the District without conflict with either (7) or (8).

The Board may allow for the hearing of witnesses and the presentation of additional evidence.

If the Board adopts the resolution to permanently exclude the student, the Board:

1. forwards the written resolution, together with the adjudication or conviction and a copy of the student's entire school record, to the State Superintendent;
2. promptly designates a representative to present the District's case for permanent exclusion to the State Superintendent and
3. forwards a copy of the resolution to the student and his/her parent(s).

If the State Superintendent rejects the resolution, the student shall be readmitted to the District's schools.

No employee shall knowingly admit, or cause by inaction to be admitted, any student who has been permanently excluded.

### Readmission

If the Superintendent determines that a permanently excluded student no longer represents a danger to the health and safety of other students or staff, the Superintendent may recommend that the student be readmitted.

On the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board considers a resolution requesting the State Superintendent to revoke the permanent exclusion. If the Board adopts the resolution, it is forwarded to the State Superintendent, together with the reasons for the resolution and any relevant information.

Probationary Admission Following Permanent Exclusion

Under State law, a student permanently excluded from school may request probationary admission for a period not to exceed 90 days in any public school district.

If a student requests consideration of probationary admission into this District, the Superintendent may enter into discussions with the student and his/her parent(s) to develop a probationary admission plan designed to meet the educational needs of the child and the disciplinary requirements of the District.

If a satisfactory plan is developed, the Superintendent recommends that the Board allow the student to attend classes according to the terms of the plan. The Board acts on the recommendation within 14 days.

If a student violates the terms of the readmission plan, the Superintendent may immediately remove the student, pending action by the Board. The Board's action must take place within five days from receipt of the Superintendent's recommendation to revoke the readmission.

A student in compliance with his/her probationary readmission plan may request either an extension of the plan for an additional 90 days or for the Superintendent to recommend that the permanent exclusion be revoked.

[Adoption date:]

LEGAL REFS.: **Education Amendments of 1972, Title IX; 20 USC 1681 et seq.**  
ORC 3313.66; 3313.661; 3313.662

CROSS REFS.: **ACAA, Sexual Harassment**  
JFCJ, Weapons in the Schools  
JGD, Student Suspension  
JGE, Student Expulsion

***NOTE: On May 6, 2020, the U.S. Department of Education issued the long-awaited final Title IX regulations, which go into effect August 14, 2020. The Title IX regulations specifically define sexual harassment and establish detailed procedures for how school districts must respond to allegations of sexual harassment. Districts must follow the Title IX complaint process before the imposition of any disciplinary sanctions or other actions that are not supportive measures when the behavior is sexual harassment. This requirement***



File: JEGA

*will likely impact a district's current procedures for handling student discipline. Districts should ensure that all sexual harassment complaints are handled in accordance with the Title IX regulations that are outlined in ACAA, Sexual Harassment and ACAA-R, Sexual Harassment Grievance Process.*

***THIS IS A REQUIRED POLICY***

## HAZING AND BULLYING (Harassment, Intimidation and Dating Violence)

Hazing means doing any act or coercing another, including the victim, to do any act of initiation into any student or other organization that causes or creates a substantial risk of causing mental or physical harm to any person.

Throughout this policy the term bullying is used in place of harassment, intimidation and bullying.

Bullying, harassment and intimidation is an intentional written, verbal, electronic or physical act that a student has exhibited toward another particular student more than once. The intentional act also includes violence within a dating relationship. The behavior causes mental or physical harm to the other student and is sufficiently severe, persistent or pervasive that it creates an intimidating, threatening or abusive educational environment for the other student. This behavior is prohibited on school property, on a school bus or at a school-sponsored activity. Students found responsible for harassment, intimidation or bullying by an electronic act may be suspended. Discipline procedures will not infringe on any student's rights under the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States. **When the behavior is sexual harassment, the Title IX sexual harassment grievance process will be followed, if applicable, prior to imposing any discipline that cannot be imposed without resolution of the Title IX process.**

Permission, consent or assumption of risk by an individual subjected to hazing, bullying and/or dating violence does not lessen the prohibition contained in this policy.

The District includes, within the health curriculum, age-appropriate instruction in dating violence prevention education in grades 7 to 12. This instruction includes recognizing warning signs of dating violence and the characteristics of healthy relationships.

Prohibited activities of any type, including those activities engaged in via computer and/or electronic communications devices or electronic means, are inconsistent with the educational process and are prohibited at all times. The District educates minors about appropriate online behavior, including interacting with other individuals on social networking websites and in chat rooms and cyberbullying awareness and response.

No administrator, teacher or other employee of the District shall encourage, permit, condone or tolerate any hazing and/or bullying activities. No students, including leaders of student organizations, are permitted to plan, encourage or engage in any hazing and/or bullying.

Administrators, teachers and all other District employees are particularly alert to possible conditions, circumstances or events that might include hazing, bullying and/or dating violence. If any of the prohibited behaviors are planned or discovered, involved students are informed by

the discovering District employee of the prohibition contained in this policy and are required to end all such activities immediately. All hazing, bullying and/or dating violence incidents are reported immediately to the principal/designee and appropriate discipline is administered. **When employees have actual knowledge that the behavior is sexual harassment, they must contact the Title IX Coordinator.**

The Superintendent/designee must provide the Board President with a semiannual written summary of all reported incidents and post the summary on the District's website, to the extent permitted by law.

The administration provides training on the District's hazing and bullying policy to District employees and volunteers who have direct contact with students and by November 30 annually reports to the Ohio Department of Education compliance with this requirement through the consolidated school mandate report. If the District reports noncompliance the Superintendent/designee must provide a written explanation to the Board within 30 days explaining this noncompliance and a written plan of action for accurately and efficiently addressing the problem.

Additional training is provided to elementary employees in violence and substance abuse prevention and positive youth development.

District employees, students and volunteers have qualified civil immunity for damages arising from reporting an incident of hazing and/or bullying. Administrators, teachers, other employees and students who fail to abide by this policy may be subject to disciplinary action and may be liable for civil and criminal penalties in compliance with State and Federal law.

No one is permitted to retaliate against an employee or student because he/she files a grievance or assists or participates in an investigation, proceeding or hearing regarding the charge of hazing and/or bullying of an individual.

[Adoption date:]

LEGAL REFS.: Children's Internet Protection Act; 47 USC 254 (h)(5)(b)(iii);  
(P.L. 106-554, HR 4577, 2000, 114 Stat 2763)  
**Education Amendments of 1972, Title IX; 20 USC 1681 et seq.**  
ORC 117.53  
2307.44  
2903.31  
3301.22  
3301.68  
3313.666; 3313.667  
3319.073; 3319.321

CROSS REFS.: AC, Nondiscrimination  
ACA, Nondiscrimination on the Basis of Sex  
ACAA, Sexual Harassment  
EDE, Computer/Online Services (Acceptable Use and Internet Safety)  
IGAE, Health Education  
IIBH, District Websites  
JFC, Student Conduct (Zero Tolerance)  
JFCEA, Gangs  
JFCK, Use of Electronic Communications Equipment by Students  
JG, Student Discipline  
JHG, Reporting Child Abuse and Mandatory Training  
JO, Student Records  
Student Handbooks

*NOTE: The terminology of bullying in this policy also includes harassment and intimidation and is defined as an intentional written, verbal, electronic or physical act that a student has exhibited toward another particular student more than once. The behavior causes mental or physical harm to the other student and is sufficiently severe, persistent or pervasive that it creates an intimidating, threatening or abusive educational environment for the other student.*

*Violence within a dating relationship is also included in this prohibition against harassment, intimidation and bullying.*

*The Children's Internet Protection Act added a requirement that effective July 1, 2012, all school districts participating in the E-Rate program must include language in their internet safety policy regarding the education of minors concerning appropriate online behavior, including interacting with other individuals on social networking websites and in chat rooms and cyberbullying awareness and response and to develop an educational plan to implement the program. Helpful resources are available at OnGuardOnline.gov.*

*HB 116 (The Jessica Logan Act), signed by the Governor on February 2, 2012, requires districts to update Hazing and Bullying policies to include several new requirements by November 2012. The majority of language changes appear in Ohio Revised Code Section (RC) 3313.666.*

*Senate Bill 216 (2018) enacted RC 3301.68 requiring the Ohio Department of Education (ODE) to establish, distribute and monitor a consolidated school mandate report for school districts. Except where specifically required by law, ODE cannot require a separate report for the items included in the report. Each district must complete and file the report by November 30 annually.*

*The report must require each district or school to denote “yes” to indicate compliance or “no” to indicate noncompliance with the following prescribed items and to provide any other information that the department requests regarding those items:*

- *Training on the use of physical restraint or seclusion on students;*
- *Training on harassment, intimidation, or bullying;*
- *Training on the use of cardiopulmonary resuscitation and an automated external defibrillator;*
- *The reporting of a district’s or school’s compliance with nutritional standards;*
- *Screening for hearing, vision, speech and communications, and health or medical problems and for any developmental disorders of students enrolled for the first time in kindergarten or first grade and*
- *Compliance with interdistrict and intradistrict open enrollment requirements.*

*If a district or school denotes “no” on any item it must provide a written explanation to the board within 30 days for why that item was not completed and a written plan of action for accurately and efficiently addressing the problem.*

***On May 6, 2020, the U.S. Department of Education issued the long-awaited final Title IX regulations, which go into effect August 14, 2020. The Title IX regulations specifically define sexual harassment and establish detailed procedures for how school districts must respond to allegations of sexual harassment. Districts must follow the Title IX complaint process before the imposition of any disciplinary sanctions or other actions that are not supportive measures when the behavior is sexual harassment. This requirement will likely impact a district’s current procedures for handling student discipline. Districts should ensure that all sexual harassment complaints are handled in accordance with the Title IX regulations that are outlined in ACAA, Sexual Harassment and ACAA-R, Sexual Harassment Grievance Process.***

***THIS IS A REQUIRED POLICY***



## HAZING AND BULLYING (Harassment, Intimidation and Dating Violence)

The prohibition against hazing, dating violence, harassment, intimidation or bullying is publicized in student handbooks and in the publications that set the standard of conduct for schools and students in the District. In addition, information regarding the policy is incorporated into employee handbooks and training materials. **When the behavior involves allegations of sexual harassment, the Title IX sexual harassment grievance process will be followed, as applicable. When the behavior is sexual harassment, the Title IX sexual harassment grievance process will be followed, if applicable, prior to imposing any discipline that cannot be imposed without resolution of the Title IX process.**

### School Personnel Responsibilities and Complaint Procedures

Hazing, bullying behavior and/or dating violence by any student/school personnel in the District is strictly prohibited, and such conduct may result in disciplinary action, up to and including suspension and/or expulsion from school. Hazing, bullying and/or dating violence means any intentional written, verbal, graphic or physical acts, including electronically transmitted acts, either overt or covert, by a student or group of students toward other students/school personnel with the intent to haze, harass, intimidate, injure, threaten, ridicule or humiliate. Such behaviors are prohibited on or immediately adjacent to school grounds, at any school-sponsored activity; in any District publication; through the use of any District-owned or operated communication tools, including but not limited to District email accounts and/or computers; on school-provided transportation or at any official school bus stop.

Hazing, bullying and/or dating violence can include many different behaviors. Examples of conduct that could constitute prohibited behaviors include, but are not limited to:

1. physical violence and/or attacks;
2. threats, taunts and intimidation through words and/or gestures;
3. extortion, damage or stealing of money and/or possessions;
4. exclusion from the peer group or spreading rumors;
5. repetitive and hostile behavior with the intent to harm others through the use of information and communication technologies and other Web-based/online sites (also known as “cyberbullying”), such as the following:
  - A. posting slurs on websites, social networking sites, blogs or personal online journals;
  - B. sending abusive or threatening emails, website postings or comments and instant messages;





- C. using camera phones to take embarrassing photographs or videos of students and/or distributing or posting the photos or videos online and
  - D. using websites, social networking sites, blogs or personal online journals, emails or instant messages to circulate gossip and rumors to other students.
6. excluding others from an online group by falsely reporting them for inappropriate language to internet service providers.

In evaluating whether conduct constitutes hazing or bullying, special attention is paid to the words chosen or the actions taken, whether such conduct occurred in front of others or was communicated to others, how the perpetrator interacted with the victim and the motivation, either admitted or appropriately inferred.

#### Teachers and Other School Staff

Teachers and other school staff who witness acts of hazing, bullying and/or dating violence, as defined above, promptly notify the building principal/designee of the event observed, and promptly file a written incident report concerning the events witnessed.

Teachers and other school staff who receive student or parent reports of suspected hazing, bullying and/or dating violence promptly notify the building principal/designee of such report(s). If the report is a formal, written complaint, the complaint is forwarded to the building principal/designee no later than the next school day. If the report is an informal complaint by a student that is received by a teacher or other professional employee, he/she prepares a written report of the informal complaint that is forwarded to the building principal/designee no later than the next school day.

#### Complaints

##### 1. Formal Complaints

Students and/or their parents or guardians may file reports regarding suspected hazing, harassment, intimidation, bullying and/or dating violence. The reports should be written. Such written reports must be reasonably specific including person(s) involved; number of times and places of the alleged conduct; the target of suspected harassment, intimidation and/or bullying and the names of any potential student or staff witnesses. Such reports may be filed with any school staff member or administrator. They are promptly forwarded to the building principal/designee for review and action.

2. Informal Complaints

Students, parents or guardians and school personnel may make informal complaints of conduct that they consider to be harassment, intimidation and/or bullying by verbal report to a teacher, school administrator or other school personnel. Such informal complaints must be reasonably specific as to the actions giving rise to the suspicion of hazing, harassment, intimidation and/or bullying, including person(s) involved, number of times and places of the alleged conduct, the target of the prohibited behavior(s) and the names of any potential student or staff witness. The school staff member or administrator who receives the informal complaint promptly documents the complaint in writing, including the above information. This written report by the school staff member and/or administrator is promptly forwarded to the building principal/designee for review and action.

3. Anonymous Complaints

Students who make informal complaints as set forth above may request that their name be maintained in confidence by the school staff member(s) and administrator(s) who receive the complaint. The anonymous complaint is reviewed and reasonable action is taken to address the situation, to the extent such action (1) does not disclose the source of the complaint, and (2) is consistent with the due process rights of the student(s) alleged to have committed acts of hazing, bullying and/or dating violence.

4. False Complaints

Students are prohibited from deliberately making false complaints of harassment, intimidation or bullying. Students found responsible for deliberately making false reports of harassment, intimidation or bullying may be subject to a full range of disciplinary consequences.

Intervention Strategies

1. Teachers and Other School Staff

In addition to addressing both informal and formal complaints, school personnel are encouraged to address the issue of hazing, bullying and/or dating violence in other interactions with students.

School personnel may find opportunities to educate students about harassment, hazing, intimidation and bullying and help eliminate such prohibited behaviors through class discussions, counseling and reinforcement of socially appropriate behavior. School personnel should intervene promptly whenever they observe student conduct that has the purpose or effect of ridiculing, humiliating or intimidating another student/school personnel, even if such conduct does not meet the formal definition of harassment, hazing, intimidation or bullying.

2. Administrator Responsibilities

A. Investigation

The principal/designee is notified of any formal or informal complaint of suspected harassment, hazing, intimidation or bullying. Under the direction of the building principal/designee, all such complaints are investigated promptly. A written report of the investigation is prepared when the investigation is complete. The report includes findings of fact, a determination of whether acts of hazing, bullying and/or dating violence were verified, and when prohibited acts are verified, a recommendation for intervention, including disciplinary action, is included in the report. Where appropriate, written witness statements are attached to the report.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, when a student making an informal complaint has requested anonymity, the investigation of such complaint is limited as is appropriate in view of the anonymity of the complaint. Such limitation of the investigation may include restricting action to a simple review of the complaint (with or without discussing it with the alleged perpetrator), subject to receipt of further information and/or the withdrawal by the complaining student of the condition that his/her report be anonymous.

When hazing and/or bullying is based on race, color, national origin, sex, or disability, and the behavior creates a hostile environment, ~~the hazing and bullying investigation is suspended while~~ the applicable nondiscrimination grievance procedures are implemented **where applicable**.

B. Nondisciplinary Interventions

When verified acts of hazing, bullying and/or dating violence are identified early and/or when such verified acts do not reasonably require a disciplinary response, students may be counseled as to the definition of the behavior, its prohibition and their duty to avoid any conduct that could be considered harassing, hazing, intimidating and/or bullying.

If a complaint arises out of conflict between students or groups of students, peer mediation may be considered. Special care, however, is warranted in referring some cases to peer mediation. A power imbalance may make the process intimidating for the victim and therefore inappropriate. The victim's communication and assertiveness skills may be low and could be further eroded by fear resulting from past intimidation and fear of future intimidation. In such cases, the victim should be given additional support. Alternatively, peer mediation may be deemed inappropriate to address the concern.

C. Disciplinary Interventions

When acts of harassment, intimidation and bullying are verified and a disciplinary response is warranted, students are subject to the full range of disciplinary consequences. Discipline procedures will not infringe on any student's rights under the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States.

Anonymous complaints that are not otherwise verified, however, cannot provide the basis for disciplinary action.

In and out-of-school suspension may be imposed only after informing the accused perpetrator of the reasons for the proposed suspension and giving him/her an opportunity to explain the situation.

Expulsion may be imposed only after a hearing before the Board, a committee of the Board or an impartial hearing officer designated by the Board in accordance with Board policy. This consequence is reserved for serious incidents of harassment, intimidation or bullying and/or when past interventions have not been successful in eliminating prohibited behaviors.

Allegations of criminal misconduct are reported to law enforcement, and suspected child abuse is reported to Child Protective Services, per required timelines.

Report to the Custodial Parent or Guardian of the Perpetrator

If, after investigation, acts of harassment, intimidation and bullying by a specific student are verified, the building principal/designee notifies the custodial parent or guardian of the perpetrator, in writing, of that finding. If disciplinary consequences are imposed against such student, a description of such discipline is included in such notification.

Strategies are developed and implemented to protect students from new or additional harassment, intimidation or bullying, and from retaliation following reporting of incidents.

Reports to the Victim and His/Her Custodial Parent or Guardian

If, after investigation, acts of bullying or hazing against a specific student are verified, the building principal/designee notifies the custodial parent/guardian of the victim of the finding. In providing such notification, care must be taken to respect the statutory privacy rights of the perpetrator.

Bullying matters, including the identity of both the charging party and the accused, are kept confidential to the extent possible. Although discipline may be imposed against the accused upon a finding of guilt, retaliation is prohibited.

School administrators shall notify both the custodial parents or guardians of a student who commits acts of harassment, intimidation, bullying and/or dating violence and the custodial parents or guardians of students against whom such acts were committed, and shall allow access to any written reports pertaining to the incident, to the extent permitted by law.

Police and Child Protective Services

In addition to, or instead of, filing a complaint through this policy, a complainant may choose to exercise other options including, but not limited to, filing a complaint with outside agencies or filing a private lawsuit. Nothing prohibits a complainant from seeking redress under any other provision of State law or common law that may apply.

The District must also investigate incidents of hazing, bullying and/or dating violence for the purpose of determining whether there has been a violation of District policy or regulations, even if law enforcement and/or the public children's services are also investigating. All District personnel must cooperate with investigations by outside agencies.

(Approval date:)

*NOTE: THIS IS A REQUIRED REGULATION*



## STUDENT DISCIPLINE

Effective discipline, which requires respect for the rights of others, is necessary if all students are to attain a quality education. The Board delegates to school officials the authority to enforce District policies, regulations and school rules governing student conduct.

A complete statement governing or describing all the relationships and processes involved in student discipline would be very extensive. The most important part of such a statement would be the relationship of the teacher and the principal in matters of discipline. Teachers must feel free to consult and work closely with the building principal in dealing with any problem with which the teacher might need guidance. This working relationship is one key to desirable discipline and a quality instructional environment.

The Board also believes that the teacher-student relationship in the classroom, halls and on school property is important and should be one of mutual respect at all times. The teacher is recognized as the person in authority at all times in the classroom, halls, buildings, school grounds and at school-related events.

Each case of unsatisfactory behavior by a student is handled individually. The classroom teacher may take the steps that he/she believes are justified in each case. If the student does not respond to these measures, the teacher then refers the student to the principal.

**When an employee has actual knowledge that the behavior is sexual harassment, the Title IX Coordinator must be contacted. The Title IX sexual harassment grievance process will be followed, if applicable, prior to imposing any discipline that cannot be imposed without resolution of the Title IX process.**

In terms of the relationship of the teacher and principal in discipline matters, the Board expects that whenever a discipline problem appears to extend beyond the classroom, the teacher discusses the problem with the principal. The teacher(s) and the principal work together in attempting to control or correct the problem.

A student's failure to comply with the requirements for conduct outlined in the student handbooks may result in the student being disciplined. A student cannot be suspended, expelled or removed from school solely because of unexcused absences. The student may lose all rights to participate in school-related social events or extracurricular activities for a period of time determined by the principal. Depending on the seriousness of the offense committed by the student, suspension or expulsion may also result. Discipline is always administered in a reasonable manner.

If several methods of discipline have been used in an effort to solve a problem and it appears necessary, in the judgment of the principal and Superintendent, to discipline or withdraw privileges from a large group, this action may be taken. Any punishment technique involving an entire class or large group is used only as a last resort.

[Adoption date:]

LEGAL REFS.: **Education Amendments of 1972, Title IX; 20 USC 1681 et seq.**

ORC 3313.20; 3313.66; 3313.661; 3313.662; 3313.668  
3319.41

OAC 3301-32-09  
3301-37-10

CROSS REFS.: **ACAA, Sexual Harassment**

ECAB, Vandalism  
IGD, Cocurricular and Extracurricular Activities  
JFC, Student Conduct (Zero Tolerance)  
JGA, Corporal Punishment  
JGD, Student Suspension  
JGDA, Emergency Removal of Student  
JGE, Student Expulsion  
Student Handbooks

*NOTE: House Bill (HB) 410 (2016) prohibits districts from extending a suspension into the next school year if there are less than 10 days remaining in the current school year. The superintendent may instead require the student to complete community service or another alternative consequence determined appropriate. Districts also are prohibited from disciplining a student based solely on the basis of the student being absent from school without legitimate excuse.*

*HB 318 (2018) restricts out-of-school suspensions and expulsions for students in grades pre-K through three unless the behavior rises to a certain level specified in State law. It is recognized that these forms of discipline are commonly used as a behavior management tool and therefore the General Assembly established a gradual phase in.*



*For each of the school years 2018-2019, 2019-2020, 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 each school district must report to Ohio Department of Education (ODE) the number of out-of-school suspensions and expulsions issued to a student in grades pre-K through three categorized by the following offenses:*

- *Type 1 - A serious offense for which suspension or expulsion is required or authorized by law*
- *Type 2 - An offense not classified as a Type 1 serious offense, but for which the school determined suspension or expulsion was necessary to protect the immediate health and safety of the student, the student's classmates, or the staff and teachers*
- *Type 3 - Any other offense not described above*

*Using the numbers reported for the 2018-2019 school year as a baseline each district must reduce the number of Type 3 suspensions and expulsions according to the following schedule to be in compliance with the revised law:*

- *2017-2018 and 2018-2019 – 0% reduction in Type 3 suspensions and expulsions*
- *2019-2020 – 25% reduction in Type 3 suspensions and expulsions*
- *2020-2021 – 50% reduction in Type 3 suspensions and expulsions*
- *2021-2022 – 100% reduction in Type 3 suspensions and expulsions*

*For the 2021-2022 school year and going forward all suspensions and expulsions for students in any of grades pre-K through three can only be for Type 1 or Type 2 offenses. Type 3 offenses must be at zero.*

*Reporting after the 2021-2022 school year will only be required if ODE determines that continued reporting of the information is needed to effectively carry out the requirements of HB 318.*

*HB 318 also makes clear that in-school-suspensions are to be served in a “supervised learning environment.”*

***On May 6, 2020, the U.S. Department of Education issued the long-awaited final Title IX regulations, which go into effect August 14, 2020. The Title IX regulations specifically define sexual harassment and establish detailed procedures for how school districts must respond to allegations of sexual harassment. Districts must follow the Title IX complaint process before the imposition of any disciplinary sanctions or other actions that are not supportive measures when the behavior is sexual harassment. This requirement will likely impact a district's current procedures for handling student discipline. Districts should ensure that all sexual harassment complaints are handled in accordance with the Title IX regulations that are outlined in ACAA, Sexual Harassment and ACAA-R, Sexual Harassment Grievance Process.***

## STUDENT SUSPENSION

The Superintendent, principals, assistant principals and other designated administrators may suspend a student from school for disciplinary reasons outlined in the student code of conduct. A student cannot be suspended from school solely because of unexcused absences. **When an employee has actual knowledge that the behavior is sexual harassment, the Title IX Coordinator must be contacted. The Title IX sexual harassment grievance process will be followed, if applicable, prior to imposing any discipline that cannot be imposed without resolution of the Title IX process.**

No period of suspension is for more than 10 school days. If, at the time a suspension is imposed, fewer than 10 days remain in the school year, the Superintendent cannot apply any or all of the period of suspension to the following year.

The Superintendent may instead require a student to perform community service or another alternative consequence for the number of hours remaining in the student's suspension. The Board directs the Superintendent to develop a list of alternative consequences that may be used. If the student is required to perform community service or another alternative consequence during the summer, he/she will be required to begin serving the consequence during the first full weekday of summer break. If a student fails to complete the community service or assigned alternative consequence, the Superintendent may determine the next course of action but still cannot require the student to serve the remaining time of the out-of-school suspension at the beginning of the following school year.

Beginning with the 2019-2020 academic year, the District will reduce the number of out-of-school suspensions for non-serious offenses, as defined by State law, for students in grades pre-K through three in accordance with State law. Such out-of-school suspensions will be eliminated by the 2021-2022 school year.

Whenever possible, principals will consult with a mental health professional under contract with the District or school prior to suspending a student in grades pre-K through three. If needed, the principal or mental health professional will assist the student's parent in locating additional mental health services.

The District permits students to complete any classroom assignments missed due to suspension. Students will receive at least partial credit upon completion of any assignment missed due to suspension. The Board directs the Superintendent to develop written procedures for completing and grading these assignments. Grade reductions are permitted, but students will not receive a failing grade on a completed assignment solely due to the student's suspension.

The guidelines listed below are followed for all out-of-school suspensions.

1. The student is informed in writing of the potential suspension and the reasons for the proposed action.
2. The student is provided an opportunity for an informal hearing to challenge the reason for the intended suspension and explain his/her actions.
3. An attempt is made to notify the parent(s) by telephone if a suspension is issued.
4. Within one school day, a letter is sent to the parent(s) stating the specific reasons for the suspension and including notice of the right to appeal such action.
5. Notice of this suspension is sent to the:
  - A. Superintendent and
  - B. student's school record (not for inclusion in the permanent record).
6. Permanent Exclusion — If the offense is one for which the District may seek permanent exclusion, the notice contains that information.

### Appeal Procedure

Should a student or a student's parent(s) choose to appeal the principal's suspension, he/she must do so within 10 calendar days of the notice of suspension. The appeal shall be in writing and made to the Superintendent. If dissatisfied with the Superintendent's decision, an appeal may be made to the Board. At the request of the student or of the student's parent(s) or attorney, the meeting may be held in executive session. All witnesses are sworn and a verbatim record is kept of the hearing. The decision of the Board shall be acted upon at a public meeting. The student may be excluded from school during the appeal process.

### Appeal to the Court

Under State law, appeal of the Board's or its designee's decision may be made to the Court of Common Pleas.

[Adoption date:]

LEGAL REFS.: **Education Amendments of 1972, Title IX; 20 USC 1681 et seq.**  
ORC 3313.66; 3313.661; 3313.662; 3313.668

**CROSS REFS.: ACAA, Sexual Harassment**

IGCI, Community Service  
JEGA, Permanent Exclusion  
JFC, Student Conduct (Zero Tolerance)  
JFCEA, Gangs  
JFCF, Hazing and Bullying (Harassment, Intimidation and Dating Violence)  
JFCJ, Weapons in the Schools  
JG, Student Discipline  
JGE, Student Expulsion

*NOTE: House Bill (HB) 410 (2016) prohibits districts from extending a suspension into the next school year if there are less than 10 days remaining in the current school year. The superintendent may instead require the student to complete community service or another alternative consequence determined appropriate. Districts also are prohibited from disciplining a student based solely on the basis of the student being absent from school without legitimate excuse.*

*HB 318 (2018) restricts out-of-school suspensions and expulsions for students in grades pre-K through three unless the behavior rises to a certain level specified in State law. It is recognized that these forms of discipline are commonly used as a behavior management tool and therefore the General Assembly established a gradual phase in.*

*For each of the school years 2018-2019, 2019-2020, 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 each school district must report to Ohio Department of Education (ODE) the number of out-of-school suspensions and expulsions issued to a student in grades pre-K through three categorized by the following offenses:*

- *Type 1 - A serious offense for which suspension or expulsion is required or authorized by law*
- *Type 2 - An offense not classified as a Type 1 serious offense, but for which the school determined suspension or expulsion was necessary to protect the immediate health and safety of the student, the student's classmates, or the staff and teachers*
- *Type 3 - Any other offense not described above*

*Using the numbers reported for the 2018-2019 school year as a baseline each district must reduce the number of Type 3 suspensions and expulsions according to the following schedule to be in compliance with the revised law:*

- *2017-2018 and 2018-2019 – 0% reduction in Type 3 suspensions and expulsions*
- *2019-2020 – 25% reduction in Type 3 suspensions and expulsions*
- *2020-2021 – 50% reduction in Type 3 suspensions and expulsions*
- *2021-2022 – 100% reduction in Type 3 suspensions and expulsions*

*For the 2021-2022 school year and going forward all suspensions and expulsions for students in any of grades pre-K through three can only be for Type 1 or Type 2 offenses. Type 3 offenses must be at zero.*

*Reporting after the 2021-2022 school year will only be required if ODE determines that continued reporting of the information is needed to effectively carry out the requirements of HB 318.*

*HB 477 addresses the potential liability related to the procurement of mental health services for students. Under amended Ohio Revised Code 3313.668 a school district, school board member, or district employee is not liable for damages in a civil action for injury, death, or loss to person or property allegedly arising from a district employee's decision not to procure mental health services for a suspended or expelled student. There is an exception to this liability protection where the decision is made with malicious purpose, in bad faith, or in wanton or reckless manner. This new language does not eliminate, limit or reduce any other immunity or defense to which the district, board member, or employee may be entitled to under the law.*

*HB 491 requires boards to adopt a policy establishing parameters for completing and grading assignments missed due to a student's suspension. The policy must permit the completion of classroom assignments missed and students must receive at least partial credit for completed assignments. The policy may permit grade reductions and must prohibit the receipt of a failing grade solely on account of the student's suspension. Districts may further customize this policy to reflect parameters or outline in detail in student handbooks.*

***On May 6, 2020, the U.S. Department of Education issued the long-awaited final Title IX regulations, which go into effect August 14, 2020. The Title IX regulations specifically define sexual harassment and establish detailed procedures for how school districts must respond to allegations of sexual harassment. Districts must follow the Title IX complaint process before the imposition of any disciplinary sanctions or other actions that are not supportive measures when the behavior is sexual harassment. This requirement will likely impact a district's current procedures for handling student discipline. Districts should ensure that all sexual harassment complaints are handled in accordance with the Title IX regulations that are outlined in ACAA, Sexual Harassment and ACAA-R, Sexual Harassment Grievance Process.***

***THIS IS A REQUIRED POLICY***

## EMERGENCY REMOVAL OF STUDENT

If a student's presence poses a continuing danger to persons or property or an ongoing threat of disrupting the academic process, the Superintendent, principal, assistant principal or personnel employed to direct, supervise or coach a student activity program may remove the student from the premises. **When the behavior is sexual harassment as defined by Title IX regulations, the student may be removed on an emergency basis, provided that the District undertakes an individualized safety and risk analysis, determines that an immediate threat to the physical health or safety of any student or other individual arising from the allegations of sexual harassment justifies removal, and provides the student with notice and an opportunity to challenge the decision immediately following the removal.**

If either suspension or expulsion is contemplated, a due process hearing is held on the next school day after the removal is ordered. Written notice of the hearing and the reason for removal and any intended disciplinary action is given to the student as soon as practicable prior to the hearing. The student has the opportunity to appear at an informal hearing before the principal, assistant principal and the Superintendent/designee and has the right to challenge the reasons for the removal or otherwise explain his/her actions. The person who ordered or requested the removal is present at the hearing. Within one school day of the decision to suspend, written notification is given to the parent(s) of the student. This notice includes the reasons for the suspension and the right of the student or parent(s) to appeal to the Superintendent/designee.

If the Superintendent or principal reinstates a student prior to the hearing for emergency removal, the teacher may request, and is given, written reasons for the reinstatement. The teacher cannot refuse to reinstate the student.

In an emergency removal, a student can be kept from class until the matter of the alleged misconduct is disposed of either by reinstatement, suspension or expulsion.

Students in grades pre-K through three may only be removed for the remainder of the school day and must be permitted to return the following school day. The District may only proceed with a related suspension or expulsion in compliance with State law.

In all cases of normal disciplinary procedures in which a student is removed from a curricular or extracurricular activity for less than 24 hours and is not subject to further suspension or expulsion, due process requirements do not apply.

[Adoption date:]

LEGAL REFS.: **Education Amendments of 1972, Title IX; 20 USC 1681 et seq.**  
ORC 3313.66; 3313.661; 3313.662

CROSS REFS.: **ACAA, Sexual Harassment**  
ECAB, Vandalism  
JFC, Student Conduct (Zero Tolerance)  
JFCJ, Weapons in the Schools  
JG, Student Discipline  
JGD, Student Suspension  
JGE, Student Expulsion

***NOTE: On May 6, 2020, the U.S. Department of Education issued the long-awaited final Title IX regulations, which go into effect August 14, 2020. The Title IX regulations specifically define sexual harassment and establish detailed procedures for how school districts must respond to allegations of sexual harassment. Districts must follow the Title IX complaint process before the imposition of any disciplinary sanctions or other actions that are not supportive measures when the behavior is sexual harassment. This requirement will likely impact a district's current procedures for handling student discipline. Districts should ensure that all sexual harassment complaints are handled in accordance with the Title IX regulations that are outlined in ACAA, Sexual Harassment and ACAA-R, Sexual Harassment Grievance Process.***

***THIS IS A REQUIRED POLICY***

## STUDENT EXPULSION

At times, the behavior of a student can be considered so serious as to justify total removal from the educational program for a prolonged period of time. Actions meriting expulsion are outlined in the student code of conduct. A student cannot be expelled from school solely because of unexcused absences. **When an employee has actual knowledge that the behavior is sexual harassment, the Title IX Coordinator must be contacted. The Title IX sexual harassment grievance process will be followed, if applicable, prior to imposing any discipline that cannot be imposed without resolution of the Title IX process.**

Only the Superintendent may expel a student. Expulsion is the removal of a student for more than 10 days, but not more than one year. An expulsion can extend beyond the end of the school year if there are fewer school days than expulsion days remaining. The Superintendent may apply any remaining part or all of the period of the expulsion to the following school year.

The Superintendent may require a student to perform community service in conjunction with or in place of an expulsion. The Board may adopt guidelines to permit the Superintendent to impose a community service requirement beyond the end of the school year in lieu of applying the expulsion into the following school year.

Whenever possible, principals will consult with a mental health professional under contract with the District or school prior to expelling a student in grades pre-K through three. If needed, the principal or mental health professional will assist the student's parent in locating additional mental health services.

Beginning with the 2019-2020 academic year, the District will reduce the number of expulsions for non-serious offenses, as defined by State law, for students in grades pre-K through three in accordance with State law. Such expulsions will be eliminated by the 2021-2022 school year.

The Superintendent shall give the student and parent(s) written notice of the intended expulsion, including reasons for the intended expulsion. The student and parent(s) or representative have the opportunity to appear on request before the Superintendent/designee to challenge the action or to otherwise explain the student's actions. This notice shall state the time and place to appear, which must not be fewer than three days nor more than five days after the notice is given.

Within 24 hours of the expulsion, the Superintendent shall notify the parent(s) of the student and the Treasurer.

The notice shall include the reasons for the expulsion, the right of the student or parent(s) to appeal to the Board or its designee, the right to be represented at the appeal and the right to request that the hearing be held in executive session.

The Superintendent will initiate expulsion proceedings against a student who has committed an act that warrants expulsion even if the student withdraws from school before the Superintendent has held the hearings or made the decision to expel the student.



Permanent Exclusion

If the offense is one for which the District may seek permanent exclusion, the notice shall contain that information.

Appeal to the Board

A student or a student's parent(s) may appeal the expulsion by the Superintendent to the Board or its designee. The expulsion appeal must be within 14 calendar days after the notice of intent to expel was provided to the student, parent, guardian or custodian. The appeal request shall be in writing to the Treasurer and at the request of the student or of the student's parent(s) or attorney, the meeting may be held in executive session. The student may be represented in all such appeal proceedings and is granted a hearing before the Board or its designee. All witnesses are sworn and a verbatim record is kept of the hearing. The decision of the Board shall be acted upon at a public meeting. The student may be excluded from school during the appeal process.

Appeal to the Court

Under State law, the decision of the Board may be further appealed to the Court of Common Pleas.

Any student who is expelled from school for more than 20 days or into the following semester or school year is referred to an agency that works towards improving the student's attitudes and behavior. The Superintendent provides the student and his/her parent(s) with the names, addresses and telephone numbers of the public and private agencies providing such services.

[Adoption date:]

LEGAL REFS.: **Education Amendments of 1972, Title IX; 20 USC 1681 et seq.**  
ORC Chapter 2506  
3313.66; 3313.661; 3313.662; 3313.668

CROSS REFS.: **ACAA, Sexual Harassment**  
ECAB, Vandalism  
IGCI, Community Service  
JEGA, Permanent Exclusion  
JFC, Student Conduct (Zero Tolerance)  
JFCF, Hazing and Bullying (Harassment, Intimidation and Dating Violence)  
JFCJ, Weapons in the Schools  
JG, Student Discipline  
JGD, Student Suspension  
JGDA, Emergency Removal of Student

*NOTE: House Bill (HB) 410 (2016) prohibits districts from disciplining a student based solely on the basis of the student being absent from school without legitimate excuse.*

*HB 318 (2018) restricts out-of-school suspensions and expulsions for students in grades pre-K through three unless the behavior rises to a certain level specified in State law. It is recognized that these forms of discipline are commonly used as a behavior management tool and therefore the General Assembly established a gradual phase in.*

*For each of the school years 2018-2019, 2019-2020, 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 each school district must report to Ohio Department of Education (ODE) the number of out-of-school suspensions and expulsions issued to a student in grades pre-K through three categorized by the following offenses:*

- Type 1 - A serious offense for which suspension or expulsion is required or authorized by law*
- Type 2 - An offense not classified as a Type 1 serious offense, but for which the school determined suspension or expulsion was necessary to protect the immediate health and safety of the student, the student's classmates, or the staff and teachers*
- Type 3 - Any other offense not described above*

*Using the numbers reported for the 2018-2019 school year as a baseline each district must reduce the number of Type 3 suspensions and expulsions according to the following schedule to be in compliance with the revised law:*

- 2017-2018 and 2018-2019 – 0% reduction in Type 3 suspensions and expulsions*
- 2019-2020 – 25% reduction in Type 3 suspensions and expulsions*
- 2020-2021 – 50% reduction in Type 3 suspensions and expulsions*
- 2021-2022 – 100% reduction in Type 3 suspensions and expulsions*

*For the 2021-2022 school year and going forward all suspensions and expulsions for students in any of grades pre-K through three can only be for Type 1 or Type 2 offenses. Type 3 offenses must be at zero.*

*Reporting after the 2021-2022 school year will only be required if ODE determines that continued reporting of the information is needed to effectively carry out the requirements of HB 318.*

*HB 477 addresses the potential liability related to the procurement of mental health services for students. Under amended Ohio Revised Code 3313.668 a school district, school board member, or district employee is not liable for damages in a civil action for injury, death, or loss to person or property allegedly arising from a district employee's decision not to procure mental health services for a suspended or expelled student. There is an exception to this liability protection where the decision is made with malicious purpose, in bad faith, or in wanton or reckless manner. This new language does not eliminate, limit or reduce any other immunity or defense to which the district, board member, or employee may be entitled to under the law.*

***On May 6, 2020, the U.S. Department of Education issued the long-awaited final Title IX regulations, which go into effect August 14, 2020. The Title IX regulations specifically define sexual harassment and establish detailed procedures for how school districts must respond to allegations of sexual harassment. Districts must follow the Title IX complaint process before the imposition of any disciplinary sanctions or other actions that are not supportive measures when the behavior is sexual harassment. This requirement will likely impact a district's current procedures for handling student discipline. Districts should ensure that all sexual harassment complaints are handled in accordance with the Title IX regulations that are outlined in ACAA, Sexual Harassment and ACAA-R, Sexual Harassment Grievance Process.***

***THIS IS A REQUIRED POLICY***

## PUBLIC COMPLAINTS ABOUT DISTRICT PERSONNEL

Complaints about personnel are investigated fully and fairly. Before any such complaint is investigated, it must be submitted in writing and signed. Anonymous complaints are disregarded.

Whenever a complaint is made directly to the Board as a whole or to a Board member as an individual, it is referred to the school administration for study and possible solution. **If the complaint is related to a claim of sexual harassment, the District's Title IX sexual harassment grievance process will be followed.**

The Superintendent develops, for approval by the Board, procedures that ensure prompt and fair attention to complaints against school personnel. The procedure requires that an employee who is the object of a complaint be informed promptly and be afforded the opportunity to present the facts as he/she sees them.

If it appears necessary, the administration, the person who made the complaint or the employee involved may request an audience with the Board in executive session. Statutory restrictions on executive sessions are observed. Any Board action on the matter is taken in public session.

[Adoption date:]

LEGAL REFS.: **Education Amendments of 1972, Title IX; 20 USC 1681 et seq.**  
ORC 121.22  
149.43

CROSS REFS.: **ACAA, Sexual Harassment**  
BDC, Executive Sessions  
BDDH, Public Participation at Board Meetings (Also KD)  
GBL, Personnel Records  
KL, Public Complaints  
KLB, Public Complaints About the Curriculum or Instructional Materials

CONTRACT REFS.: Teachers' Negotiated Agreement  
Support Staff Negotiated Agreement

*NOTE: The cross-reference is to a related sample policy in this reference manual for additional information on this subject.*

***On May 6, 2020, the U.S. Department of Education issued the long-awaited final Title IX regulations, which go into effect August 14, 2020. The Title IX regulations specifically define sexual harassment and establish detailed procedures for how school districts must respond to allegations of sexual harassment. Districts must follow the Title IX complaint process before the imposition of any disciplinary sanctions or other actions that are not supportive measures when the behavior is sexual harassment. This requirement will likely impact a district's current procedures for handling employee discipline. Districts should ensure that all sexual harassment complaints are handled in accordance with the Title IX regulations that are outlined in ACAA, Sexual Harassment and ACAA-R, Sexual Harassment Grievance Process.***

***THIS IS A REQUIRED POLICY***

## PUBLIC COMPLAINTS ABOUT DISTRICT PERSONNEL

The following procedures are to ensure that a citizen's complaint is given respectful attention and that the integrity of the educational program is upheld. "Complaint" in this regulation is restricted in meaning to that criticism of a particular employee by a citizen of the District that includes or implies a demand for action by District authorities. Other comments and suggestions are referred informally to appropriate personnel. **If the complaint is related to a claim of sexual harassment, the District's Title IX sexual harassment grievance process will be followed prior to following the process outlined below.**

1. If a complaint comes first to the person against whom it is directed, he/she listens and may try to resolve the difficulty by explaining the background and educational purpose involved. If the complaint remains unsatisfied, the employee refers the complainant to the building principal or other immediate supervisor to have his/her views considered further. Whether the complaint terminates with the individual staff member involved or seems likely to go further, the staff member immediately informs his/her supervisor of the complaint.
2. If a complaint comes first to the principal or other supervisor of the person criticized, the principal or supervisor should make no commitments, admissions of guilt or threats. If the complaint involves a particular employee, the supervisor should suggest a conference between the complainant and the employee criticized and should inform that employee immediately of the complaint. If the complainant has already met with the employee criticized and remains unsatisfied, the supervisor should invite the complainant to file the complaint in writing.
3. If a complaint comes first to any other school employee, that employee refers the complainant to the person criticized or to his/her immediate supervisor and immediately informs both.
4. No further action on the complaint should be taken unless the complainant submits the complaint in writing.
5. When a written complaint is received, the principal or other supervisor schedules a conference with the complainant, the person criticized and, if advisable, the department chairman or other personnel who, in the opinion of either the supervisor or the person criticized, could contribute to a resolution of the problem.
6. If the complainant is not satisfied with the results of the conference above, he/she should then be referred to the Superintendent, who may handle the complaint personally or refer it to other personnel, as he/she may see fit.

File: KLD-R

7. Should dissatisfaction remain after the above steps have been taken, the matter may be placed on the agenda for the next regularly scheduled Board meeting. The decision of the Board is communicated in writing to all interested persons.

(Approval date:)

*NOTE: Regulations pertaining to public complaints about school personnel should have the official approval of the board.*

***THIS IS A REQUIRED REGULATION***







File: JF

## STUDENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Students, like all citizens, have civil rights guaranteed by the Constitution of the United States. The First Amendment, which ensures the freedom of religion, speech, press, assembly and petition, and the Fourteenth Amendment, which guarantees due process and equal protection, apply in school environments.

The rights of an individual are preserved only by the protection and preservation of the rights of others. A student is responsible for the way rights are exercised and must accept the consequences of actions and recognize the boundaries of rights. Each exercise of an individual's rights must demonstrate respect for the rights of others.

These statements set forth the rights of students and the responsibilities that are inseparable from these rights, which include the right to:

1. equal educational opportunity and freedom from discrimination and the responsibility not to discriminate against others;
2. attend free public schools; the responsibility to attend school regularly and to observe school rules essential for permitting others to learn at school;
3. due process of law with respect to suspension and expulsion;
4. free inquiry and expression and the responsibility to observe rules regarding these rights and
5. privacy, which includes privacy with respect to the student's school records.

As part of the educational process, students should be made aware of their legal rights and of the legal authority of the Board to make rules and delegate authority to its staff to make rules necessary for the orderly operation of the schools.

A copy of the school discipline code is posted in each of the schools and given to each student. This code describes in detail the offenses for which disciplinary action may be taken. Copies of the code are available to any parent in the principal's office.

[Adoption date:]

LEGAL REFS.: U.S. Const. Amend. I  
U.S. Const. Amend. XIV, Section 1  
ORC 3313.20; 3313.66; 3313.661; 3313.662; 3313.668  
**3320.01; 3320.02; 3320.03**

CROSS REFS.: ABC, Student Involvement in Decision Making (Also JFB)  
IGDB, Student Publications  
JFC, Student Conduct (Zero Tolerance)  
JFG, Interrogations and Searches  
Student Handbooks

*NOTE: House Bill (HB) 410 (2016) prohibits districts from disciplining a student based solely on the basis of the student being absent from school without legitimate excuse.*

***HB 164 enacted the “Ohio Student Religious Liberties Act of 2019.” The act allows students enrolled in a public school to engage in religious expression before, during and after school hours in the same manner and to the same extent that a student is permitted to engage in secular activities or expression before, during and after school hours and removed the previous language in statute allowing the board to limit a student’s exercise or expression of the pupil’s religious beliefs to lunch periods or other noninstructional time periods when pupils are free to associate. Districts also must grant the same access to school facilities to students who wish to conduct a meeting for the purpose of engaging in religious expression as is given to secular student groups, without regard to the content of a student’s or group’s expression.***

***Districts cannot prohibit a student from engaging in religious expression as defined by law, in the completion of homework, artwork or other written or oral assignments. Assignment grades and scores must be calculated using ordinary academic standards of substance and relevance, including any legitimate pedagogical concerns and cannot penalize or reward a student based on the religious content of a student’s work.***

COMMUNITY USE OF SCHOOL PREMISES  
(Equal Access)

Although the basic purpose of public school premises is to provide the youth of the community a sound educational program, the complete function of education is not achieved until the school premises are made to serve the entire community. To accomplish this objective, when school premises are not in use for school purposes, the Board shall, upon payment of the prescribed fee and subject to the requirements of applicable regulations, permit the use of school premises for auxiliary, educational, recreational, cultural, civic, social, religious or other Board-approved purposes.

*(Permissive language)*

The District may rent or lease premises to a public or nonpublic university for use for evening and summer classes.

*(Permissive language)*

Any school within the District receiving Title I funding must offer the same premises access to Boy Scouts as to other organizations.

[Adoption date:]

LEGAL REFS.: The Elementary and Secondary Education Act; 20 USC 1221 et seq.  
Title VIII, Section 801  
ORC 3311.215  
3313.75; 3313.76; 3313.77; 3313.78; 3313.79  
**3320.01; 3320.02; 3320.03**  
4303.26

CROSS REFS.: KGB, Public Conduct on District Property  
KI, Public Solicitations in the Schools

*NOTE: A brief policy on Community Use of School Premises suffices when it is accompanied by fairly extensive regulations approved by the board. Many policies, however, also contain the basic principles that govern premises used by outside groups.*

***House Bill 164 enacted the “Ohio Student Religious Liberties Act of 2019.” The act allows students enrolled in a public school to engage in religious expression before, during and after school hours in the same manner and to the same extent that a student is permitted to engage in secular activities or expression before, during and after school hours and removed the previous language in statute allowing the board to limit a student’s exercise or expression of the pupil’s religious beliefs to lunch periods or other noninstructional time periods when pupils are free to associate. Districts also must grant the same access to school facilities to students who wish to conduct a meeting for the purpose of engaging in religious expression as is given to secular student groups, without regard to the content of a student’s or group’s expression.***

***Districts cannot prohibit a student from engaging in religious expression as defined by law, in the completion of homework, artwork or other written or oral assignments. Assignment grades and scores must be calculated using ordinary academic standards of substance and relevance, including any legitimate pedagogical concerns and cannot penalize or reward a student based on the religious content of a student’s work.***

*One or more special subcategories may need to be added to take care of statements on special use of premises or use of special facilities (such as swimming pools, stadiums). Such statements can be coded and added following the standard KG sequence by coding KG-R-2-3, etc.*

***THIS IS A REQUIRED POLICY***

DISTRIBUTION OF MATERIALS IN THE SCHOOLS  
(Version 1)

The District recognizes that students and employees have the right to express themselves on school property. This protection includes the right to distribute, at a reasonable time and place and in a reasonable manner, non-school-sponsored material. In order to protect First Amendment rights, while at the same time preserving the integrity of the educational objectives and responsibilities of the District, the following requirements apply to the distribution of non-school-sponsored material on school property and at school activities.

Prior Approval Required

Individuals or groups not affiliated with the District, who desire to distribute materials to the members of the school community, must first receive approval of such materials through the Superintendent/designee.

Students and staff members who desire to distribute materials to members of the school community must first receive approval from the building principal and when in doubt the Superintendent.

Types of Material Restrictions

Materials must be approved if they fall under one of the following categories:

*(Select any or all of the optional items 1-5 below to reflect the types of materials and/or advertising that the District allows.)*

1. publications of services, special events, public meetings or other items of interest to students or parents/guardians;
2. distribution of promotional materials of a commercial nature to students or parents/guardians;
3. paid advertisements on District property, including but not limited to billboard advertisements;
4. paid advertisements on or in school-sponsored publications, yearbooks, announcements and other school communications and/or
5. products and materials donated by commercial enterprises for use in the classroom, as long as they serve an educational purpose and do not unduly promote any commercial activity or products.

### Manner and Mode of Distribution

The Superintendent/designee may approve the use of District time, personnel and resources in the distribution of materials if the materials are of an educational nature. The Superintendent will not, however, approve the use of District time, personnel or District resources for distribution if the materials are not of an educational nature and/or considered to be conducting business by soliciting participation, campaigning for membership or registering participants.

The building principals designate appropriate times, locations and means for which distribution of non-school-sponsored materials is appropriate. Determinations are made on a case-by-case basis.

Distribution with or without District involvement does not mean to imply sponsorship or support for that which the materials endorse. The District takes no responsibility for problems arising between the sponsoring individual or group and the student or staff member who accepts the materials.

### Limitations on Content

Non-school literature is not distributed on District property if:

1. the materials are obscene, vulgar or otherwise inappropriate for the age and maturity of the audience;
2. the materials endorse actions endangering the health or safety of students;
3. the distribution of such materials would violate the intellectual property rights, privacy rights, or other rights of another person;
4. the materials contain defamatory statements about public figures or others;
5. the materials advocate imminent lawless or disruptive action and are likely to incite or produce such action;
6. the materials are hate literature or similar publications that scurrilously attack ethnic, religious or racial groups; contain content aimed at creating hostility and violence and the materials would materially and substantially interfere with school activities or the rights of others or
7. there is reasonable cause to believe that distribution of the non-school literature would result in material and substantial interference with school activities or the rights of others.

Failure to comply with this policy regarding distribution of non-school literature shall result in appropriate administrative action, including but not limited to confiscation of nonconforming materials and/or suspension of use of District facilities. Appropriate law enforcement officials may be called if a person refuses to comply with this policy or fails to leave the premises when asked.

[Adoption date:]

LEGAL REFS.: U.S. Const. Amend. I  
ORC 3313.20; 3313.47; 3313.66; 3313.661  
**3320.01; 3320.02; 3320.03**

CROSS REFS.: EDE, Computer/Online Services (Acceptable Use and Internet Safety)  
IGDB, Student Publications  
IIBH, District Websites  
KJ, Advertising in the Schools

***NOTE: House Bill 164 enacted the “Ohio Student Religious Liberties Act of 2019.” The act allows students enrolled in a public school to engage in religious expression before, during and after school hours in the same manner and to the same extent that a student is permitted to engage in secular activities or expression before, during and after school hours and removed the previous language in statute allowing the board to limit a student’s exercise or expression of the pupil’s religious beliefs to lunch periods or other noninstructional time periods when pupils are free to associate. Districts also must grant the same access to school facilities to students who wish to conduct a meeting for the purpose of engaging in religious expression as is given to secular student groups, without regard to the content of a student’s or group’s expression.***

***Districts cannot prohibit a student from engaging in religious expression as defined by law, in the completion of homework, artwork or other written or oral assignments. Assignment grades and scores must be calculated using ordinary academic standards of substance and relevance, including any legitimate pedagogical concerns and cannot penalize or reward a student based on the religious content of a student’s work.***



DISTRIBUTION OF MATERIALS IN THE SCHOOLS  
(Version 2)

The Board desires to limit student exposure to advertising and promotional materials. Therefore, in order to maintain a closed forum on school campuses, advertising is not accepted in school-sponsored publications. In addition, flyers and promotional materials from non-school-sponsored groups are not distributed.

[Adoption date:]

LEGAL REFS.: U.S. Const. Amend. I  
ORC 3313.20; 3313.47; 3313.66; 3313.661  
**3320.01; 3320.02; 3320.03**

CROSS REFS.: EDE, Computer/Online Services (Acceptable Use and Internet Safety)  
IGDB, Student Publications  
IIBH, District Websites  
KJ, Advertising in the Schools

***NOTE: House Bill 164 enacted the “Ohio Student Religious Liberties Act of 2019.” The act allows students enrolled in a public school to engage in religious expression before, during and after school hours in the same manner and to the same extent that a student is permitted to engage in secular activities or expression before, during and after school hours and removed the previous language in statute allowing the board to limit a student’s exercise or expression of the pupil’s religious beliefs to lunch periods or other noninstructional time periods when pupils are free to associate. Districts also must grant the same access to school facilities to students who wish to conduct a meeting for the purpose of engaging in religious expression as is given to secular student groups, without regard to the content of a student’s or group’s expression.***

***Districts cannot prohibit a student from engaging in religious expression as defined by law, in the completion of homework, artwork or other written or oral assignments. Assignment grades and scores must be calculated using ordinary academic standards of substance and relevance, including any legitimate pedagogical concerns and cannot penalize or reward a student based on the religious content of a student’s work.***

**STUDENT/PARENT HANDBOOK  
FOR IN-PERSON AND REMOTE LEARNING**

**GARFIELD HEIGHTS CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**Pupil Services Department**

**Christopher G. Hanke  
Superintendent of Schools**

**Gordon Dupree, Ph.D.  
Director of Pupil Services**

**School Year 2020-2021**

**FROM THE GARFIELD HEIGHTS CITY SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION**

Our district's mission statement is:

To educate, guide, and ensure all students graduate prepared to meet high expectations and serve as responsible citizens in a global society.

Vision: Transforming Lives by Instilling 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills

**THE GARFIELD HEIGHTS BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS**

Joseph M. Juby, President  
Christine A. Kitson, Vice President  
Nichelle N. Daniels  
Ashley M. Thomas, M. Ed  
Millette King, M. Ed., L.S.W.

## Table of Contents

From the Board of Education .....	2
Superintendent District Profile .....	7-8
Student/Parent Handbook Introduction .....	9
Purpose of This Handbook .....	10
Equal Education Opportunities .....	10
School Attendance Areas .....	11
Assignment of Students to Schools .....	11
Compulsory School Attendance .....	11
School Attendance Policy .....	12
Exclusions and Exemptions from School Attendance .....	12
Injury and Illness .....	13
Entrance Age .....	13
Early Entrance to Kindergarten .....	14- 15
Admission to School and Use of OneView .....	15- 17
Admission of Nonresident Students .....	17- 19
Tuition Students .....	19
Admission of Open Enrollment/Transfer Students .....	19
Admission of Students from Non-Chartered Schools or From Home Schooling .....	19
Student Rights and Responsibilities .....	20-21
Student Absences and Excuses.....	21-22
Excessive Absences and Truancy.....	22
Excessive Absenteeism and Truancy (House Bill 410) .....	23-25
<i>(Passed in December of 2016 and effective April 6, 2017)</i>	
Remote Learning Attendance .....	26-27
Truancy (Unexcused Absence from School).....	27
Excused Absence.....	28-29
Notification of Absence.....	29
Make-up of Tests and Other School Work.....	29
Tardiness .....	30
Vacations During the School Year .....	30
Student Dismissal Precautions .....	30
Student Attendance Accounting (Missing and Absent Children) .....	31
Release Time for Religious Instruction.....	32
Field Trips .....	32
Grades.....	32
Grading Periods .....	33
Promotion and Retention.....	34-36
Retention in Third Grade.....	36
Summer Promotion.....	36
Graduation Requirements for Class of 2019 and Beyond.....	37
Regular Diploma .....	37
Ohio State Tests.....	37
Industry Credential and Workforce Readiness.....	37

College and Career Readiness Tests .....	37
Honors Diploma .....	38
Early Graduation .....	38
Educational Options .....	38
College Credit Plus.....	39
Recognition of Student Achievement.....	39
Homework.....	39
Student Assessment.....	39
Student Activities .....	40
School Sponsored Clubs and Activities .....	40
Non-School Sponsored Clubs and Activities .....	40
Athletics.....	40
Student Employment.....	40
Student Attendance at School Events.....	41
Scheduling and Assignments.....	41
Early Dismissal.....	41
Withdrawal/Transfer from School.....	42
Immunizations .....	42
Emergency Medical Authorization .....	42
Use of Medications.....	43-44
Non-Prescribed (Over the Counter) Medications.....	44
Control of Casual-Contact Communicable Diseases .....	45
Control of Blood-Borne Pathogens .....	46
Students with Disabilities.....	47
Discipline of Students with Disabilities .....	47
Admission of Homeless Students.....	48-49
Student Records.....	49-51
Student Fees and Fines .....	51
Student Fund-Raising.....	51
Student Valuables.....	52
Meal Service.....	52
Safety & Security and Student Well Being .....	52
Fire, Tornado, and Safety Drills.....	53
Emergency Closing and Delays .....	53
Visitors .....	53
Use of the Library/Media Center.....	53
Use of School Equipment and Facilities .....	54
Lost and Found.....	54
Use of Office Telephones.....	54
Use of Wireless Communication Devices.....	55
Garfield Heights Middle School and High School Cell Phone Policy.....	56
Computer Technology and Networks.....	57-62
Interrogations and Searches.....	62
Searches of School Property Assigned to a Student.....	62
Searches of a Student’s Person or Personal Property by School Personnel .....	62
Searches of Student Property by Law Enforcement Officials.....	63

Interrogations by Law Enforcement Officials.....	63-64
Student Rights of Expression .....	64
Possession of Obscene Materials .....	64-65
Expected Behaviors.....	65
Classroom Environment.....	65
Student Conduct Code.....	66
Viewing of Videotapes by Non-School People.....	66
Informal Discipline.....	66
Detentions.....	66
In-school Discipline .....	67
Formal Discipline .....	67
Due Process Rights.....	68
Suspension from School.....	68
Emergency Removal .....	69
Expulsion from School.....	69-70
Permanent Exclusion.....	70-72
Re-Admission from Permanent Exclusion.....	72
Probationary Admission Following Permanent Exclusion .....	72
Dress and Grooming.....	73
Use of Face Coverings .....	73-75
Student Attire .....	76-77
Dresses.....	77
Pants, Shorts, Skorts, Capris, Skirts .....	77
Shirts, Sweatshirts, Sweaters, Vests, Pullovers.....	77
Gangs.....	78
Care of Property .....	78
More Specific Conduct Code Violations.....	78
Possession/Use of Drugs and/or Alcohol .....	78
Anabolic Steroids .....	79
Possession/Use of Tobacco (including “electric cigarettes).....	79
Use and/or Possession of a Firearm .....	79
Use and/or Possession of a Weapon or a Lookalike Weapon .....	79-80
Use of an Object as a Weapon.....	80
Knowledge of Dangerous Weapons or Threats of Violence.....	80
Arson .....	80
Physically Assaulting a Staff Member/Student/Person Associated with the District .....	81
Verbally Threatening a Staff Member/Student/Person Associated with the District.....	81
Misconduct Against a School Official or Employee, or The Property of Such a Person, Regardless of Where It Occurs.....	81
Misconduct Off School Grounds.....	81-82
Extortion .....	82
Gambling .....	82
Falsification of School Work, Identification, Forgery .....	82
Cheating and Plagiarism.....	82
Bomb Threats, and Other False Alarms and Reports .....	83
Terrorist Threat.....	83

Possession and/or Use of Combustible Materials .....	83
Trespassing.....	83-84
Theft, or Knowingly Receiving or Possessing Stolen Property .....	84
Insubordination.....	84
Damaging Property (Vandalism).....	84
Persistent Absences or Tardiness .....	84
Unauthorized Use of School or Private Property .....	85
Refusing to Accept Discipline.....	85
Aiding or Abetting Violations of School Rules .....	85
Displays of Affection/Sexual Activities.....	85
Possession of Electronic Equipment .....	85
Violation of Individual School/Classroom Rules.....	85
Violation of Bus Rules/Suspension of Bus Riding/Transportation Privileges.....	85-86
Interference, Disruption or Obstruction of the Educational Process.....	86
Harassment and or Aggressive Behavior (Including Bullying and Cyberbullying) .....	86
Bullying, Harassment, and Intimidation.....	86-87
Ethnic Intimidation.....	88-89
Complaints.....	89
Privacy/Confidentiality .....	89
Reporting Requirement .....	89
Immunity .....	89
Notification.....	90
Education and Training .....	90
Propping Open Doors.....	90
Opening Exterior Doors to Public .....	90
Hazing .....	90-91
Violent Conduct .....	91
Improper Dress .....	91
Careless or Reckless Driving .....	91
Burglary.....	91
Fighting .....	91
Lighting Incendiary Devices .....	91
Possession of Pornography.....	91
Unauthorized Use of Vehicles.....	92
Student Transportation .....	93
Bus/Transportation Vehicle to School .....	93
Prior to Loading (On the Road and at School).....	94
During the Trip.....	94
Exiting the School Vehicle.....	95
Student Conduct on School Buses.....	95-96
School Bus/Vehicle Transportation Discipline .....	96
Videotapes on School Buses/School Transportation Vehicles.....	97
Penalties for Infractions.....	97
Transportation of Students by Private Vehicle.....	98
Self-Transportation to School .....	98
PBIS.....	98

## **District Profile Superintendent Chris Hanke**

### **Overview**

The Garfield Heights City Schools is a dynamic inner-ring district in the Greater Northeast Ohio area. The school district serves a community of approximately 25,000 residents, and seeks to advance a positive reflection of the community that surrounds it.

The GHCS serves approximately 3,600 students yearly, and is comprised of seven facilities as its total campus, including one high school, one middle school (serving grades 6, 7 and 8) and three elementary schools (serving grades K-5). The Garfield Heights City Schools employs approximately 500 administrators, teachers and staff members, all dedicated to the mission and vision of the district.

Specifically, the mission of the Garfield Heights City Schools is *to educate, guide, and ensure all students graduate prepared to meet high expectations and serve as responsible citizens in a global society.*

In helping to accomplish that mission, and in looking toward the future, the district's vision is *transforming lives by instilling 21<sup>st</sup> Century skills.*

### **Academics**

In terms of academics, the schools certainly have their bright spots. Namely, Garfield Heights City Schools garners one of the highest senior graduation rates among inner-ring schools at 93%. Courses available to students at Garfield Heights High School seek to truly prepare students for their next respective academic steps, and include such classes as Advanced Placement Government, AP American History and AP English. Additionally, 19 Honors Courses are offered at High School, including Honors Anatomy and Physiology, Honors Chemistry and Honors Physical Science. Offering such programming and classes resulted in more than \$4 Million in scholarships and grants were awarded to the Class of 2016.

By way of technical training, more than 27 Career Technical programs are offered to junior and seniors through involvement with Cuyahoga Valley Career Center, including Computer Program and Digital Design, Dental Hygiene, Health Careers and Engineering Tech. Garfield Heights City Schools sends the highest number of students to the Career Center among the eight participating school districts

The Learning Center at the Garfield Heights City Schools is an innovative approach that provides supplemental academic and behavioral support in a flexible, non-traditional environment for high school students who require credit recovery needs.

### **Facilities**

The Garfield Heights City Schools features top quality facilities that create a welcoming and instructive learning environment. Maple Leaf Intermediate school and Elmwood Elementary school have benefitted from an approximate \$18 million investment from the OSFC, which has come at no cost to the taxpayers of the City of Garfield Heights, and have completely



renovated classrooms, upgraded technology, improved instructional materials and lifted the academic outlook at these K-5 Buildings. Safety and security is a top priority at all buildings, where major investments for camera technology, additional security staff and computer programming have been recently upgraded. The pinnacle of such upgrades have been the addition of two full-time Student Resource Officers being placed at the high school and middle school, through a collaborative partnership with the City of Garfield Heights.

### **Co-Curricular Activities**

In terms in extra and co-curricular activities, there are student lead organizations that exist in the Garfield Heights City Schools that provide an opportunity for students to develop their communication, leadership, teamwork and decision making skills. Some are athletic in nature and others promote community and volunteerism. The school's Academic Challenge Team is a consistent regional and state finalist. And, the Garfield Heights High School Music Express is a 'one-of-a-kind' experience, presenting the schools' finest talent in dancing and singing, all combined into one award-winning performance. The Garfield Heights City Schools strongly promotes community activism amongst its student body as well, manifesting itself in student groups at the high school such as Students of Service (S.O.S.) all the way to the elementary levels through organizations such as the "K-Kids" (Kiwanis Kids).

### **Technology**

Pursuing the latest equipment, software and resources in technology is also a top priority of the Garfield Heights City Schools. At present, there is one device for every two students district-wide. This extraordinary reality permits students at all grade levels to experience a seamless transition from curriculum advances to technological applications. When trends in technology emerge, the Garfield Heights City Schools' technology team, bandwidth and scope of operations is prepared. Each building, K-12, maintains a computer lab where curriculum, etiquette and other skills are taught. In addition, carts with Chromebooks and iPads are available to the district's youngest students. In all, technology is a top priority for the Garfield Heights City Schools.

### **Communications and Community Partnerships**

The Garfield Heights City Schools maintains a strong commitment to communication, where you can regularly find more info on the district at FACEBOOK, Twitter, and on our local cable access channel GHTV. The district website is a primary conveyor for information about the district as well. In terms of partnerships, the Garfield Heights City Schools recognizes its place in the community and seeks to align itself with public entities such as the City of Garfield Heights, the Garfield Heights Municipal Court and the Garfield Heights Chamber of Commerce. Through its "Bulldog Business Partnership," the school district maintains mutually beneficial relationships with top community employers such as Marymount Hospitals, Overdrive Technologies, Giant Eagle, Royal Landscaping, First Federal of Lakewood and others.

Thank you for visiting us online. We are confident that your experience with The Garfield Heights City Schools will be a pleasant one!

**STUDENT/PARENT HANDBOOK INTRODUCTION**  
for the  
**GARFIELD HEIGHTS CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
Garfield Heights, Ohio 44125

Welcome to the Garfield Heights City Schools. We are pleased to have you as students and parents and we will do our best to help make your experience here as enjoyable and successful as you wish to make it. To help provide a safe and productive learning environment for students, staff, parents and visitors, we publish this updated Student/Parent Handbook annually and post it on the district website to explain students' rights, responsibilities, and consequences for misbehavior.

Parents are encouraged to take time to review and discuss the information in this Handbook with their school-age children. Teachers and administrators also review this Handbook with students.

Thank you for taking the time to become familiar with the important information in this Handbook. If you have any questions, please contact your child's building administrator.

<b>Garfield Heights High School</b>	<b>Elmwood Elementary School</b>
4900 Turney Road	5275 Turney Road
Phone: (216) 662-2800	Phone: (216) 475-8110
FAX: (216) 271-6183	FAX: (216) 475-8371
<b>Garfield Heights Middle School</b>	<b>William Foster Elementary School</b>
12000 Maple Leaf Drive	12801 Bangor Avenue
Phone: (216) 475-8105	Phone: (216) 475-8123
FAX: (216) 475-8146	FAX: (216) 475-8080
<b>Maple Leaf Elementary School</b>	<b>Bulldog Digital Academy</b>
5764 Turney Road	12000 Maple Leaf Drive
Phone: (216) 662-3800	Phone: (216) 475-8105
FAX: (216) 662-9949	FAX: (216) 475-8146
<b>Garfield Heights Learning Center</b>	<b>Maintenance &amp; Transportation</b>
12000 Maple Leaf Drive	9710 Garfield Boulevard
Phone: (216) 475-8105	Phone: (216) 332-0359
FAX: (216) 475-8146	FAX: (216) 441-8964

The student hours for the elementary schools are 8:15 am- 2:45 pm  
The student hours for the middle school and the high school are 7:30 am- 2:20 pm

## **PURPOSE OF THIS HANDBOOK**

This Parent/Student Handbook was developed to help:

1. enhance equal educational opportunities for all students;
2. instill in all students the ability to be critical thinkers and to strive for lifelong learning;
3. promote consistent attendance;
4. ensure that the constitutional rights of all students as citizens in a democracy have practical meaning and application;
5. develop in students a deep sense of personal responsibility for their actions;
6. attend vigorously to matters of student safety, health and welfare;
7. deal justly and constructively with all students in matters of discipline; and
8. help all students feel that they are valued as individual persons in the school environment.

## **EQUAL EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES**

All students of the district have equal educational opportunities. Students have the right to be free from discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, citizenship status, ancestry, religion, sex, economic status, marital status, pregnancy, age, disability, military status or sexual orientation in all decisions affecting admissions; membership in school-sponsored organizations, clubs or activities; access to facilities; distribution of funds; academic evaluations or any other aspect of school-sponsored activities. Any limitations with regard to participation in a school-sponsored activity are based on criteria reasonably related to that specific activity.

Complaints about violations of the Equal Opportunities section above should contact the district Compliance Officer. The Compliance Officer can provide additional information concerning equal access to educational opportunity. The Compliance Officer for the Garfield Heights City Schools is the assistant-superintendent of schools. The phone number for that office is (216) 475-8100.

## **SCHOOL ATTENDANCE AREAS**

The Board determines attendance areas for the various schools of the district. The superintendent recommends boundary lines, taking into consideration the best use of school facilities, the equalization of enrollments in classrooms, natural barriers and traffic hazards and patterns. Except as the foregoing factors influence boundary lines, the area established should permit each student to attend the school nearest her/his place of residence.

Students are expected to attend the schools in the areas in which they live. Exceptions may be made within Board policy or may be made in the best interests of the students and/or the schools.

## **ASSIGNMENT OF STUDENTS TO SCHOOLS**

The Board approves attendance areas. Students attend the school that serves the attendance area in which their parents reside or, upon acceptance, the student may attend another school pursuant to the district's intradistrict open enrollment policy. Families may also determine that online schooling in an appropriate option. In that case, students may enroll in the Bulldog Digital Academy. Enrollment is on a semester basis.

The superintendent has authority to assign students to schools. The superintendent or her/his designee is authorized to make exceptions on the basis of hardship and student need and to assign a student to a school outside her/his own attendance area.

## **COMPULSORY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE**

Children between the ages of 6 and 18 are of compulsory school age. Every person of compulsory school age must attend a school which conforms to the standards prescribed by the state Board of Education until one of the following occurs:

1. The person receives a diploma or a GED granted by the Board or other governing authority indicating that such student has successfully completed all state and local requirements.
2. The person receives an Age and Schooling Certificate (work permit) and is enrolled in an equivalent diploma program.
3. The person is excused from school under standards adopted by the state Board of Education pursuant to state law.

The parent(s) of any person who is of compulsory school age must send such person to school unless she/he is exempt as listed above.

## **SCHOOL ATTENDANCE POLICY**

Regular attendance is a significant student responsibility at all grade levels. Many studies correlate regular attendance with success in school. Regular attendance means that the academic learning process is not interrupted, less time is spent on make-up assignments, and students benefit from participation and interaction with others in class. Many important lessons are learned through active participation in classroom and other school activities that cannot be replaced by individual study.

Establishing a pattern of good attendance will benefit the student in school and in the workplace. Attendance is important in the development of a high quality work ethic, which will be a significant factor in a student's success with future employers. One of the most important work habits that employers look for in hiring and promoting a person is her/his dependability in coming to work every day on time. This is a habit the school wants to help students develop as early as possible.

### **EXCLUSIONS AND EXEMPTIONS FROM SCHOOL ATTENDANCE**

A student of compulsory school age residing in the district may be legally excused from full-time enrollment by:

1. holding an age and schooling certificate (work permit), being regularly employed and attending school on a part-time basis in a program approved by the superintendent or her/his designee;
2. receiving approved home instruction;
3. attending a private, parochial or other chartered school; or
4. having received a diploma or high school equivalent from an approved high school.

The district may temporarily deny admittance to any student who is otherwise entitled to be admitted to the district if the student has been suspended or expelled from the schools of another district in the state of Ohio or an out-of-state district and if the period of suspension or expulsion has not expired. The student and parent(s) will have an opportunity for a hearing before the superintendent/designee to determine the admittance or non-admittance of the student.

## **INJURY AND ILLNESS**

All injuries must be reported to a teacher or the office. If the injuries are minor, the student will be treated and may return to class. If medical attention is required, the office will follow the school's emergency procedures and attempt to make contact with the student's parents.

A student who becomes ill during the school day should request permission to go to the office. An appropriate adult in the office will determine whether the student should remain in school or go home. No student will be released from school without proper parental permission.

## **ENTRANCE AGE** (Mandatory Kindergarten)

Each child who is five years of age on or before August 1 is eligible to enroll in kindergarten. Each child who is six years of age on or before August 1 and who has successfully completed kindergarten is eligible to enroll in the first grade.

## EARLY ENTRANCE TO KINDERGARTEN

The Garfield Heights City School District evaluates students for Early Entrance to Kindergarten in accordance with ODE Model Policy for Academic Acceleration. Early entrance to kindergarten for children not age five before January 1 will only be considered if the child is referred by an educator within the district, a preschool educator who knows the child, a pediatrician or psychologist who knows the child, or at the discretion of the principal of the school to which the student may be admitted. A parent may request early entrance to kindergarten if the child turns five years of age after the district's kindergarten entrance date of August 1 and before January 1.

Early entrance should be viewed as a means of meeting a child's needs. The key to determining whether or not early entrance is recommended is to evaluate the student's ability, achievement, and aptitude. Early entrance is designed for the exceptional child who is both academically ready as well as developmentally mature when compared to others his or her chronological age. Early entrance to kindergarten may be permitted if all of the following requirements are met:

1. The child's cognitive ability, academic achievement, and aptitude result in an acceptable composite score on the Iowa Acceleration Scale, 3rd Edition.
2. The child possesses and demonstrates social and emotional characteristics that permit conformity with behavior commonly expected of children in kindergarten.

As required, an Acceleration Evaluation Committee will review the results of the comprehensive evaluation and determine the most appropriate available learning environment for your child. The Acceleration Evaluation Committee Members are:

1. The child's receiving principal or assistant principal
2. A teacher at the grade level to which the student may be accelerated.
3. A parent or legal guardian of the referred student or a representative designated by a parent or legal guardian of the referred child.
4. A gifted education coordinator or gifted intervention specialist. If a gifted coordinator or gifted intervention specialist is not available in the district, a school psychologist or guidance counselor with expertise in the appropriate use of academic acceleration may be substituted.

To request early entrance into kindergarten for your child, please follow the steps outlined below:

1. Complete and submit the documents found on the Early Entrance to Kindergarten link on the Garfield Heights City Schools website under the Central Office Gifted department which include the Early Entrance to Kindergarten Application, Early Entrance to Kindergarten Checklist, Early Entrance to Kindergarten Evaluation and Review Permission

- Form.
2. Provide a copy of your child's birth certificate indicating your child will be turning five during the next school year. Return the items listed above to the Garfield Heights Board of Education/Special Education Department no later than March 31 to ensure evaluation prior to the start of the coming school year.

## **ADMISSION TO SCHOOL**

### **Use of OneView for Initial Enrollment**

All parents/guardians/case workers must use the district's online enrollment program in order to register their students to attend school. The program can be accessed through any computer that has internet access.

After the OneView process is completed, the parent/guardian/caseworker must contact the district Registrar (216/475-8100) for an appointment to complete the registration process.

In general, state law requires students to enroll in the school district in which their parent or legal guardian resides.

New students under the age of 18 must be enrolled by their parent or legal guardian. When enrolling, parents must provide copies of the following:

- A. an original, official birth certificate or similar document that has been certified by an agency like the Ohio Department of Health's Bureau of Vital statistics or a court of law.
- B. court papers allocating parental rights and responsibilities, or custody (if appropriate)
- C. proof of residency
- D. proof of immunizations
- E. previous school records
- F. copies of any Individual Education Plans (IEPs), if applicable

We encourage all parents/custodians/caseworkers to have all of the required documents (above) completed so that the enrollment process will proceed smoothly. Lack of complete documentation may result in a delayed entry to school.

Under certain circumstances, temporary enrollment may be permitted. In such cases, parents will be notified about documentation required to establish permanent enrollment.



Students enrolling from another school must have an official transcript from their previous school in order to have credits transferred. Guidance personnel will assist in obtaining the transcript, if not presented at the time of enrollment.

High school students whose transcript files are incomplete will be enrolled as 9<sup>th</sup> graders until the school receives the completed transcripts.

Homeless students who meet the federal definition of homeless may enroll and will be under the district's Liaison for Homeless Children with regard to enrollment procedures.

All students who are living with a parent must be accompanied by a parent at enrollment time. ***(Because of the COVID19 pandemic, 2020- 2021 enrollments/registrations are for adults only).***

In addition, if a student resides in the district with a grandparent and is the subject of a: (1) power of attorney designating the grandparent as the person in charge; or (2) a caretaker authorization affidavit executed by the grandparent that provides the grandparent with authority over the care, physical custody, and control of the child, including the ability to enroll the child in school, consent in all school related matters, and discuss with the district the child's educational progress, the student's grandparent may enroll the child in school on a tuition-free basis. However, in addition to the above-referenced documents that are typically required for enrollment, the grandparent must provide the district with a duly executed and notarized copy of a power of attorney or caretaker authorization affidavit. Neither of these documents grants custody to a grandparent.

A student suspended or expelled by another public school in Ohio may be temporarily denied admission to the district's schools during the period of suspension or expulsion even if that student would otherwise be entitled to attend school in the district. Likewise, a student expelled or otherwise removed for disciplinary purposes from a public school in another state and the period of expulsion or removal has not expired may be temporarily denied admission to the district's schools during the period of expulsion or removal or until the expiration of the period of expulsion or removal which the student would have received in the district had the student committed the offense while enrolled in the district. Prior to denying admission, however, the superintendent or designee shall offer the student an opportunity for a hearing to review the circumstances of the suspension or expulsion and any other factors the superintendent determines to be relevant.

If a student has been recently discharged or released from the custody of the Department of Youth Services (DYS) and is seeking admittance or re-admittance into the district, the student will not be admitted until the following records, which are required to be released by DHS to the superintendent, have been received:

- A. an updated copy of the student's transcript;
- B. a report of the student's behavior while in DHS custody;
- C. the student's current IEP, if one has been developed for the child; and

D. a summary of the instructional record of the child's behavior.

Foreign students and foreign-exchange students (from recognized and approved student programs) are eligible for admission on the same basis as other non-resident students.

### **ADMISSION OF NONRESIDENT STUDENTS**

In order to be eligible for a free public education in the district's schools, a student must be the child of a resident of the district or reside with a grandparent with either power of attorney or caretaker authorization affidavit. If legal or permanent custody or legal guardianship of the student has been granted by a court to a resident of the district or a government agency within the district, the student is entitled to attend district schools and tuition is paid in compliance with state law.

In compliance with state law and Board policy, nonresident students are exempt from paying tuition when:

1. an adult resident of the district submits a sworn statement that she/he has begun legal custody proceedings for the student (maximum 60 days permitted);
2. for students with a valid IEP, the student is at least 18 but not yet 22 years of age and resides in the district, lives apart from her/his parent(s), supports himself/herself by her/his own labor and does not possess a high school diploma;
3. the student is under 18 years of age, resides in the district and is married, regardless of the residence of the parent(s);
4. the student has a medical condition that may require emergency attention and her/his parent is employed in the district; (The parent(s) of such child must submit to the Board a statement from the child's physician certifying that the child's medical condition may require emergency medical attention.)
5. the student resides with a person other than her/his parent(s) and such student has a parent serving outside Ohio in the U.S. Armed Services; (The student's parent(s) must file an affidavit with the superintendent stating (1) that the parent is serving outside the state in the U.S. Armed Services, (2) that the parent intends to reside in the district upon returning to the state, and (3) the name and address of the person with whom the student is living while the parent is outside the state. This tuition exemption may be granted only for a period of up to 12 months.)
6. the student resides with a parent who is planning to either have a home built or has purchased a home in the district and is waiting for the closing date of the mortgage loan; (The student's parent(s) must provide the superintendent with a sworn statement revealing

the location of the house and the parent(s)' intention to reside there. The parent(s) must also provide a statement from a homebuilder, real estate broker or bank officer confirming that the house construction is planned or is awaiting approval of the mortgage loan. The period for tuition-free attendance in these cases may extend up to 90 days.)

7. the student's parent is an employee of the district; (Any such policy shall take effect on the first day of the school year and the effective date of any amendment or repeal may not be prior to the first day of the subsequent school year. The policy shall be uniformly applied to all such children and shall provide for the admission of any such student upon request of the parent(s). No student may be admitted under this policy after the first day of classes of any school year.)
8. the student resides with her/his parent(s) under the care of a shelter for victims of domestic violence;
9. the student is not a resident of the district, does not require special education and resides with her/his grandparent(s), provided that the Board and the board of the district in which the student's parent(s) reside enter into a written agreement showing good cause for the student to be admitted to the district;

(The grandparent(s) are required to sign all consent forms required by the district, even if the student would remain in the legal custody of the parent(s).)

10. the student is under the age of 22 and her/his parent(s) moved from the district following the commencement of classes during the student's senior year, for the remainder of the school year and for one additional semester;
11. the student is under the age of 22 and resides in a new school district because of the death of a parent. (The student is entitled to finish the current school year in the district upon approval of the Board.)

The Board does not waive the payment of tuition, except:

1. when agreements have been established with other boards of education to serve their students in career-technical or special education classes on a cooperative basis, as permitted by law;
2. when foreign exchange students, sponsored under an approved exchange program, reside in the district temporarily; or
3. for adult residents or classified staff employees of the district who meet the criteria established by the Board.

In all cases, specific Board permission to waive tuition must be obtained for each individual case.

The district may temporarily deny admittance to any student who otherwise may be admitted to the district, if the student has been expelled from the schools of another district and if the period of expulsion has not expired. The student and parent(s) will have an opportunity for a hearing before the superintendent/designee to determine the admittance or non-admittance of the student.

### **TUITION STUDENTS**

Applications from nonresidents to attend the schools on a tuition basis may be considered if space is available. The amount of tuition is set annually by the state, based on a per-student cost determined in compliance with state law. Nonresident students must provide all records required of resident students in compliance with state law.

### **ADMISSION OF INTERDISTRICT (OPEN ENROLLMENT) TRANSFER STUDENTS**

The Board does not participate in an open enrollment program for students from other districts and does not accept such students.

### **ADMISSION OF STUDENTS FROM NON-CHARTERED SCHOOLS OR FROM HOME SCHOOLING**

Students seeking admission into the district's schools who have been enrolled in non-chartered schools or home schooling programs may be required to take competency examinations. The purpose of these examinations is to determine the proper grade placement for these students.

In making a placement decision, the superintendent may consider:

1. the student's most recent annual academic assessment report;
2. whether to require the student to take any or all of the nationally normed, standardized achievement tests that are regularly scheduled for district students of similar age; and
3. other evaluation information that may include interviews with the student and the parent.

## STUDENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Students, like all citizens, have civil rights guaranteed by the Constitution of the United States. The First Amendment, which ensures the freedom of religion, speech, press, assembly and petition and the Fourteenth Amendment, which guarantees due process and equal protection, apply in school environments.

The rights of an individual are preserved only by the protection and preservation of the rights of others. A student is responsible for the way rights are exercised and must accept the consequences of actions and recognize the boundaries of rights. Each exercise of an individual's rights must demonstrate respect for the rights of others.

These statements set forth the rights of students and the responsibilities which are inseparable from these rights, which include the right to:

1. equal educational opportunity and freedom from discrimination and the responsibility not to discriminate against others;
2. attend free public schools; the responsibility to attend school regularly and to observe school rules essential for permitting others to learn at school;
3. due process of law with respect to suspension and expulsion;
4. free inquiry and expression and the responsibility to observe rules regarding these rights; and
5. privacy, which includes privacy with respect to the student's school records.

As part of the educational process, students should be made aware of their legal rights and of the legal authority of the Board to make rules and delegate authority to its staff to make rules necessary for the orderly operation of the schools.

Copies of the code are available to any parent on the district website. The school's rules and procedures are designed to allow students to be educated in a safe and orderly environment. All students are expected to follow staff members' directions and to obey all school rules.

Students must arrive at school on time, prepared to learn and participate. If, for some reason, this is not possible, the student should seek help from the principal.

Adult students (age 18 or older) must follow all school rules. Adult students cannot write or sign their own absence notes, nor can they sign themselves out of school without the permission of their parents.

In order to keep parents informed of their child's progress in school, parents will be provided information on a regular basis and whenever concerns arise. Many times it will be the

responsibility of the student to deliver the information. The school, however, may use the mail or hand delivery when appropriate. Parents have the option of receiving communication from the school via e-mail and/or facsimile by filling out the appropriate form available in the school's administrative office. Parents are encouraged to build a two-way link with their child's teachers and support staff by informing the staff of suggestions or concerns that may help their child better accomplish her/his educational goals.

### **STUDENT ABSENCES AND EXCUSES**

Regular attendance by all students is very important. In many cases, irregular attendance is the major reason for poor school work; therefore, all students are urged to make appointments, do personal errands, etc., outside of school hours.

Reasons for which students may be excused include, but are not limited to:

1. personal illness of the student;
2. illness in the student's family;
3. needed at home to perform necessary work directly and exclusively for parents or legal guardians (applies to students over 14 years of age only);
4. death in the family;
5. quarantine for contagious disease;
6. religious reasons;
7. traveling out of state to attend a Board-approved enrichment activity or extracurricular activity (applies to absences of up to four days); or
8. as determined by the superintendent.

Each student who is absent must immediately, upon return to school, make arrangements with her/his teacher(s) to make up work missed. Students who are absent from school for reasons not permitted by state law may, or may not, be permitted to make up work. Each case is considered on its merits by the principal and the respective teacher(s). Students are requested to bring a note to school after each absence explaining the reason for the absence or tardiness.

The Board does not believe that students should be excused from school for vacations or other nonemergency trips. The responsibility for such absences resides with the parent(s), and they must not expect any work missed by their child to be retaught by the teacher. If the school is notified in advance of such a trip, reasonable efforts are made to prepare a general list of assignments for the student to do while she/he is absent.

The Board authorizes the superintendent to establish a hearing and notification procedure for the purpose of denying a student's driving privileges if that student of compulsory school age

has been absent without legitimate excuse for more than 10 consecutive days or a total of at least 15 days during a semester or term.

### **EXCESSIVE ABSENCES AND TRUANCY**

It is important that students attend school every day. When students miss significant amounts of school, even if the absences are excused, they miss critical instruction time and learning opportunities. This often has long-term, negative effects on students, such as lower achievement and a greater chance of not graduating on time.

As a response to this, there is a new state law (House Bill 410, passed in December 2016 and effective April 6, 2017) that addresses excessive absences and truancy. A summary of this law is on the next 3 pages.

**Excessive absence** applies to students who miss 38 or more hours of school in a single month, or 65 or more hours in one school year, with or without a legitimate excuse.

**Truancy** is now based on hours. It applies to students who are absent from school for 30 or more consecutive hours without a legitimate excuse; 42 or more hours in a school month without a legitimate excuse; or 72 or more hours in a school year without a legitimate excuse.

Schools will send letters to the parents of students who reach or exceed the number of hours stipulated in the law.

*Any limits that may be in place regarding the number of medical excuses that will be authorized without a doctor's note may be extended if the student or someone in the student's family is in quarantine due to COVID-19 or experiencing symptoms of COVID-19.*

## Excessive Absenteeism House Bill 410 Requirements

Districts and community schools must have local policies that outline their interventions and plans for students who miss too much school. They may amend current policies or create a policy to satisfy HB 410.

It is important for every student in Ohio to attend school every day. Missing too much school has long-term, negative effects on students, such as lower achievement and graduation rates. There are many reasons students miss school, but districts often can directly impact their students' attendance. By using data to identify and support students who may need extra support and services, districts can target supports to get students to school every day.

In December 2016, the Ohio General Assembly passed [House Bill 410](#) to encourage and support a preventative approach to excessive absences and truancy. Beginning with the 2017-2018 school year, several changes take effect. Schools cannot suspend or expel students for missing too much school. Districts will amend or adopt policies that outline their interventions and plans for students who miss too much school.

Regular school attendance is an important ingredient in students' academic success. Excessive absences interfere with students' progress in mastering knowledge and skills necessary to graduate from high school prepared for higher education and the workforce. To support academic success for all students, the district will partner with students and their families to identify and reduce barriers to regular school attendance. The district will utilize a continuum of strategies to reduce student absence including, but not limited to:

- Notification of student absence to the parent or guardian;
- Development and implementation of an absence intervention plan, which may include supportive services for students and families;
- Counseling;
- Parent education and parenting programs;
- Mediation;
- Intervention programs available through juvenile authorities; and
- Referral for truancy, if applicable.

Updated district policies and procedures should reflect the following changes.

### DEFINITION OF TRUANCY AND EXCESSIVE ABSENCES

1. 'Chronic truant' is removed from the law;
2. Definition of 'habitual truant' changed from days to hours. The new definition is:
  - a. Absent 30 or more consecutive hours without a legitimate excuse;
  - b. Absent 42 or more hours in one school month without a legitimate excuse;
  - c. Absent 72 or more hours in one school year without a legitimate excuse.
3. Includes 'excessive absences':
  - a. Absent 38 or more hours in one school month with or without a legitimate excuse;
  - b. Absent 65 or more hours in one school year with or without a legitimate excuse.

### TRUANCY IS DECRIMINALIZED WITH SEVERAL CHANGES

1. A district must remove 'excessive truancy,' from its zero tolerance policy for violent, disruptive or inappropriate behavior;
2. Students cannot be expelled or suspended (out of school) for being truant (beginning July 1, 2017);
3. A district must take several steps to engage the student and his or her family before filing a complaint



with juvenile court (including parental notification, an absence intervention team and an absence intervention plan detailed below) A complaint cannot be filed until the 61<sup>st</sup> day after failed implementation of an absence intervention plan; or

- a. Unless a child has been absent without a legitimate excuse for 30 or more consecutive hours or 42 or more hours in a school month during the implementation of an absence intervention plan. Juvenile court should consider alternatives to adjudication and adjudication should be used as a last resort.

#### STUDENT DISCIPLINE CHANGES

1. Schools may permit students to make up missed work due to out-of-school suspensions per district policy;
2. Schools cannot apply any remaining part or all of a suspension to the following school year, but the superintendent may require a student to participate in community service or an alternative consequence for the number of hours equal to the time left on the suspension.

#### EMIS REPORTING CHANGES

1. When a district notifies a parent that a student has excessive absences;
2. When a child has been absent without a legitimate excuse for 30 or more consecutive hours, 42 or more hours in one school month, or 72 or more hours in one school year;
3. When a child, who has been adjudicated an unruly child for being a habitual truant, violates the court order regarding that adjudication;
4. When an absence intervention plan has been implemented for a child.

#### DISTRICT RESPONSIBILITIES WHEN A CHILD HAS EXCESSIVE ABSENCES

When a student is excessively absent from school, the following will occur:

1. The district will notify the student's parents in writing within seven days of the triggering absence;
2. The student will follow the district's plan for absence intervention; and
3. The student and family may be referred to community resources.

#### DISTRICT RESPONSIBILITIES WHEN A CHILD IS HABITUALLY TRUANT

When a student is habitually truant, the following will occur:

1. Within seven days of the triggering absence, the district will do the following:
  - a. Select members of the absence intervention team;
  - b. Make three meaningful attempts to secure the participation of the student's parent or guardian on the absence intervention team.
2. Within 10 days of the triggering absence, the student will be assigned to the selected absence intervention team;
3. Within 14 days after the assignment of the team, the district will develop the student's absence intervention plan;
4. If the student does not make progress on the plan within 61 days or continues to be excessively absent, the district will file a complaint in the juvenile court.

#### **Districts must establish an absence intervention team to be deployed when a student is deemed habitually truant**

The purpose of the absence intervention team is to establish a student-centered absence intervention plan for every child who is habitually truant by identifying specific barriers and solutions to attendance. The team is cross-sector and ideally includes the participation of the student and the parent. This requirement is new and is aimed at breaking down barriers to attendance without filing criminal complaints against the student in juvenile court.

1. Districts with a chronic absenteeism rate of 5 percent or greater must establish absence intervention teams for students who are habitually truant beginning with the 2017-2018 school year;

2. Schools are permitted to have their own absence intervention teams, but the district is responsible for developing a team if the school does not have one;
3. Membership of each team should vary based on the needs of each individual student, but each team **MUST** include:
  - a. A representative from the individual's school or district;
  - b. Another representative from the school or district who has a relationship with the child;
  - c. The child's parent (or parent's designee) or the child's guardian, custodian, guardian ad litem or temporary custodian.
4. The district or school may consult or partner with public and nonprofit agencies to provide assistance, as appropriate, to students and their families to reduce absences.

Please send your questions and comments to [school\\_improvement@education.ohio.gov](mailto:school_improvement@education.ohio.gov) to assist with the Department's development of guidance and training materials.

## REMOTE LEARNING ATTENDANCE

Attendance tracking may require multiple approaches to account for the differences between *in-school activities*, *teacher-led remote learning* and *self-directed remote learning*.

- **Teacher-led remote learning (synchronous):** In developing remote learning plans, districts and schools should consider how teacher-led remote learning equates to in-person instruction (likely to be the same). They should then track attendance at the student level in hour increments (for example, two-hour synchronous web-based instruction with students in attendance may equal two hours of attendance for each student).
- **Self-directed remote learning (asynchronous):** In developing remote learning plans, districts and schools should consider **evidence of participation** (or lack thereof) with consistent and clear expectations for students. Evidence of participation may include, but is not be limited to:
  - Daily logins to learning management systems.
  - Daily interactions with the teacher to acknowledge attendance.
    - Examples of daily interactions between teachers and students could include, but are not limited to, messages, emails, telephone calls, video chats or other formats that enable teachers to engage with students.
  - Assignment completion.
    - If using assignment completion to track attendance, teachers should **determine** the number of hours they expect an assignment to take **for a typical student** and use that to gauge each student's attendance.

**Tracking Absences:** The typical default for local student information systems is to assume that students are in attendance. A district or school enters absences into the information system based on their occurrence. The following should be considered in tracking absences.

- **Excused absences:** Any circumstances for which an excuse is received—regardless of whether the particular time frame covered by the excuse is part of an in-school experience or a remote experience—should be recorded based on past practice. To the extent that remote learning creates new situations where granting an excused absence may be warranted, districts may need to establish new policies for excused absences based on existing options in Ohio Administrative Code 3301-69-02. (See the discussion below on *Local Attendance and Absenteeism Policies*.)
- **No evidence of exposure, engagement or participation:** If there is no evidence the student participated or engaged in any way in a remote learning activity, then the student should be marked with an absence for the hours for that remote learning activity.
- **Remote learning cannot be used to make up absences from in-school learning:** In most cases, participation in remote learning should *not* be used to give credit for time the remote learning plan requires a student to be in school. For example, if students are on a staggered schedule of in-school learning on Monday and Tuesday and remote learning Wednesday through Friday, students absent from in-school learning on Monday cannot make up those hours later in

the week for attendance purposes with additional remote learning hours. (This may be possible in cases where in-school learning is only discretionary or on an “as-needed” basis or in cases when an otherwise healthy student is under quarantine or isolation.)

## **TRUANCY (Unexcused Absence from School)**

The Board works to reduce truancy through cooperation with parents, diligence in investigating the causes of absence and use of strict guidelines in regard to tardiness and unexcused absence. Unexcused absences from school are not acceptable. Students who are truant will receive no credit for school work that is missed.

When the Board determines that a student has been truant and that the parent, guardian or other person having care of a child has failed to ensure the child's attendance at school, state law authorizes the Board to require the parent to attend a specified educational program.

This program has been established according to the rules adopted by the state Board of Education for the purpose of encouraging parental involvement in compelling the child's attendance at school.

Regarding "habitual truants," the Board must take as an intervention strategy any appropriate action contained in the Board policy, or the Board may file a complaint in juvenile court jointly against the child and the parent. The complaint must state that the child is an "unruly child" by virtue of being a "habitual truant" and that the child's parent violated the school attendance law.

Intervention strategies for truants may include the following:

1. providing a truancy intervention program for a habitual truant;
2. providing counseling for a habitual truant;
3. requesting or requiring a parent having control of a habitual truant to attend parental involvement programs;
4. requesting or requiring a parent of a habitual truant to attend truancy prevention mediation programs;
5. notification to the registrar of motor vehicles; or
6. taking appropriate legal action.

### **Excused Absences**

Students may be excused from school for one or more of the following reasons and will be provided an opportunity to make-up missed school work and/or tests:

- A. personal illness (a written physician's statement verifying the illness may be required)
- B. illness in the family (the absence under this condition shall not apply to children under fourteen (14) years of age)

- C. quarantine of the home
- D. death in the family
- E. necessary work at home due to absence or incapacity of parent(s)/guardian(s)
- F. observation or celebration of a bona fide religious holiday
- G. such good cause as may be acceptable to the superintendent

### **Notification of Absence**

If a student will be absent [either online or in-person,] the parents must notify the school office by phone or note (not a text) and provide an explanation. If prior contact is not possible, the parents should provide a written excuse as soon as possible after the student's absence. When no excuse is provided, the absence will be unexcused and the student will be identified as truant for that school day. If the offered excuse for a student's absence is questionable or if the number of student absences is excessive, the school staff will notify the parents of the need for improvement in the student's attendance. A skipped class or part of the school day will be identified as an unexcused absence and students will not be permitted to make-up missed class work. The student will also be subject to disciplinary action.

Students with a health condition that causes repeated absences must provide the administration with an explanation of the condition from a registered physician.

### **Make-up of Tests and Other School Work**

Students who are absent from school [either online or in-person] with an excuse shall be given the opportunity to make-up missed work. The student should contact the school office as soon as possible to obtain assignments. The numbers of days the student was absent will equal the number of days the student has to make up the missed work, unless the building administrator deems otherwise.

If a student misses a teacher's test due to an excused absence, s/he should make arrangements with the teacher to take the test at another time. If s/he misses a state-mandated assessment test or other standardized test, the student should consult with the principal to arrange for administration of the test at another time.

## **TARDINESS**

### **Elementary Level**

A student who is not in her/his assigned location by the tardy bell shall be considered tardy. Any student arriving late to school is to report to the school office before going to class. Tardies apply to the online setting, as well.

### **Secondary Level**

Each student is expected to be in her/his assigned location throughout the school day. If a student is late arriving at school, s/he must report to the school office before going to her/his first assigned location. Tardies apply to the online setting, as well.

Students who are tardy to school may be disciplined according to the Student Code of Conduct.

## **VACATIONS DURING THE SCHOOL YEAR**

It is recommended that parents not take their child out of school for vacations. When a family vacation must be scheduled during the school year, the parents should discuss the matter with the principal to make necessary arrangements. It may be possible for the student to receive certain assignments that may be completed during the trip.

## **STUDENT DISMISSAL PRECAUTIONS**

Permission for a student to leave school when school is in session requires approval by the principal or a person specifically designated by her/him to exercise that authority. In evaluating requests for this permission, she/he gives primary consideration to the best interests of the student and/or public welfare. Requests are not approved without a parent's permission. When a request originates from a person other than the parent(s), the school official in authority contacts the parent(s) to obtain permission. An exception may be made in the case of the student who is 18 years of age or older, who may make requests on her/his own behalf.

## **STUDENT ATTENDANCE ACCOUNTING** (Missing and Absent Children)

The Board believes in the importance of trying to decrease the number of missing children; therefore, efforts are made to identify missing children and to notify the proper adults or agencies. At the time of initial entry into school, a student shall present to the person in charge of admission an official copy of a birth certificate and copies of those records pertaining to him/her which were maintained by the school which she/he most recently attended. In lieu of a birth certificate, birth documentation may include:

1. a passport or attested transcript thereof filed with a registrar of passports at a point of entry of the United States showing the date and place of birth of the child;
2. an attested transcript of the certificate of birth;
3. an attested transcript of the certificate of baptism or other religious record showing the date and place of birth of the child;
4. an attested transcript of a hospital record showing the date and place of birth of the child;  
or
5. a birth affidavit.

If the student does not present copies of the required documents, the principal shall call the school from which the student transferred and request the information. If that district has no record on file of the student or if that district does not send the records within 14 days, the principal shall notify the law enforcement agency having jurisdiction in the area where the student resides of the possibility that the student might be a missing child.

The primary responsibility for supervision of a student resides with her/his parent(s). The staff provides as much assistance as is reasonable to parents with this responsibility.

Parents must notify the school on the day a student is absent unless previous notification has been given in accordance with school procedure for excused absences. The principal or her/his designee is also required to notify a student's parent(s) when the student is absent from school. The parent(s) or other responsible person shall be notified by telephone or written notice, which is mailed on the same day that the student is absent. Parents or other responsible persons shall provide the school with their current home and/or work telephone numbers, home addresses and any emergency telephone numbers.

The Board designates the superintendent to develop informational programs for students, parents and community members relative to the subject of missing children.



## **RELEASED TIME FOR RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION**

The Board permits students to be released from school for religious instruction consistent with the law. Absence during the school day for religious instruction is permitted provided the student's parents or guardians submit a written request to the building principal.

Regular classroom instruction missed as a result of a student's absence for religious instruction will not be made up. The district neither aids, assists or enforces attendance in a religious instruction program, nor discriminates against students who participate in such program.

Individuals providing religious instruction are not permitted to promote student participation by directly contacting students on school premises or by encouraging students in the program to recruit their friends. All promotional activities for such instruction must be conducted off school grounds.

## **FIELD TRIPS**

Field trips are academic activities that are held off school grounds. There are also other trips that are part of the school's co-curricular and extra-curricular program. No minor student may participate in any school-sponsored trip without parental consent and a current emergency medical form on file in the office. Medications normally administered at school will be administered while on field trips. The Student Code of Conduct applies to all field trips.

Attendance rules apply to all field trips.

While the district encourages students to participate in field trips, alternative assignments will be provided for any student whose parent does not give permission for the student to attend.

Students who violate school rules may lose the privilege to go on field trips.

## **GRADES**

Each school has a standard grading procedure, as well as additional notations that indicate work in progress or incomplete work. Grades indicate the extent to which the student has acquired and demonstrated the necessary learning. In general, students are assigned grades based upon test results, homework, projects, and classroom participation. Each teacher may place a different emphasis on these areas when determining a grade and will so inform the students at the beginning of the course. If a student is not sure how her/his grade will be determined, s/he should ask the teacher.

## **Grading Periods**

Students will receive a report card at the end of each grading period indicating their grades for each course of study for that portion of the academic term.

When a student appears to be at risk of failure, reasonable efforts will be made to notify the parents so they can talk with the teacher about what actions can be taken to improve poor grades.

## **PROMOTION AND RETENTION OF STUDENTS**

The promotion of each student is determined individually. The decision to promote or retain a student is made on the basis of several factors. The teacher takes into consideration: reading skill, mental ability, age, physical maturity, emotional and social development, social issues, home conditions and grade average.

Promotion procedures demand continuous analysis and study of the cumulative student case history records. Administrative guidelines must be developed and reviewed and may include the following elements.

1. A student receiving passing grades in the core courses is promoted.
2. A student having failing grades in the core courses at the end of each year is evaluated by the teachers, guidance counselor and principal for placement.
3. No conditional promotions are permitted.
4. A student having failing grades may be assigned to the next higher grade with discretion only with approval of the principal.
5. No student having passing grades, "D" or above, throughout the year is failed.
6. No student should be retained more than twice in the elementary grades, kindergarten through eighth grade.
7. Documentary and anecdotal evidence should be available to justify retention.

Any student who is truant for more than 10% of the required attendance days of the current school year and has failed two or more of the required curriculum subject areas in the current grade is retained unless the student's principal and the teachers of the failed subject areas agree that the student is academically prepared to be promoted to the next grade level.

"Academically prepared" means that the principal, in consultation with the student's teacher(s), has reviewed the student's work and records and has concluded that, in his/her judgment as a professional educator, the student is capable of progressing through and successfully completing work at the next grade level.

Beginning with students who enter third grade in the 2013/2014 school year, any student, unless excused from taking the third grade reading assessment under Ohio Revised Code Section (RC) [3301.0711](#), who does not attain at least the equivalent level of achievement as required by RC[3301.0710](#) on the assessment, is not promoted to fourth grade unless one of the following applies:

1. The student is a limited English proficient student who has been enrolled in United States schools for less than three full school years and has had less than three years of instruction in an English as a second language program.
2. The student is a child with a disability entitled to special education and related services under RC [3323](#) and the student's Individualized Education Program (IEP) exempts the student from retention under this division.
3. The student demonstrates an acceptable level of performance on an alternative standardized reading assessment as determined by the Ohio Department of Education.
4. All of the following apply:
  - A. The student is a child with a disability entitled to special education and related services under RC 3323.
  - B. The student has taken the third grade English language arts achievement assessment prescribed under RC [3301.0710](#).
  - C. The student's IEP or 504 plan shows that the student has received intensive remediation in reading for two school years but still demonstrates a deficiency in reading.
  - D. The student previously was retained in any of grades kindergarten to three.
5. The student received intensive remediation for reading for two school years but still demonstrates a deficiency in reading and was previously retained in any of grades kindergarten to three. Students promoted under this section continue to receive intensive reading instruction in grade four. The instruction includes an altered instructional day that includes specialized diagnostic information and specific research-based reading strategies for the student that have been successful in improving reading among low-performing readers.

Intervention services are offered to students who are not making satisfactory progress toward the attainment of the statewide academic standards for their grade level.

Any student who has been retained because of results on the third grade English language assessment and who demonstrates during the academic year that he/she now is reading at or above grade level is promoted to the fourth grade pursuant to the District-level midyear promotion policy.

## Student Retention

Each building will have a retention committee which should include: principal or assistant principal, building counselor/ social worker or school psychologist, and current teacher(s) of the student.

Any student being considered for grade retention shall be referred to the building principal, who shall convene the building retention committee (March-April).

Prior to making the decision to retain a student in a grade level there must be documentation of previous teacher-parent/guardian communications (e.g., meetings, letters, phone conversations) regarding concerns about the performance of a specific student. No later than the beginning of March, notification must be provided to the parents/guardians of the possibility that a child may be retained. Documented efforts to remediate the student's difficulties will be provided to the principal and the parents by teachers working with the student.

Final decisions on student retentions shall be made in May and names of students retained shall be sent to the Director of Pupil Services and the Director of Curriculum and Instruction.

Items to be evaluated by the retention committee include, but are not limited to these criteria:

1. The student's personal, social, physical and academic status and growth.
2. The student's record of academic progress during the current school day.
3. Documentation of any individualized intervention plans or RTI efforts implemented on behalf of the student during the current or past school year/s and the results of these interventions on student learning.
4. Student record of success on state mandated testing during the current school year (and past school year if warranted).
5. Possible student interventions designed for the next academic year that could benefit the student and result in the student NOT being retained in their current grade level.
6. Review of parent/teacher school meetings held during the current year that addressed the student's record of poor academic progress.
7. Record and decisions of any previous retention meetings held for the student in past years.
8. A student will not be retained more than one time during grades K-8.
9. A student who has successfully completed the grade level work will be promoted to the next grade.

10. The building principal has the final decision on student retention. The Board Policy (IKE) and administrative guidelines must be followed.

### **Retention in the Third Grade**

A third grade student must reach at least the minimal passing score on an approved reading assessment as designated by the Ohio Department of Education (AIR or other approved test) to move on to the fourth grade. There may be some exemptions to this requirement for certain Limited English Proficient students, special education students whose IEP exempts them from this retention, or students previously retained who have received at least two years on intensive reading intervention.

### **Summer Promotion**

If a student scores below the minimal passing score on an approved reading assessment as designated by the Ohio Department of Education, the student may receive intensive reading remediation services appropriate for the student's reading deficiency throughout the summer. If the student can demonstrate reading proficiency on the state assessment at the end of the summer, the student will be promoted to the fourth grade before school starts in the fall.

## GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS FOR THE CLASSES OF 2020 AND BEYOND

### **Regular Diploma**

There is no one-size-fits-all way to graduate. Ohio gives you several pathways to qualify for a high school diploma. Choose the way that works best for you!

The graduation requirements for the classes of 2020 and beyond include curriculum and three options to show readiness for next steps in college and careers.

### **Meet One of the Following Three Criteria**

#### **1. Ohio's State Tests**

Students **earn a cumulative passing score of 18 points**, using seven end-of-course state tests. To ensure students are well rounded, they must earn a minimum of four points in math, four points in English and six points across science and social studies.

#### **End-of-course exams are:**

- Algebra I and Geometry or Integrated Math I and II
- Biology
- American History and American Government
- English I and English II

Students studying Advanced Placement (AP) or International Baccalaureate (IB) courses in biology, American history or American government may take and substitute test scores for end-of-course state exams to avoid double testing. Students also may substitute grades from College Credit Plus courses in these science and social studies subjects for end-of-course state exams.

#### **2. Industry Credential and Workforce Readiness**

Students earn 12 points through a State Board of Education-approved, **industry-recognized credential or group of credentials** in a single career field and achieve a **workforce readiness score** on the WorkKeys assessment. The state of Ohio will pay one time for those who take the WorkKeys assessment.

#### **3. College and Career Readiness Tests**

Students earn **"remediation-free" scores** in English language arts and mathematics on a nationally recognized college admission exam. The state of Ohio will pay one time for all 11th grade students in the classes of 2018 and beyond to take either the **ACT or SAT free of charge**. The student's district selection applies to all schools in the district for one school year. Test selection may change from one school year to the next.

## **Honors Diploma**

High school students can gain state recognition for exceeding Ohio's graduation requirements through an honors diploma. Students challenge themselves by taking and succeeding at high-level coursework and in real-world experiences.

Ohio students have the opportunity to choose to pursue one of six honors diplomas:

1. Academic Honors Diploma
2. International Baccalaureate Honors Diploma
3. Career Tech Honors Diploma
4. STEM Honors Diploma
5. Arts Honors Diploma\*
6. Social Science and Civic Engagement Honors Diploma

\*includes dance, drama/theatre, music and visual art.

Students in classes 2017-2021 may choose to pursue the Academic, International Baccalaureate or Career Tech honors diploma under the previously [established criteria](#) or the [revised criteria](#). They also may choose to pursue the STEM, Arts, or Social Science and Civic Engagement honors diploma.

Please see <http://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Ohio-s-Graduation-Requirements/Honors-Diplomas> for specific criteria.

## **EARLY GRADUATION**

Students who wish to apply for early graduation should apply to the high school principal. Early graduation will be permitted if the student fulfills the graduation requirements and conditions for graduation. Students who choose early graduation may participate in the graduation ceremonies of their designated class.

## **EDUCATIONAL OPTIONS**

Provides alternative means by which a student can achieve the goals of the district, as well as her/his personal educational goals.

A list of the approved Educational Options is available in the guidance office.

## **COLLEGE CREDIT PLUS**

Any student in grades 7 through 12 may enroll in a postsecondary program provided s/he meets the requirements established by law and by the district. A student will be denied high school credit for any portions of or for the entire class if taken during a period of expulsion. Student participation requires written consent of the superintendent and, for students under 18, written consent of the parents or attendance in counseling services offered with this educational option. Any interested student should contact the high school guidance office to obtain the necessary information.

Please visit <https://www.ohiohighered.org/ccp> for more details.

## **RECOGNITION OF STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT**

Students who display significant achievements during the course of the year are recognized for their accomplishments. Areas that may merit recognition include, but are not limited to, academics, athletics, performing arts, citizenship, and volunteerism. Recognition for such activities is initiated by the staff and coordinated by each school.

## **HOMEWORK**

Homework shall be assigned. Student grades will reflect the completion of all work, including outside assignments. Homework is also part of the student's preparation for the assessment tests and graduation.

## **STUDENT ASSESSMENT**

Unless exempted, each student must pass all portions of the state-mandated assessment tests as a requirement for graduation. The tests will be administered twice a year until the student passes all parts of the test. Students are only required to retake those parts of the test they have not yet passed. While the school district does schedule make-up dates for testing, students should avoid unnecessary absences.

Additional group tests are given to students to monitor progress and determine educational mastery levels. These tests help the staff determine instructional needs.

Classroom tests are given to assess student progress and assign grades. These are selected or prepared by teachers to assess student achievement on specific objectives.

Career and interest surveys may be given to identify particular areas of student interests or talent. These are often given by the guidance staff.

College entrance testing information can be obtained from the guidance office.



## **STUDENT ACTIVITIES**

### **School-Sponsored Clubs and Activities**

Extra-curricular activities do not reflect the school curriculum, but are made available to students to allow them to pursue additional worthwhile activities such as recreational sports, drama, and the like.

All students [both in-person and online] are permitted to participate in the activities of their choosing, as long as they meet the eligibility requirements. Participation in these activities is a privilege and not a right, and students may be prohibited from all or part of their participation in such activities by authorized school personnel without further notice.

### **Non-School Sponsored Clubs and Activities**

Non-school-sponsored student groups may meet in the school building during non-instructional hours. The application for permission to use school facilities can be obtained from the principal. The applicant must verify that the activity is being initiated by students, that attendance is voluntary, that no school staff person is actively involved in the event, that the event will not interfere with school activities, and that non-school persons do not play a regular role in the meeting. All school rules relating to student conduct and equal opportunity to participate apply to such activities.

Membership in any fraternity, sorority, or other secret society as proscribed by law is not permitted. All groups must comply with school rules and must provide equal opportunity to participate.

No non-district-sponsored organization may use the name of the school or school mascot on any materials or information.

## **ATHLETICS**

Garfield Heights High School and Middle School provide a variety of athletic activities in which students may participate provided they meet eligibility requirements established by the Board and by the Ohio High School Athletic Association (OHSAA). Participation in these activities is a privilege and not a right, and students may be prohibited from all or part of their participation in such activities by authorized school personnel without further notice, hearing and/or appeal rights in accordance with Board Policy.

## **STUDENT EMPLOYMENT**

It is recommended that students not take jobs outside of school that could interfere with their success in school. If a student elects to maintain a job in addition to going to school, s/he must first contact her/his counselor to discuss any legal requirements and to obtain any required documents.

## **STUDENT ATTENDANCE AT SCHOOL EVENTS**

Students are encouraged to attend as many after school events as possible, without interfering with their school work and home activities. Enthusiastic spectators help to build school spirit and encourage those students participating in the event.

It is strongly advised that students attending evening events as nonparticipants be accompanied by a parent or adult chaperone. The Board is not responsible for supervising unaccompanied students nor will it be responsible for students who arrive without an adult chaperone.

## **SCHEDULING AND ASSIGNMENTS**

### **Elementary Level**

The principal will assign each student to the appropriate classroom and program. Any questions or concerns about the assignment should be discussed with the principal.

### **Secondary Level**

Schedules are provided to each student at the beginning of the school year or upon enrollment. Schedules are based on the student's needs and available class space. Any changes in a student's schedule should be handled through the guidance office. Students may be denied course enrollment due to lack of available space or the need for the student to pass prerequisite courses. Students are expected to follow their schedules. Any variation must be approved with a pass or schedule change.

## **EARLY DISMISSAL**

No student may leave school prior to dismissal time without a parent or guardian either submitting a signed written request or coming to the school office personally to request the release. No student will be released to a person other than a custodial parent(s) or guardian without a written permission note signed by the custodial parent(s) or guardian.

Parents will not be allowed to remove their children from school early on a regular basis. The Garfield Heights City school district is committed to adhering to the guidelines formulated by the Ohio Department of Education that mandate that students receive a specified number of instructional minutes per day/week. Repeated, early removals from school cause children to miss the instructional/learning times that we are mandated to provide.

## **WITHDRAWAL/TRANSFER FROM SCHOOL**

No student under the age of 18 is allowed to withdraw from school without the written consent of her/his parents and in compliance with state law. A student who otherwise withdraws from school shall be reported to the juvenile judge of the county and to the Bureau of Motor Vehicles for suspension of their driver's license, if s/he is under the age of 18.

Parents must notify the principal about plans to transfer their child to another school. School records, including disciplinary records of suspension and expulsion, will be transferred to the new school within 14 days of the parents' notice or request.

## **IMMUNIZATIONS**

Students must be current with all immunizations required by law, including but not limited to poliomyelitis, measles, diphtheria, rubella, pertussis, tetanus, and mumps, or have an authorized exemption from state immunization requirements. Kindergarten students must be immunized against Hepatitis B and chicken pox. For the safety of all students, the school principal may remove a student from school or establish a deadline for meeting state requirements if a student does not have the necessary immunizations or authorized exemption. In the event of a chicken pox epidemic, the superintendent may temporarily deny admission to a student otherwise exempted from the chicken pox immunization requirement. Any questions about immunizations or exemptions should be directed to the school clinic or district nurse.

For the most recent immunization requirements, please visit the "Forms and Links" section on the front page of our website (<http://www.garfieldheightscityschools.com>).

## **EMERGENCY MEDICAL AUTHORIZATION**

A complete Emergency Medical Authorization Form must be on file with the school in order for a student to participate in any activity off school grounds, including field trips, spectator trips, athletic and other extracurricular activities, and co-curricular activities. The Emergency Medical Authorization Form is provided at the time of enrollment and at the beginning of each school year.

## USE OF MEDICATIONS

Students, who must take prescribed medication during the school day, must comply with the following guidelines:

1. Parents should determine, with the counsel of their child's prescriber, whether the medication schedule can be adjusted to avoid administering medication during school hours.
2. The appropriate form must be filed with the respective building principal before the student will be allowed to begin taking any medication during school hours or to use an inhaler to self-administer asthma medication. Such forms must be filed annually and as necessary for any change in the medication.
3. All medications must be registered with the principal's office and must be delivered to school in the original containers in which they were dispensed by the prescribing physician or licensed pharmacist, labeled with the date, the student's name, and the exact dosage to be administered.
4. Medication that is brought to the office will be properly secured. Except as noted below, medication must be delivered to the principal's office by the student's parent or guardian or by another responsible adult at the parent or guardian's request. Except as noted below, students may not bring medication to school. Students may carry emergency medications for allergies and/or reactions, or asthma inhalers during school hours provided the student has written permission from a parent or physician and has submitted the proper forms. In the case of epinephrine auto injectors ("epi pens"), in addition to written permission and submission of proper forms, the parent or student must provide a backup dose to the school nurse. Students are strictly prohibited from transferring emergency medication, epi pens, or inhalers to any other student for their use or possession.

Medication may be conveyed to school directly by the parent or transported by transportation personnel (bus driver and/or bus aide) at parental request and approval by the district transportation supervisor. This should be arranged in advance.

If, for supportable reasons, the principal wishes to discontinue the privilege of a student self-administering a medication, except for the possession and use of asthma inhalers, the parent(s) shall be notified of the decision in sufficient time for an alternative means of administration to be established.

5. Any unused medication unclaimed by the parent will be destroyed by school personnel when a prescription is no longer to be administered or at the end of a school year.
6. The parents shall have sole responsibility to instruct their child to take the medication at the scheduled time.

7. The principal will maintain a log noting the personnel designated to administer medication, as well as the date and the time of day that administration is required. This log will be maintained along with the prescriber's written request and the parent's written release.

### **Non-Prescribed (Over-the-Counter) Medications**

No staff member will dispense non-prescribed, over-the-counter (OTC) medication to any student without prior parent authorization. Parents may authorize administration of a non-prescribed medication on forms that are available from the principal's office. Physician authorization is not required in such cases.

If a student is found using or possessing a non-prescribed medication without parent authorization, the student will be brought to the school office while the student's parents are contacted for authorization. The medication will be confiscated until written authorization is received.

Any student who distributes medication of any kind or who is found in possession of unauthorized medication is in violation of the school's code of conduct and will be disciplined in accordance with the drug-use provision of the code.

A student may possess and use a metered dose inhaler or a dry powder inhaler to alleviate asthmatic symptoms before exercise to prevent the onset of asthmatic symptoms at school or at any activity, event, or program sponsored by or in which the student's school is a participant if the appropriate form is completed and on file in the principal's office.

A student who is authorized to possess and use a metered dose or dry powder inhaler may not transfer possession of any inhaler or other medication to any other student.

## **CONTROL OF CASUAL-CONTACT COMMUNICABLE DISEASES**

Because a school has a high concentration of people, it is necessary to take specific measures when the health or safety of the group is at risk. The school's professional staff may remove or isolate a student who has been ill or has been exposed to a communicable disease or highly-transient pest, such as lice or bed bugs.

Specific communicable diseases include diphtheria, scarlet fever, strep infections, whooping cough, mumps, measles, rubella, and other conditions indicated by the local and state health departments. The Department of Health will be notified and we will ask for their assistance if necessary.

Any removal will be limited to the contagious period as specified in the school's administrative guidelines.

The district has an obligation to protect staff and students from non-casual-contact communicable diseases. When a non-casual-contact communicable disease is suspected, the student's health will be reviewed by a panel of resource people, including the County Health Department. The school will protect the privacy of the person affected and those in contact with the affected person. Students and staff will be permitted to remain in school unless there is definitive evidence to warrant exclusion.

Non-casual-contact communicable diseases include sexually transmitted diseases, AIDS, ARC-AIDS Related Complex, HIV, Hepatitis B, and other diseases that may be specified by the state board of health.

As required by federal law, parents will be requested to have their child's blood checked for HIV and HBV when the child bleeds at school and students or staff members are exposed to the blood. Any testing is subject to laws protecting confidentiality. School administrators reserve the right to request that a parent provide a physician's note, on the physician's stationery, indicating that the child is approved to return to school.

## **CONTROL OF BLOOD-BORNE PATHOGENS**

The district seeks to provide a safe educational environment for students and take appropriate measures to protect those students who may be exposed to blood-borne pathogens in the school environment and/or during their participation in school-related activities. While the risks of students being exposed to blood-borne pathogens may be low, students must assume that all body fluids are potentially infectious and must take precaution to follow universal procedures in order to reduce such risks and minimize and/or prevent the potential for accidental infection.

Students may be exposed to blood-borne pathogens in situations, including, but not limited to the following:

1. Engaging in activities with other students in the school environment (like physical education class) where physical injuries or other actions that can cause bleeding or exposure to saliva and other body fluids may occur.
2. Working with equipment in the school environment that can cause cuts or similar injuries that produce bleeding.
3. Participating in extracurricular activities (like athletic activities) where physical injuries or other actions that can cause bleeding to occur.

Whenever a student has contact with blood or other potentially infectious material, s/he must immediately notify her/his teacher, who will contact the school office and assist the student in completing the requisite documents.

The parents of a student who is exposed will be contacted immediately regarding the exposure and encouraged to have the student's blood tested for Hepatitis B and HIV by her/his physician. The student's parents are encouraged to consult with the student's physician concerning any necessary post-exposure treatment.

The student's parent will also be asked to provide a copy of the test results and any post-exposure treatment for maintenance in the student's educational record in accordance with the federal and state laws concerning confidentiality.

The parents of the student who caused the exposure will also be contacted immediately and advised to have the student's blood tested for Hepatitis B and HIV virus in cooperation with her/his physician.

The student's parents will be asked to provide a copy of the test results for maintenance in the student's educational record in accordance with federal and state laws concerning confidentiality.

The student's parents will be encouraged to allow the district to release their child's name to the exposed student's parents, in the event serious health issues are presented as a result of the exposure.

## **STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES**

The Americans with Disabilities Act (A.D.A.) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act prohibit discrimination against persons with a disability in any program receiving federal financial assistance. This protection applies not just to students, but to all individuals who have access to the district's programs and facilities.

The laws define a person with a disability as anyone who:

1. has a mental or physical impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities;
2. has a record of such an impairment; or
3. is regarded as having such an impairment.

The district has specific responsibilities under these two laws, which include identifying, reviewing and, if the child is determined to be eligible, affording access to appropriate educational accommodation.

Additionally, in accordance with state and federal mandates, the district seeks out, assesses and appropriately services students with disabilities. Staff members use a comprehensive child study process to systematically screen, assess and, if appropriate, place students in special education and related services. Students are entitled to a free appropriate public education in the "least restrictive environment."

A student can access special education and related services through the proper evaluation procedures. Parent involvement in this procedure is important and required by federal (IDEIA, A.D.A. Section 504) and state law. Contact the special education department at (216) 475-8100 to inquire about evaluation procedures, programs, and services.

Students with disabilities are entitled to the rights and procedures afforded by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act (I.D.E.I.A.), and, where applicable, the Americans with Disabilities Act (A.D.A.), and/or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

### **Discipline of Students with Disabilities**

Students with disabilities are entitled to the rights and procedures afforded by the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act (I.D.E.I.A.), and, where applicable, the Americans with Disabilities Act (A.D.A.), and/or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.



## ADMISSION OF HOMELESS STUDENTS

The Board believes that all school-aged students, including homeless students, have a basic right to equal educational opportunities. Accordingly, the district must enroll each homeless student in the district in the school determined to be in the student's best interest. A homeless student is defined as an individual who lacks fixed, regular and adequate nighttime residence including:

1. A "doubling up" or sharing the housing with another family due to loss of housing, economic hardship or a similar reason;
2. living in a motel, hotel, trailer park or campground due to the lack of alternative adequate accommodations;
3. living in emergency or transitional shelters;
4. abandonment in hospitals;
5. awaiting foster care placement;
6. a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for, or ordinarily used as, a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings;
7. living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations or similar settings; and
8. migratory students.

In compliance with the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, the district must make school placement determinations on the basis of the best interest of the student. To the extent feasible, homeless students are kept in the school of origin unless doing so is contrary to the wishes of the student's parent or guardian.

To the extent feasible, the district complies with a request made by a parent(s) regarding school placement regardless of whether the student lives with the homeless parent(s) or is temporarily residing elsewhere.

The Board ensures that:

1. it reviews and revises Board policies and regulations to eliminate barriers to the enrollment, retention and success in the schools of homeless students;
2. the district does not segregate homeless students into separate schools or separate programs within a school based on the student's status as homeless;
3. it appoints a district liaison who ensures that homeless students enroll and succeed in school and;

4. homeless students are provided with education, nutrition and transportation services that are at least comparable to the services provided to non-homeless students.

The liaison ensures compliance with the subgrant and coordinates services for homeless students with local social service agencies and programs, including those funded under the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act.

A student who ceases to be homeless may continue to receive services until the end of the period of time for which the service was originally intended to be provided, which may be the end of the school year or the end of a program cycle.

The district complies with the Ohio Department of Education's plan and state and federal laws for the education of homeless students.

### **STUDENT RECORDS**

1. Each student's official school record includes the following:
  - A. Records to be retained permanently
    - 1) name and address of parent(s)
    - 2) verification of date and place of birth
    - 3) dates and record of attendance
    - 4) course enrollment and grades
    - 5) test data
    - 6) date of graduation or withdrawal
  - B. Records of verifiable information to be retained during the student's school career
    - 1) medical/health data
    - 2) individual psychological evaluation (gathered with written consent of parent(s))
    - 3) individual intelligence tests, tests for learning disabilities, etc. (counselor administered)
    - 4) other verifiable information to be used in educational decision-making
2. Maintaining student records

- 1) Transcripts of the scholastic record contain only factual information. The district confines its record keeping to tasks with clearly defined educational ends.
- 2) Items listed under 1-A are retained for 100 years. Those listed under 1-B are retained during the student's enrollment and destroyed after graduation unless the school code imposes other restrictions.
- 3) Teacher and staff comments on student records are confined to matters related to Student performance.
- 4) Student records are considered as current educational and/or therapeutic tools and are available for use as such.

The following definitions of terms pertain to this statement of policy.

Student- any person who attends or has attended a program of instruction sponsored by the Board.

Eligible student- a student or former student who has reached age 18 or is attending a postsecondary school.

Parent- either natural parent of a student, unless her/his rights under the FERPA have been removed by a court order, a guardian or an individual acting as a parent or guardian in the absence of the student's parent(s).

Dates of attendance- means the period of time during which a student attends or attended an educational agency or institution. Examples of dates of attendance include an academic year, a spring semester or a first quarter. The term does not include specific daily records of a student's attendance at an educational agency or institution.

Education records- any records (in handwriting, print, tapes, film or other medium) maintained by the district, an employee of the district or an agent of the district which are related to a student, except:

1. a personal record kept by a school staff member that meets the following tests:
  - A. it is in the sole possession of the individual who made it;
  - B. it is used only as a personal memory aid; and
  - C. information contained in it has never been revealed or made available to any other person, except the maker's temporary substitute.
2. an employment record which is used only in relation to a student's employment by the district (employment for this purpose does not include activities for which a student receives a grade or credit in a course);

3. alumni records which relate to the student after she/he no longer attends classes provided by the district and the records do not relate to the person as a student and;
4. peer-graded papers before they are collected and recorded by a teacher.

Personally Identifiable Information- any data or information which makes the subject of a record known, including the student's name, the student's or student's family's address, the name of the student's parent or other family members, a personal identifier such as a student's Social Security number or a biometric record, other indirect identifiers, such as the student's date of birth, place of birth or mother's maiden name, other information that, alone or in combination, is linked or linkable to a specific student that would allow a reasonable person in the school community, who does not have personal knowledge of the relevant circumstances, to identify the student with reasonable certainty or information requested by a person who the district reasonably believes knows the identity of the student to whom the education record relates.

### **STUDENT FEES AND FINES**

Students will be provided necessary textbooks for courses of instruction without cost. In accordance with state law, charges of specific fees for activities and materials used in the course of instruction may be assessed.

Charges may also be imposed for loss, damage or destruction of school apparatus, equipment, musical instruments, library materials, textbooks and for damage to school buildings or property. Students using school property and equipment can be fined for excessive wear and abuse of the property and equipment.

Fees may be waived in situations where there is financial hardship.

Students can avoid late fines by promptly returning borrowed materials.

Failure to pay fines, fees, or charges may result in the withholding of grades and credits.

### **STUDENT FUND-RAISING**

Students participating in school-sponsored groups and activities may solicit funds from other students, staff members, and members of the community in accordance with school guidelines. The following general rules apply to all fund-raisers:

Students may not sell any item or service in school without the prior approval of the principal. Violation of this policy may lead to disciplinary action.

## **STUDENT VALUABLES**

Students should not bring items of value to school. Items such as jewelry, expensive clothing, electronic equipment, and the like, are tempting targets for theft and extortion. The school is not liable for any loss or damage to personal valuables.

## **MEAL SERVICE**

The school participates in the National School Breakfast and Lunch Program and makes breakfast and lunches available to students. No student may leave the school premises during the lunch period without specific written permission from a building or district administrator.

Applications for the school's Free and Reduced-Priced Meal Program are distributed to all students. If a student does not receive an application form and believes s/he is eligible, contact the school office or visit the district website.

## **SAFETY & SECURITY and STUDENT WELL BEING**

Student safety is the responsibility of both students and staff. Staff members are familiar with emergency procedures such as evacuations, fire and tornado drills, safety drills in the event of a terrorist or other violent attack, and accident reporting procedures. If a student is aware of any dangerous situation or accident, s/he must notify a staff person immediately.

State law requires that all students have an emergency medical authorization completed by a parent or guardian on file in the school office, and it their responsibility to update OneView.

Students with specific health care needs should deliver written notice about such needs, along with physician documentation, to the school office.

1. All visitors must report to and sign in at the office when they arrive at school. Upon leaving, visitors are to sign out.
2. All visitors are given and required to wear a building pass while they are in the building. The pass/badge is to be returned to the school at the time of sign-out.
3. Staff are expected to question people in the building whom they do not recognize and who are not wearing a building pass, and to question people who are "hanging around" the building after hours.
4. Students and staff are expected to immediately report to a teacher or administrator any suspicious behavior or situation that makes them uncomfortable.
5. All outside doors are locked during the school day.
6. Portions of the building that will not be needed after the regular school day are closed off.

## **FIRE, TORNADO, AND SAFETY DRILLS**

The school complies with all fire safety laws and will conduct fire drills in accordance with state law. The school conducts tornado drills during the tornado season following procedures prescribed by the state. Teachers will provide specific instructions on how to proceed in the case of fire or tornado and will oversee the safe, prompt, and orderly evacuation of the building in such cases.

Safety drills will be conducted once per school year. Teachers will provide specific instruction on the appropriate procedures to follow in situations where students must be secured in their building rather than evacuated. These situations can include a terrorist threat, a person in possession of a deadly weapon on school property, or other acts of violence.

## **EMERGENCY CLOSING AND DELAYS**

If a school must be closed or the opening delayed because of inclement weather or other conditions, the district will notify local television stations.

Information concerning school closings or delays can also be found on the district's web page at [www.garfieldheightscityschools.com](http://www.garfieldheightscityschools.com).

Parents will be notified of school closings or delays via a pre-recorded telephone message delivered to the phone number on file.

Parents and students are responsible for knowing about emergency closings and delays.

## **VISITORS**

Visitors, particularly parents, are welcome at school. Visitors must report to the office upon entering the school to sign in and obtain a pass. Any visitor found in the building without signing in or having a hall pass shall be reported to the principal. If a person wishes to confer with a member of the staff, s/he should call for an appointment prior to coming to the school in order to schedule a mutually convenient meeting time.

Students may not bring visitors to school without prior written permission from the principal.

Due to COVID-19 concerns, visitors will not be permitted without an appointment or prior authorization. All visitors will be subject to a health assessment.

## **USE OF THE LIBRARY/MEDIA CENTER**

The library is available to students throughout the school day. Passes may be obtained from a student's teacher or from the librarian. To check out other materials, students should follow the media center/library protocols.

In order to avoid late fees, all materials checked out of the library must be returned when due.

## **USE OF SCHOOL EQUIPMENT AND FACILITIES**

Students must receive teacher permission before using any equipment or materials in the classroom. Students must seek permission from the principal prior to using any other school equipment or facility. Students are responsible for the proper use and protection of any equipment or facility they are permitted to use.

## **LOST AND FOUND**

A lost and found area is available in each school. Students who have lost items should check there and may retrieve their items if they give a proper description. Unclaimed items will be given to charity at the close of the school year.

## **USE OF OFFICE TELEPHONES**

Office telephones may not be used for personal calls. Except in an emergency, students will not be called to the office to receive a telephone call.

Other telephones are available in the school for students to use when they are not in class. Students are not to use telephones to call parents to receive permission to leave school. Office personnel will initiate all calls on behalf of a student seeking permission to leave school.

## **USE OF WIRELESS COMMUNICATION DEVICES**

Possession of a cellular telephone or other electronic communication device (ECD) by a student is a privilege, which may be forfeited by the student if s/he turns it on, uses it, or allows it to be visible during the school day or on school-sponsored trips. Prohibited uses of the cellular telephones or ECDs during specified times includes making and/or receiving calls, sending text messages, taking pictures and/or making recordings.

Students participating in extracurricular activities and athletics must contact their coach or sponsor for her/his rules involving cellular telephone or ECD use after school hours or on after-school bus/school transportation trips. Coaches and sponsors will set their rules and enforce consequences involving the use and/or misuse of these devices.

Use of a cellular telephone or other ECD in an unauthorized manner or in violation of these rules may result in loss of this privilege, additional disciplinary action (like warnings, parental notification and conferences, suspension, expulsion), or/and confiscation of the cellular telephone and/or ECD. If a cellular telephone or ECD is confiscated, it will only be released/returned to the student's parent after the student complies with any other disciplinary consequence that is imposed, and/or referral to law enforcement if the violation involves an illegal activity.

The district is not responsible for the loss, theft, damage, or vandalism to student cellular telephones or ECDs as well as other student property. Students and parents are strongly encouraged to take appropriate precautions, if students are permitted to have cellular telephones or ECDs in their possession, to make sure the cellular telephones and ECDs are not left unattended or unsecured.

"Sexting" is prohibited at any time on school property or at school functions. Sexting is the electronic transmission of sexual messages or pictures, usually through cell phone text messaging. Such conduct not only is potentially dangerous for the involved students, but can lead to unwanted exposure of the messages and images to others, and could result in criminal violations related to the transmission or possession of child pornography. Such conduct will be subject to discipline and possible confiscation of the ECD.



## Garfield Heights Middle School and High School Cell Phone Policy

In order to appropriately prepare our students for using technology in a highly-digital society, the use of cell phones will be permitted at specific times at Garfield Heights High School. Cell phones/electronic devices can be used appropriately before the morning bell rings, during study halls, during lunch periods and after school. Appropriate use is defined as:

- Usage that does not disrupt others - no one should hear you or your device (sound off, ringers off, no phone calls)
- Usage that embraces headphone etiquette – headphones and wires are permissible in the designated areas at the specified times. No headphones or wires are allowed in the hallway or the classroom. These items will be confiscated if they are seen.
- Usage that maintains quiet and personal interactions - it is never acceptable to take a picture or video of a student or staff member.
- Usage that only accesses school-appropriate content.

Once inside any classroom, office, library, locker room, lab, or theater, cell phones/electronic devices must not be heard or accessed.

Misuse of cell phones during the school day will result in consequences. Additionally, if a student is asked to surrender her/his phone and does not, this is insubordination and will result in suspension. This is a new privilege, and with this comes greater student responsibility; please respect the learning environment.



## COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY AND NETWORKS

The district provides Internet services to its students. The district's Internet system has a limited educational purpose, and has not been established as a public access service or a public forum. Student use of the district's computers, network and Internet services/connection (Network) are governed by the following principles and guidelines as well as the Student Code of Conduct. Users have a limited privacy expectation in the content of their personal files and records of their online activity while on the Network.

Parents and students are advised that the Board may not be able to technologically limit access through the Board's Internet connection to only those services that have been authorized for the purpose of instruction, study and research related to the curriculum. Because it serves as a gateway to any publicly available file server in the world, the Internet opens classrooms and students to electronic information resources that have not been screened by educators for use by students of various ages. The district utilizes a Technology Protection Measure, which is a specific technology that will protect against (e.g., filter or block) access to visual displays/depictions that are obscene, pornographic, and materials that are harmful to minors, as defined by the Children's Internet Protection Act. At the discretion of the Board or the superintendent, the Technology Protection Measure may be configured to protect against access to other material considered inappropriate for students to access.

The district further utilizes software and/or hardware to monitor online activity of students to restrict access to child pornography and other material that is obscene, objectionable, inappropriate and/or harmful to minors. Nevertheless, parents are advised that a determined user may be able to gain access to services on the Internet that are not authorized for educational purposes. In fact, it is impossible to guarantee students will not gain access through the Internet to information and communications that they and/or their parents may find inappropriate, offensive, objectionable or controversial. Parents assume risks by consenting to allow their child to participate in the use of the Internet. Parents of minors are responsible for setting and conveying the standards that their children should follow when using the Internet. The district supports and respects each family's right to decide whether to apply for independent student access to the Internet.

Students are encouraged to use the Network for educational purposes. Use of the Network is a privilege, not a right. When using the Network, students must conduct themselves in a responsible, efficient, ethical, and legal manner. Students are responsible for good behavior on the district's computers/network and the Internet just as they are in classrooms, school hallways, and other school premises and school sponsored events. Communications on the Internet are often public in nature. General school rules for behavior and communication apply. Unauthorized or inappropriate use of the Network, including any violation of these rules, may result in cancellation of the privilege, disciplinary action consistent with the Student Code of Conduct, and/or civil or criminal liability. Prior to accessing the Network, students must sign the Student Network and Internet Acceptable Use and Safety Agreement. Parent permission is required for minors. Parents are encouraged to discuss their values with their children so that students can make decisions regarding their use of the Network that is in accord with their personal and family values, in addition to the Board's standards.

Smooth operation of the Network relies upon users adhering to the following guidelines. The guidelines outlined below are not exhaustive but are provided so that users are aware of their general responsibilities.

1. Students are responsible for their behavior and communication on the Network and with school-issued devices.
2. Students may only access the Network by using their assigned Network account. Use of another person's account/address/password is prohibited. Students may not allow other users to utilize their account/address/password. Students may not go beyond their authorized access. Students should use ClassLink to log in to all resources.
3. Students may not intentionally seek information on, obtain copies of, or modify files, data or passwords belonging to other users, or misrepresent other users on the Network.
4. Students may not use the Network or school-issued devices. to engage in "hacking" or other illegal activities (e.g. software pirating; intellectual property violations; engaging in slander, libel, or harassment; threatening the life or safety of another; stalking; transmission of obscene materials or child pornography; fraud; sale of illegal substances and goods).
5. Transmission of any material in violation of any state or federal law or regulation, or Board policy is prohibited.
6. Any use of the Network or school-issued devices for commercial purposes (e.g., purchasing or offering for sale personal products or services by students), advertising, or political lobbying is prohibited. This provision shall not limit the use of the Network by students for the purpose of communicating with elected representatives or expressing views on political issues.
7. Use of the Network and/or school-issued devices to engage in cyberbullying is prohibited. Cyberbullying involves the use of information and communication technologies such as email, cell phone and pager text messages, instant messaging (IM), defamatory personal Web sites or personal social media accounts, and defamatory online personal polling Web sites, to support deliberate, repeated, and hostile behavior by an individual or group that is intended to harm others.

Cyberbullying includes, but is not limited to the following:

- A. posting slurs or rumors or other disparaging remarks about a student or school staff member on a web site or on weblog;
- B. sending e-mail or instant messages that are mean or threatening, or so numerous as to drive up the victim's cell phone bill;
- C. using a camera phone to take and send embarrassing photographs/recordings of students or school staff members or post these images on video sharing sites such as

You Tube;

- D. posting misleading or fake photographs of students or school staff members on web sites.

To the extent permitted by the First Amendment, instances of cyber-bullying off school grounds that disrupt the school environment or interfere with the learning process will be considered violations of the Student Code of Conduct.

- 8. Students are expected to abide by the following generally-accepted rules of network etiquette:
  - A. Be polite, courteous, and respectful in your messages to others. Use language appropriate to school situations in any communications made through the Network. Do not use obscene, profane, lewd, vulgar, rude, inflammatory, sexually explicit, defamatory, threatening, abusive or disrespectful language in communications through the Network (including, but not limited to, public messages, private messages, and material posted on web pages).
  - B. Do not engage in personal attacks, including prejudicial or discriminatory attacks.
  - C. Do not harass another person. Harassment is persistently acting in a manner that Distresses or annoys another person. If a student is told by a person to stop sending him/her messages, the student must stop.
  - D. Do not post information that, if acted upon, could cause damage or a danger of disruption.
  - E. Never reveal names, addresses, phone numbers, or passwords of yourself or other students, family members, teachers, administrators, or other staff members while communicating on the Internet. This prohibition includes, but is not limited to, disclosing personal identification information on commercial web sites.
  - F. Do not transmit pictures or other information that could be used to establish your identity without prior approval of a teacher.
  - G. Never agree to get together with someone you "meet" on-line without parent approval and participation.
  - H. Check e-mail frequently and diligently delete old mail on a regular basis from the personal mail directory to avoid excessive use of the electronic mail disk space.
  - I. Students should promptly disclose to their teacher or other school employee any message they receive that is inappropriate or makes them feel uncomfortable, especially any

email that contains pornography. Students should not delete such messages until instructed to do so by a staff member.

9. Malicious use of the Network and/or school-issued devices to develop programs that harass other users or infiltrate a computer or computer system and/or damage the software components of a computer or computing system is prohibited. Students may not use the Network and/or school-issued devices in such a way that would disrupt its use by others. Students must avoid intentionally wasting limited resources. Students may not bypass or attempt to bypass the district's Technology Protection Measure. Students must immediately notify the teacher, principal, or Director of Technology if they identify a possible security problem. Students should not go looking for security problems because this may be construed as an unlawful attempt to gain access.
10. All communications and information accessible via the Internet should be assumed to be private property (i.e. copyrighted and/or trademarked). All copyright issues regarding software, information, and attributions/acknowledgement of authorship must be respected. Rules against plagiarism will be enforced.
11. Downloading of information onto the Board's hard drives is prohibited, without prior approval from the Director of Technology. If a student transfers files from information services and electronic bulletin board services, the student must check the file with a virus detection program before opening the file for use. Only public domain software may be downloaded. If a student transfers a file or software program that infects the Network with a virus and causes damage, the student will be liable for any and all repair costs to make the Network once again fully operational.
12. Students must secure prior approval from a teacher before joining a Listserv (electronic mailing lists) and should not post personal messages on bulletin boards or "Listservs."
13. Students are prohibited from accessing or participating in online "chat rooms" or other forms of direct electronic communication (e.g., instant messaging) (other than e-mail) without prior approval from a teacher or the Director of Technology. All such authorized communications must comply with these guidelines.
14. Users have limited expectation of privacy in the contents of their personal files, communication files, and record of web research activities on the Network. Routine maintenance and monitoring, utilizing both technical monitoring systems and staff monitoring, may lead to discovery that a user has violated Board policy and/or the law. An individual search will be conducted if there is reasonable suspicion that a user has violated Board policy and/or law. Students' parents have the right to request to see the contents of their children's files and records.
15. Use of the Internet and any information procured from the Internet is at the student's own risk. The Board makes no warranties of any kind, either expressed or implied, that the functions or the services provided by or through the Network and/or school-issued devices

will be error-free or without defect. The Board is not responsible for any damage a user may suffer, including, but not limited to, loss of data, service interruptions, or exposure to inappropriate material or people. The Board is not responsible for the accuracy or quality of information obtained through the Internet. Information (including text, graphics, audio, video, etc.) from Internet sources used in student papers, reports, and projects should be cited the same as references to printed materials. The Board will not be responsible for financial obligations arising through the unauthorized use of the Network and/or school-issued devices. Students or parents of students will indemnify and hold the Board harmless from any losses sustained as the result of misuse of the Network by the student. Use of the Network by students will be limited to those students whose parents have signed a release of claims for damages against the Board.

16. File-sharing is strictly prohibited. Students are prohibited from downloading and/or installing file-sharing software or programs on the Network.
17. Students may not establish or access web-based e-mail accounts on commercial services through the Network (e.g., Gmail, Hotmail, Yahoo mail.)
18. Since there is no central authority on the Internet, each site is responsible for its own users. Complaints received from other sites regarding any of the district's users will be fully investigated and disciplinary action will be taken as appropriate.
19. Preservation of Resources and Priorities of Use: Computer resources are limited. Because space on disk drives and bandwidth across the lines which connect the Network (both internally and externally) are limited, neither programs nor information may be stored on the system without the permission of the Director of Technology. Each student is permitted reasonable space to store e-mail, web, and personal files. The Board reserves the right to require the purging of files in order to regain disk space. Students who require access to the Network for class-or instruction-related activities have priority over other users. Students not using the Network for class-related activities may be "bumped" by any student requiring access for class-or instruction-related purpose. The following hierarchy will prevail in governing access to the Network:
  - A. Class work, assigned and supervised by a staff member
  - B. Class work, specifically assigned but independently conducted
  - C. Personal correspondence (checking, composing, and sending email)
  - D. Training (use of such programs as typing tutors, etc.)
  - E. Personal discovery ("surfing the Internet")
  - F. Other uses- access to resources for other uses may be further limited during the

school day at the discretion of the principal or teacher.

- G. Game playing is not permitted at any time.

## **INTERROGATIONS AND SEARCHES**

### **Searches of School Property Assigned to a Student**

The following rules apply to the search of school property assigned to a student (locker, desk, etc.) and the seizure of items in her/his possession.

1. General housekeeping inspection of school property may be conducted with reasonable notice. Random searches of lockers may be conducted.
2. A search of a desk or other storage space may be conducted when there exists reasonable suspicion for school authorities to believe that the area being searched contains evidence of a crime or violation of school rules.
3. Search of an area assigned to a student should be for a specifically identified item and should be conducted in her/his presence and with her/his knowledge.
4. Items, the possession of which constitutes a crime or violation of school rules, or any other possessions reasonably determined to be a threat to the safety or security of others may be seized by school authorities at any time.

### **Searches of a Student's Person or Personal Property by School Personnel**

Principals and their designees are permitted to search the person and personal property (purse, backpack, gym bag, etc.) of a student where there is reason to believe that evidence will be obtained indicating the student's violation of either the law or school rules. The following rules apply in such cases:

1. There should be reasonable suspicion to believe that the search will result in obtaining evidence which indicates the student's violation of the law or school rules.
2. Searches of a student's person are conducted by a member of the same sex as the student.
3. Searches are conducted in the presence of another administrator or staff member.
4. Parents of a minor student who is the subject of a search are notified of the search and are given the reason(s) for the search as soon as feasible after completion of the search.
5. When evidence is uncovered indicating that a student may have violated the law, law enforcement officials shall be notified.

**PLEASE NOTES: ONLINE ACTIVITY IS MONITORED FOR ALL STUDENTS. Monitoring occurs via the Network, as well as, on the hardware. Administrators, parents, and students will be notified if questionable behaviors or searches ensue. Discipline could be warranted.**

### **Searches of Student Property by Law Enforcement Officials**

When the law enforcement officials have reason to believe that any item which might pose an immediate threat to the safety or security of others is kept in a student locker, desk or other storage space, searches may be conducted.

### **Interrogations by Law Enforcement Officials**

The schools have legal custody of students during the school day and during hours of approved extracurricular activities. It is the responsibility of the school administration to try to protect each student under its control; therefore, the following steps shall be taken:

1. The questioning of students by law enforcement agencies is limited to situations where parental consent has been obtained or the school official has made an independent determination that reasonable grounds exist for conducting an interrogation during school hours.
2. Whenever possible, law enforcement officials should contact and/or question students out of school. When it is absolutely necessary for an officer to make a school contact with a student, the school authorities will bring the student to a private room and the contact is made out of the sight of others as much as possible.
3. The school principal must be notified before a student may be questioned in school or taken from a classroom.
4. The administrator shall notify the parent(s) of the student to be interviewed by the law enforcement officials, if the law enforcement officials have not, before the student questioned so that the parent(s) may be present if they so desire.
5. A school official requests to be present when an interrogation takes place within the school.
6. When law enforcement officials remove a student from school, the administration will make an attempt to notify the parent(s).
7. Law enforcement officials should always be notified by the school principal whenever a student is involved in any type of criminal activity. When the principal learns of this involvement, she/he should notify the juvenile officer or detective bureau of the law enforcement agency. The school should not attempt to handle matters which are properly in the realm of a law enforcement agency.



8. Whenever the school district's School Resource Officer (who is a Garfield Heights Police Department officer) has a conversation with a student and/or a school officer, this is not considered to be an interrogation, unless the student is a suspect in a criminal activity.

### **STUDENT RIGHTS OF EXPRESSION**

The school recognizes the right of students to express themselves. With the right of expression comes the responsibility to do so appropriately. Students may distribute or display, at appropriate times, non-sponsored, noncommercial written material and petitions; buttons, badges, or other insignia; clothing, insignia, and banners; and audio and video materials. All items must meet school guidelines.

1. Material cannot be displayed if it:
  - A. is obscene to minors, libelous, or pervasively indecent or vulgar;
  - B. advertises any product or service not permitted to minors by law;
  - C. intends to be insulting or harassing;
  - D. intends to incite fighting; or
  - E. presents a clear and present likelihood that, either because of its content or manner of distribution or display, it will cause or is likely to cause a material and substantial disruption of school or school activities, a violation of school regulations, or the commission of an unlawful act.
2. Material may not be displayed or distributed during class periods, or between classes .Permission may be granted for display or distribution during lunch periods, and/or before or after school in designated locations, as long as exits are not blocked and there is proper access and egress to the building.

Students who are unsure whether materials they wish to display meet school guidelines may present them to the principal twenty-four (24) hours prior to display.

#### **Possession of Obscene Materials**

Any student who is found to be in possession of obscene materials while under the jurisdiction of the school shall be subject to disciplinary action. Such action may include, but not be limited to, suspension, expulsion, permanent confiscation of the obscene materials, and/or referral to the appropriate law enforcement or government agencies.

Obscene materials shall include, but not be limited to: video tapes, cards, posters, pictures or photographs, drawings, books, films, magazines, cassettes, records, compact disks, including

electronic versions thereof. What is obscene shall be determined on a case by case basis, but for the purpose of guidance shall include, but not be limited to: language, whether written or oral, and/or depictions, which are lewd, vulgar, degrading, sexually explicit or suggestive, or which appeal to degrading interests or pose a clear and imminent threat to school discipline and decorum.

A major component of the educational program is to prepare students to become responsible citizens by learning how to conduct themselves properly and in accordance with established standards. Students are expected to behave in accordance with federal, state and local laws and rules and Board policies, and in a way that respects the rights and safety of others. Staff will take corrective action to discipline a student and/or to modify the student's behavior when a student's behavior does not fall within these parameters.

School staff may report suspected criminal misconduct by a student to law enforcement. Law enforcement officers will be permitted to carry out necessary law enforcement functions in the schools, including the removal of a student from school grounds in appropriate circumstances.

### **Expected Behaviors**

Students are expected to:

1. act courteously to adults and fellow students;
2. be prompt to school and attentive in class;
3. work cooperatively with others when involved in accomplishing a common goal regardless of the other's ability, gender, race, or ethnic background;
4. complete assigned tasks on time and as directed;
5. help maintain a school environment that is safe, friendly, and productive;
6. act at all times in a manner that reflects pride in self, family, and in the school.

### **Classroom Environment**

It is the responsibility of students, teachers, and administrators to maintain a classroom environment that allows:

1. a teacher to communicate effectively with all student in the class; and
2. all students in the class the opportunity to learn.

## **STUDENT CONDUCT CODE**

School rules apply going to and from school, at school, on school property, at school-sponsored events, on school transportation, and on property not owned or controlled by the Board but that is connected to activities or incidents that have occurred on property owned or controlled by the Board. Furthermore, students may be disciplined for conduct that, regardless of where or when it occurs, is directed at a Board official or employee, or the property of such official or employee. In some cases, a student can be suspended from school transportation for infractions of school bus/school transportation vehicle rules.

The school is committed to providing prompt, reasonable discipline consistent with the severity of the incident. The consequences for misbehavior are designed to be fair, firm and consistent for all students in the school.

### **Viewing of Videotapes or Other Media That Is Owned by the School District**

Only school officials, law enforcement officials, or other designated individuals are permitted to view videotapes or other video recordings that have been produced by school staff on school property, including school buildings, busses/school transportation vehicles, and other or by staff employed by the school district.

Because it is not possible to list every misbehavior that can occur, misbehaviors not listed above will be responded to as necessary by staff.

Two (2) types of discipline are possible, informal and formal.

### **Informal Discipline**

Informal discipline takes place within the school. It may include, but is not limited to:

1. writing assignments;
2. change of seating or location;
3. before school, lunch-time, after-school detention
4. in-school discipline.

### **Detentions**

A student may be detained after school or asked to come to school early by a teacher, after giving the student and her/his parents one day's notice. The student or her/his parents are responsible for transportation.

### **In-School Discipline**

The following rules apply to In-school Discipline:

1. Students are required to have class assignments with them.
2. Students are not to communicate with each other unless given permission to do so.
3. Students are to remain in their designated seats at all times unless permission is granted to do otherwise.
4. Students shall not be allowed to put their heads down or sleep.
5. No electronic communication devices, radios, CD/MP3 players, cards, magazines, or other entertainment/recreational articles or devices shall be allowed in the room.
6. No food or beverages shall be consumed.

### **Formal Discipline**

Formal discipline involves removal of the student from school. It includes emergency removal for up to three (3) school days, suspension for up to ten (10) school days, expulsion for up to eighty (80) school days or the number of days remaining in a semester, whichever is greater, and permanent exclusion. Any student who is expelled from school will be provided with information about services or programs offered by public and private agencies that work toward improving those aspects of the student's attitude and behavior that contributed to the incident that gave rise to the student's expulsion. The superintendent at her/his discretion may require/allow a student to perform community service in conjunction with or in place of an expulsion. The superintendent may impose a community service requirement beyond the end of the school year in lieu of applying the expulsion to the following school year. Removal for less than one (1) school day without the possibility of suspension or expulsion may not be appealed. Suspensions and expulsions may be appealed.

Students being considered for suspension are entitled to an informal meeting with the building administrator prior to removal. Also, students being considered for expulsion are entitled to an informal meeting with the superintendent or designee prior to removal. During the informal meeting, the student will be notified of the charges and given the opportunity to respond.

Students involved in co-curricular and extra-curricular activities such as band and athletics can lose their eligibility for violation of the school rules.

If a student commits a crime while under the school's jurisdiction, s/he may be subject to school disciplinary action as well as action through local law enforcement. The processes outlined above apply to both in-person and remote learners.

## **DUE PROCESS RIGHTS**

Before a student is suspended, expelled, or permanently excluded from school, there are specific procedures that must be followed.

As long as the in-school discipline is served entirely in the school setting, it will not require any notice or meeting, or be subject to appeal.

### **Suspension from School**

When a student is being considered for a suspension, the administrator in charge will notify the student of the basis for the proposed suspension. The student will be given an opportunity to explain her/his view of the underlying facts. After that informal hearing, the principal [or assistant principal or other administrator] will determine whether or not to suspend the student. If the decision is made to suspend the student, s/he and her/his parents will be given written notification of the suspension within one (1) day setting forth the reason for the suspension, the length of the suspension, and the process for appeal. The suspension may be appealed, within five (5) days after receipt of the suspension notice, to the principal. The request for an appeal must be in writing.

During the appeal process, the student shall not be allowed to remain in school.

If the appeal is heard by the Board's designee, the appeal shall be conducted in a private hearing. If the appeal is heard by the Board of Education, the appeal shall be conducted in executive session unless the student or her/his representative requests otherwise. A verbatim transcript will be made and witnesses will be sworn in prior to giving testimony. If the appeal decision is to uphold the suspension, the next step in the appeal process is to the Court of Common Pleas.

Absence from school due to suspension shall be considered an authorized absence.

The student will be given credit for properly-completed assignments and will receive a grade for any made-up tests.

### **Emergency Removal**

If a student's presence poses a continuing danger to persons or property, or an ongoing threat of disrupting the academic process taking place either in a classroom or elsewhere on the school premises, the superintendent, principal or assistant principal may remove the student from any curricular or extracurricular activity or from the school premises. A teacher may remove the student from any curricular or extracurricular activity under the teacher's supervision, but not from the premises.

If a teacher makes an emergency removal, the teacher will notify a building administrator of the circumstances surrounding the removal in writing within one (1) school day. No prior notice or hearing is required for any removal under this procedure. In all cases of normal disciplinary procedures where a student is removed from curricular or extracurricular activity for less than one school day, and is not subject to further suspension for expulsion, the following due process requirements do not apply.

If the emergency removal exceeds one (1) school day, then a hearing will be held within three (3) school days after the removal is ordered. Written notice of the hearing and the reasons for removal and any intended disciplinary action will be provided to the student, as soon as practical prior to the hearing. If the student is subject to an out of school suspension, the student will have the opportunity to appear at an informal hearing before the principal, assistant principal, superintendent or a designee, and may challenge the reasons for the removal or otherwise explain her/his actions.

Within one (1) school day of the decision to suspend, written notification will be given to the parent(s) of the student. This notice will include the reasons for the suspension, the right of the student or her/his parent(s) to appeal to the Board or its designee, and the student's right to be represented in all appeal proceedings. If it is likely that the student may be subject to expulsion, the hearing will take place within three (3) school days and will be held in accordance with the procedures outlined in the Student Expulsion Policy. The person who ordered or requested the removal will be present at the hearing. In an emergency removal, a student may be kept from class until the matter of the alleged misconduct is resolved either by reinstatement, suspension or expulsion.

### **Expulsion from School**

When a student is being considered for expulsion, the student and parent will be provided with a formal notice of the proposed expulsion. This written notice will include the reasons for the intended expulsion, notification of the opportunity to appear in person before the superintendent or the superintendent's designee to challenge the reasons for the expulsion and/or explain the student's action, and notification of the time and place to appear. Students being considered for expulsion may be removed immediately. A hearing will be scheduled no earlier than three (3), nor no later than five (5) school days after the notice is given. Parents may request an extension of time for the hearing. The student may be represented by her/his parents, legal counsel, and/or by a person of her/his choice at the hearing.

In accordance with Board Policy, the superintendent shall initiate expulsion proceedings against a student who has committed an act that warrants expulsion under Board policy even if the student withdraws from school prior to the hearing or decision to impose the expulsion. The expulsion will be imposed for the same duration that it would have been had the student remained enrolled.

If a student is expelled, the student and the student's parents will be provided with written notice within one (1) school day of the imposed expulsion. The notice will include the reasons for the expulsion, the right of the student, or the student's parent(s) to appeal the expulsion to the Board or its designee, the right to be represented in all appeal proceedings, the right to be granted a hearing before the Board or its designee, and the right to request that the hearing be held in executive session.

Within fourteen (14) days after the superintendent notifies the parents of the expulsion, the expulsion may be appealed, in writing, to the Board of Education or its designee. A hearing on the requested appeal will be formal with an opportunity for sworn testimony. If the expulsion is upheld on appeal, a student's parents may pursue further appeal to the Court of Common Pleas.

Students serving expulsions will not be awarded grades or credit during the period of expulsion. Expulsion for certain violations including use or possession of alcohol or drugs, may result in revocation of student's driver's license. When a student is expelled, the superintendent will notify any college in which the expelled student is enrolled under the Postsecondary Enrollment Option at the time the expulsion is imposed.

### **PERMANENT EXCLUSION**

The Board may seek the permanent exclusion of a student 16 years of age or older who is either convicted in criminal court or adjudicated delinquent by a juvenile court of any of the following offenses that occur on school grounds or at a school function:

1. illegal conveyance or possession of a deadly weapon or dangerous ordnance, carrying a concealed weapon, aggravated trafficking, trafficking in drugs, trafficking involving the possession of a bulk amount of a controlled substance or the sale of a controlled substance; or/and
2. aggravated murder, murder, voluntary or involuntary manslaughter, felonious or aggravated assault, rape, gross sexual imposition or felonious sexual penetration, if the victim is a district employee.

In addition, complicity in any of the above acts may be the basis for permanent exclusion.

Any building administrator witnessing, or having knowledge of, one of these acts must report the incident to the superintendent within 24 hours, whether or not the student is over 16 years of age.

If the superintendent receives notification that a student has been found guilty of or is adjudicated delinquent for any of the listed offenses, a determination must be made whether the student's continued attendance endangers the health and safety of other students or employees

or whether the student's attendance poses a danger of disruption to the graded course of study. If the superintendent determines that either danger exists, she/he may recommend that the Board adopt a resolution requesting the State Superintendent of Public Instruction to permanently exclude the student from attendance in any Ohio school. Written notice of the superintendent's recommendation for permanent exclusion is provided to the student and her/his parent(s).

The Board acts upon the superintendent's recommendation within 14 days. Among the items the Board considers is information on:

1. academic and extracurricular activity record of the student;
2. disciplinary record of the student;
3. social history of the student;
4. response to prior discipline and sanctions;
5. seriousness of the offense and any aggravating circumstances;
6. any mitigating circumstances;
7. evidence regarding the possible danger to other students and employees if the student remains in the district;
8. evidence regarding the probable disruption of the graded course of study; and
9. availability of less serious sanctions that would permit the student to stay in the district without conflict with either (7) or (8).

The Board may allow for the hearing of witnesses and the presentation of additional evidence.

If the Board adopts the resolution to permanently exclude the student, the Board:

1. forwards the written resolution, together with the adjudication or conviction and a copy of the student's entire school record, to the State Superintendent;
2. promptly designates a representative to present the district's case for permanent exclusion to the State Superintendent; and
3. forwards a copy of the resolution to the student and her/his parent(s).

If the State Superintendent rejects the resolution, the student shall be re-admitted to the district's schools.



No employee shall knowingly admit, or cause by inaction to be admitted, any student who has been permanently excluded.

### **Re-Admission From a Permanent Exclusion**

If the superintendent determines that a permanently excluded student no longer represents a danger to the health and safety of other students or staff, the superintendent may recommend that the student be re-admitted.

On the recommendation of the superintendent, the Board considers a resolution requesting the State Superintendent to revoke the permanent exclusion. If the Board adopts the resolution, it is forwarded to the State Superintendent, together with the reasons for the resolution and any relevant information.

### **Probationary Admission Following a Permanent Exclusion**

Under state law, a student permanently excluded from school may request probationary admission for a period not to exceed 90 days in any public school district.

If a student requests consideration of probationary admission into the district, the superintendent may enter into discussions with the student and her/his parent(s) to develop a probationary admission plan designed to meet the educational needs of the child and the disciplinary requirements of the district.

If a satisfactory plan is developed, the superintendent recommends that the Board allow the student to attend classes according to the terms of the plan. The Board acts on the recommendation within 14 days.

If a student violates the terms of the re-admission plan, the superintendent may immediately remove the student, pending action by the Board. The Board's action must take place within five days from receipt of the superintendent's recommendation to revoke the re-admission.

A student in compliance with her/his probationary re-admission plan may request either an extension of the plan for an additional 90 days or for the superintendent to recommend that the permanent exclusion be revoked.

## **DRESS AND GROOMING**

### **USE OF FACE COVERINGS**

Recognizing the importance of face coverings (masks) as one of the comprehensive measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19, the Board directs the Superintendent to work with guidance from local health department developing procedures, and take into consideration the guidance provided by the Ohio Department of Health and all the available science, for the use of face coverings in the District, at activities under the control of the District and on District provided transportation. The use of face coverings is one part of the comprehensive plan in place for student and staff health.

Recognizing that available scientific information and local needs may change, the Board authorizes the Superintendent to continue to review and adjust face covering procedure as necessary. All face covering procedures and any changes to those procedures must be clearly communicated to all staff, volunteers, parents and students in a timely manner. The Superintendent shall make all necessary adjustments to ensure that District face coverings requirements remain compliant with all legal and or health department requirements.

Face coverings are required for all adults on District Property, including employees, vendors volunteers and visitors. At minimum, face coverings should be cloth/fabric and should be properly worn to cover an individual's nose, mouth, and chin.

#### Staff and Volunteers

All staff and volunteers who do not meet one of the listed exceptions are required to wear face coverings in the work setting unless it is unsafe to do so or doing so would significantly interfere with the learning process. A face covering is not required when an employee or volunteer is working alone in an assigned work area. Exceptions include:

1. Facial coverings in the school setting are prohibited by law or regulation;
2. Facial coverings are in violation of documented industry standards;
3. Facial coverings are not advisable for health reasons;
4. Facial coverings are in violation of the school's documented safety policies;
5. There is a functional (practical) reason for a staff member or volunteer to not to wear a facial covering in the workplace.

The District must provide written justification to local health officials, upon request, explaining why a staff member is not required to wear a face covering in the school. As a result individuals which to be exempt from the District use of face covering policy and procedures

must submit such requests in writing by submitting the “Face Covering Exemption Request Form”

School nurses or staff who care for individuals with symptoms must use appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) provided by the District in accordance with all current Occupational Safety and Health Administration standards.

Students

The Board directs the Superintendent to seek guidance from local health officials in developing detailed procedures for the use of face coverings by students. In developing these procedures, the Superintendent will take into consideration currently available guidance from state and local health departments with the understanding that this guidance continues to change over time. These procedures must address the use of face coverings by students in all environments under control by the District as well as requirements based on age and/or grade level for student use of face coverings. The procedures provide information regarding use of the “Face Covering Exemption Form” to seek an exemption from the District’s use of face coverings policy and procedures.

#### Additional considerations

The District provides staff training and age appropriate instruction for students on appropriate use of face coverings and PPE.

The Board directs the Superintendent to develop procedures for when face shields may be considered as a preapproved alternative where cloth face coverings would hinder the learning process, including but not limited to the following situations:

1. When interacting with students, such as those with disabilities, where communication could be impacted;
2. When interacting with English-language learners or when teaching a foreign language;
3. In settings where cloth face coverings might present a safety hazard (i.e., science labs);
4. For individuals who have difficulty wearing a cloth face covering.

The Board directs the Superintendent to develop and appropriately communicate procedures for face coverings for all visitors, contractors and other individuals on District property in addition to the procedures addressed herein for employees, volunteers and students.

The District will implement strategies to avoid discrimination, harassment, bullying and/or retaliation against individuals who are unable to wear mask.

*NOTE: In light of the COVID-19 pandemic the Ohio Department of Health (ODH) COVID19 Health and Prevention Guidance for Ohio K-12 Schools requires all schools to adopt a policy on the use of face coverings as one of the comprehensive measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19. These policies must consider all the available science.*

*All staff and volunteers must wear face coverings unless otherwise exempted as outlined in the policy above.*

*At minimum, face coverings must cover the nose, mouth and chin. Face shields may be an option in areas outlined in the above policy language.*

***This policy alone does not meet the requirements for addressing all aspects governing the use of face coverings in the district.***

*According to the ODH guidance, face coverings for students in grades 3-12 are “strongly recommended.” The majority opinion among experts appears to be that children kindergarten through 5th grade can wear face coverings as long as consideration is given for the age and developmental level of the child and the physical situation the child is in at that moment.*

## **STUDENT ATTIRE**

Students are expected to dress appropriately at all times. Any fashion (dress, accessory, or hairstyle) that disrupts the educational process or presents a safety risk will not be permitted.

Students should consider the following questions when dressing for school:

Does my clothing expose too much? (No)

Does my clothing advertise something that is prohibited to minors? (No)

Are there obscene, profane, drug-related, gang-related, or inflammatory messages on my clothing? (No)

Am I dressed appropriately for the weather? (Yes)

Do I feel comfortable with my appearance? (Yes)

The following styles or manners of dress are prohibited:

1. All clothing must be of appropriate size and fit neatly.
2. Oversize, saggy, baggy or tight fitting clothing will not be permitted.
3. Tops and bottoms must overlap at all times, including when arms are raised.
4. Clothing that is in disrepair, worn out, ripped, or contains holes is not permitted.
5. Any material that is sheer or lightweight enough to be seen through is not permitted.
6. Shoes, sandals, or boots must be worn. The footwear shall not cause a safety hazard.
7. Hats, bandanas, sweatbands, hoodies, 'do rags, wave caps, or other headwear may not be worn.
8. Jackets, coats and outerwear may not be worn during the school day and must be kept in a locker.
9. Sunglasses may not be worn and must be kept in a locker/book bag.
10. Any garment specifically made to be an undergarment is not to be worn as an outer garment.
11. Any article of apparel, clothing, and/or accessory that promotes drugs, alcohol, tobacco, sex, violence or is gang-related, offensive or degrading is not permitted.
12. Any article of apparel, clothing, and/or accessory that presents a hazard to the individual or to other people is not permitted.
13. Anything that may cause a distraction to the educational process, interferes with discipline or is deemed inappropriate by administration is not permitted.

Garfield Heights City School logos or other Garfield Heights spirit wear that has been approved by administration is permissible at any time.

### **Dresses**

Must meet all guidelines in this dress code including, but not limited to, color, fit, length and style.

### **Pants, Shorts, Skorts, Capris, Skirts**

1. All pants, shorts, skorts, capris, and skirts must meet all guidelines in this dress code including, but not limited to, fit, length, and style.
2. The length of shorts, skirts, dresses and/or skorts must equal or exceed student's fingertip length.
3. Pajama-style bottom pants are not allowed.
4. Clothing with holes is subject to the guidelines and restrictions of the school.

### **Shirts, Sweatshirts, Sweaters, Vests, Pullovers**

1. Tops must meet all guidelines in this dress code including, but not limited to fit, length and style.
2. All shirts, etc. must have sleeves. Bare midriff, see-through and/or cutout clothing; tank tops, spaghetti strap dresses and sheer clothing are not permitted. Low-cut revealing blouses may not be worn.
3. Because of safety concerns, building administrators reserve the right to prohibit the wearing of items of clothing or attire deemed unsafe or inappropriate. Inappropriate attire can, for example, cause a safety concern during a fire event, or during other situations demanding quick building evacuation.

Students who violate the foregoing rules will not be admitted to class and may be suspended from school.

Students who are representing at an official function or public event may be required to follow specific dress requirements. Usually, this applies to athletic teams, cheerleaders, bands, and other such groups.

## **GANGS**

Gangs that initiate, advocate or promote activities that threaten the safety or well-being of persons or that are disruptive to the school environment will not be tolerated.

Incidents involving initiations, hazing, intimidations or related activities that are likely to cause harm or personal degradation are prohibited.

Students wearing, carrying or displaying gang paraphernalia or exhibiting behaviors or gestures that symbolize gang membership or causing and/or participating in activities that are designed to intimidate another student will be disciplined. Prohibited gang paraphernalia will be specifically identified and posted by the principal.

## **CARE OF PROPERTY**

Students are responsible for the care of their own personal property. The school is not responsible for personal property. Valuables such as jewelry or irreplaceable items should not be brought to school.

Damage to or loss of school equipment and facilities wastes taxpayers' money and undermines the school program. Therefore, if a student damages or loses school property, the student and/or her/his parents will be required to pay for the replacement or repair. If the damage or loss was intentional, the student will be subject to discipline according to the Student Conduct Code.

## **MORE SPECIFIC CONDUCT CODE VIOLATIONS**

Each of the behaviors and/or types of misconduct described below are prohibited and may subject the student to disciplinary action including, but not limited to, student conference, parent notification, parent conference, detention, in-school discipline, suspension and/or expulsion from school. Furthermore, any criminal acts committed at or related to the school will be reported to law enforcement officials as well as disciplined at school. Certain criminal acts may result in permanent exclusion from school.

### **1. Possession/use of drugs and/or alcohol**

Possessing, using, transmitting or concealing, or being under the influence of any alcoholic beverage, controlled substance including, but not limited to, narcotics, mood altering drugs, counterfeit controlled substances, look-alikes, over the counter stimulants or depressants, anabolic steroids, or drug-related paraphernalia is prohibited.

Any student suspected of having or being under the influence of drugs or alcohol will be sent to the office for further investigation and disposition, including disciplinary action and/or referral as may be deemed appropriate.

## **2. Anabolic steroids**

Anabolic steroids, counterfeit alcoholic substances, or substances in containers which imitate or appear to be the containers normally used in a commercial sale of alcoholic substances are prohibited.

Any student showing evidence of consumption of anabolic steroids, drugs or alcohol will be sent to the office for further investigation and disposition, including disciplinary action and/or referral as may be deemed appropriate.

## **3. Possession/use of tobacco (including possession of “electric cigarettes”)**

Possession, evidence of consumption, distribution, purchase or attempt to purchase, and/or use of tobacco or tobacco products or electronic cigarettes or similar devices in school, on school grounds, on school buses/school transportation vehicles, and at any interscholastic competition, extra-curricular event, or other school-sponsored event is prohibited. Tobacco products include, but are not limited to cigarettes, cigars, pipe tobacco, chewing tobacco, snuff or any other matter or substance that contains tobacco. Vaping and smoking clove cigarettes is also prohibited.

## **4. Use and/or possession of a firearm**

Bringing a firearm (as defined in the federal Gun-Free Schools Act of 1994) onto school property or to any school-sponsored activity, competition, program, or event, regardless of where it occurs, will result in a mandatory one (1) year expulsion under Ohio law. This expulsion may be reduced on a case-by-case basis by the superintendent using the guideline(s) set forth in Board Policy.

A firearm is defined as any weapon (including a starter gun) that will or is designed to or may readily be converted to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive; the frame or receiver of any such weapon; any firearm muffler or firearm silencer; or any destructive device (as defined in the federal Gun-Free Schools Act of 1994). Firearms include any unloaded firearm and any firearm that is inoperable but that can be readily operated.

Students are prohibited from knowingly possessing an object on school premises, in a school or a school building, at a school activity or on a school bus/school transportation vehicle that is indistinguishable from a firearm, whether or not the object is capable of being fired, and indicating they are in possession of such an object and that it is a firearm or knowingly displaying or brandishing the object and indicating it is a firearm.

## **5. Use and/or possession of a weapon or a look-a-like weapon**

A weapon is any device that may be used for offensive or defensive purpose, including but not limited to conventional objects such as guns, pellet guns, knives, starter pistols, cap pistols, chains, wallet chains, dog leash chains, Tasers, or club type implements. It may also include any toy that is presented as a real weapon or reacted to as a real weapon.



A knife is defined as any cutting instrument consisting of a sharp blade fastened to a handle, a razor blade or any similar device that is used for, or is readily capable of causing death or serious bodily injury.

Students are prohibited from knowingly possessing an object on school premises, in a school or school building, at a school activity, or on a school bus/school transportation vehicle if both (a) the object is indistinguishable from a firearm, whether or not the object is capable of being fired and (b) the person indicates that the person possesses the object and that it is a firearm, or the person knowingly displays or brandishes the object and indicates that it is a firearm. Law enforcement and security personnel and other people with written authorization are exempt from this prohibition since they typically carry real weapons.

Students in possession of a weapon on school property (including a school bus/school transportation vehicle) or at a school-sponsored event or on property owned by the school district may be subject to a 1-year expulsion and possible permanent exclusion, even if the weapon was brought to the property by someone else.

## **6. Use of an object as a weapon**

Any object that is used to threaten, harm, or harass another may be considered a weapon. This includes but is not limited to padlocks, pens, pencils, laser pointers, and jewelry.

It shall be left to the discretion of the building administrator to determine whether an object in the possession of a student constitutes a weapon. Any such weapon shall be immediately confiscated by the school authorities. Additional disciplinary action may be taken up to and including suspension, expulsion, referral to juvenile authorities, or any combination thereof. The weapon will be turned over to law enforcement officials.

## **7. Knowledge of dangerous weapons or threats of violence**

Because the Board believes that students, staff members, and visitors are entitled to function in a safe school environment, students are encouraged to report knowledge of dangerous weapons or threats of violence to the principal. Failure to report such knowledge may subject the student to discipline.

## **8. Arson**

Arson is the intentional or purposeful destruction or damage to school or district buildings or property by means of fire. Anything, such as fire, that endangers school property and its occupants will not be tolerated. Arson is a felony. Students who maliciously, willfully, or through gross negligence or carelessness (considering the age of the offender) burn, destroy, or ruin school property or the property of others shall make restitution and may be subject to further disciplinary or/and legal action. Students may be referred to fire, or/and court, or/and law enforcement officials.

### **9. Physically assaulting a staff member/student/person associated with the district**

Students are prohibited from intentionally causing fear in another person of immediate bodily harm or death, or intentionally bullying, inflicting or attempting to inflict bodily harm upon another person. Physical assault of a staff member, student, or other person associated with the district, regardless of whether it causes injury, will not be tolerated. Any intentional, harmful or potentially harmful physical contact or bullying initiated by a student against a staff member will be considered an assault. An assault may result in criminal charges and may subject the student to expulsion.

### **10. Verbally threatening (either orally, in writing or otherwise expressed) a staff member/student/person associated with the district**

Any oral or written statement or otherwise expressed action that a staff member, student, or other person associated with the district reasonably feels to be a threat will be considered a verbal assault. Profanity directed toward a staff member, regardless of where it occurs, in a threatening tone may also be considered a verbal assault. Confrontation with a student or staff member that bullies, intimidates, or causes fear of bodily harm or death is also prohibited. Examples of this include, but are not limited to, the following:

Student use of the following offensive words or terms: nigger, niggah, nigga, nigguh; ho', bit--, redneck, hillbilly, spic, wetback, dago, Polack, dirty Jew, chink, white trash, moth-r f---r, queer, fag, dyke, lesbo, homo, faggot, wigger, beaner, gay, or similar derogatory or abusive words or terms. Under this section, students can be disciplined even if they are using the word or term to someone of the same race or gender.

### **11. Misconduct against a school official or employee, or the property of such a person, regardless of where it occurs**

The Board prohibits misconduct committed by a student against a school official or employee, including, but not limited to, harassment (of any type), vandalism, assault (verbal and/or physical), and destruction of property.

Students may be disciplined for misconduct that occurs at sites other than on school property or at a school activity. A student may be disciplined for (1) misconduct that occurs off the property owned or controlled by the district but that is connected to activities or incidents that have occurred on property owned or controlled by the school district and (2) misconduct that, regardless of where it occurs, is directed at a district official or employee, or the property of such official or employee.

### **12. Misconduct off school grounds**

Since school administrators have the responsibility to protect all students and to maintain discipline and order, a school administrator may discipline any student who violates a lawful school regulation while this student is under the jurisdiction of the school.

The school's jurisdiction may include students who are on their way to or from school, or who are at school-related events, or who are on their way to or from school-related events. A school administrator has the option to discipline students for conduct which affects the health, safety, order, or educational environment of the school.

Students may be subject to discipline for their misconduct even when it occurs off school property when the misconduct is connected to activities or incidents that occurred on property owned or controlled by the district.

Misconduct is defined as any violation of the Student Conduct Code.

### **13. Extortion**

Extortion is the use of threat, intimidation, force, or deception to take or receive something from someone else. Extortion is against the law.

For the purpose of further interpreting this policy, extortion is an action or threat that forces a person to pay money, to give materials, or to perform services that are not due to the extorter. Because extortion is a criminal offense, students are encouraged to report any threat, attempt, or practice of extortion to the office immediately.

In the event of extortion, vandalism, or theft, violators will be subjected to the following disciplinary measures: Parents of all parties involved will be contacted immediately; restitution will be made; necessary legal steps will be taken; a suspension of up to ten days may be administered; and the school administration may recommend an expulsion.

### **14. Gambling**

Gambling (i.e., playing a game of chance for stakes) includes casual betting, betting pools, organized-sports betting, and any other form of wagering. Students who bet on any school activity in which they are involved may also be banned from that school activity.

### **15. Falsification of school work, identification, forgery**

Falsifying signatures or data, or refusing to give proper identification or misrepresenting oneself, or giving false information to a staff member is forgery. This prohibition includes, but is not limited to, forgery of hall/bus passes and excuses, as well as use of false I.D.'s.

### **16. Cheating and plagiarism**

Plagiarism, cheating, and copyright infringement are also forms of falsification and academic misconduct and will subject the student to academic penalties as well as disciplinary action. Please be cognizant of the fact that online/digital information is not free-for-the-taking. It is not appropriate to use information from the Internet and call it your own. Please give credit to all artists and authors to avoid misconduct.

## **17. Bomb threats, and other false alarms and reports**

No student shall transmit a false alarm by telephone, in writing, by word of mouth, or by any other means. Making a bomb threat (i.e., intentionally giving a false alarm of a bomb) against a school building or any premises at which a school activity is being held at the time the threat is made will result in an expulsion for a period of up to one (1) school year. Additionally, intentionally giving a false alarm of a fire, or tampering or interfering with any fire alarm is prohibited. It should be remembered that false emergency alarms or reports endanger the safety forces that are responding to the alarm/report, the citizens of the community, and the persons in the building. What may seem like a prank is a dangerous stunt that is against the law and will subject the student to disciplinary action. Students may be referred to fire, or/and court, or/and law enforcement officials.

## **18. Terrorist threat**

Threatening, directly or indirectly, to commit a crime of violence with the purpose to terrorize another or with reckless disregard of the risk of causing terror in another is cause for immediate disciplinary action, up to and including suspension and expulsion from school. Students may be referred to Homeland Security, the FBI, fire officials, court officials, law enforcement officials, or any combination thereof.

## **19. Possession and/or use of combustible, flammable, explosives, burnable items, and/or fireworks**

Students are prohibited from possessing or using any compound or mixture, the primary or common purpose of which is to function by explosion, with substantially instantaneous release of gas and heat (including, but not limited to explosives and chemical-reaction objects such as smoke bombs and poppers). Additional prohibited items include, but are not limited to, lighters, matches, portable heaters, fire crackers, bombs or similar items.

This prohibition does not apply to the use of such items in classrooms or in situations which are under the direct supervision of a teacher, administrator or other appropriate staff person, nor does it apply to situations in which students are directed to use equipment such as Bunsen burners or other combustible or flammable items as part of classroom related activities.

Additionally, possessing or offering for sale any substance, combination of substances or article prepared to produce a visible and/or audible effect by combustion, explosion, deflagration or detonation is prohibited.

## **20. Trespassing**

Although schools are public facilities, the law allows the Board to restrict access to school property. Being present in any Board-owned facility or portion of a Board-owned facility when it is closed to the public or when the student does not have the authorization to be there, or unauthorized presence in a Board-owned vehicle; or unauthorized access or activity in a Board-owned computer, into district, school or staff computer files, into a school or district file server,

or into the Network is prohibited. When a student has been removed, suspended, expelled, or permanently excluded from school, the student is prohibited from being present on school property without authorization of the building administrator.

### **21. Theft, or knowingly receiving or possessing stolen property**

Unauthorized taking of property of another person or receiving or possessing such property is considered theft. Students caught stealing will be disciplined and may be reported to law enforcement officials. Students should not bring anything of value to school without prior authorization from the principal. The school is not responsible for the loss or theft of a student's personal property.

Where appropriate, the stolen property will be returned to the rightful owner and, in the event the property has been used, full restitution shall be made to the party aggrieved. School administrators reserve the right to refer such instances to law enforcement officials.

### **22. Insubordination**

Students are expected to comply with the reasonable directions of staff. Willful refusal or failure to follow or comply with an appropriate direction given by a staff member, or acting in defiance of staff members, may result in disciplinary action.

### **23. Damaging property (vandalism)**

Defacing, cutting, or otherwise damaging property that belongs to the school, district, other students, employees or others, and a disregard for school property is vandalism.

A student who maliciously, willfully, or through gross negligence or carelessness, (considering the age of the student) burns, destroys, ruins, or permanently or temporarily defaces school property or the property of others, shall make restitution and may be subject to suspension or/and expulsion.

Destroying, ruining, or temporarily or permanently defacing school property or the property of others includes writing graffiti or obscenity on such property. Parents are liable, up to the amount provided by law, for the willful destruction of property by a minor in their control. Students may be referred to law enforcement officials.

### **24. Persistent absence or tardiness (see Page 22, above, regarding excessive absences)**

Attendance laws require students to be in school all day or to have a legitimate excuse for their absence. Penalties for unexcused absences can range from detention to a referral to court.

## **25. Unauthorized use of school or private property**

Students must obtain permission to use any school property or any private property located on school premises. Any unauthorized use of school property, or private property located on school premises, shall be subject to disciplinary action.

## **26. Refusing to accept discipline**

Students who repeatedly and consistently refuse to comply with disciplinary penalties may face enhanced penalties for such action.

## **27. Aiding or abetting violation of school rules**

Students who assist other students in the violation of any school rule are guilty of aiding or abetting in the violation. Students are expected to resist peer pressure and exercise sound decision-making regarding their behavior.

## **28. Displays of affection/sexual activities**

Affection between students is personal and not meant for public display. This includes touching, petting, or any other contact that may be considered sexual in nature. Sexual activity of any nature on school property or at school-related activities is prohibited and will result in disciplinary action.

## **29. Possession of electronic equipment**

The school will supply any electronic equipment or devices necessary for participation in the educational program. Students shall not use or possess any electronic equipment on school property or at any school sponsored activity without the permission of the building administrator. Unauthorized electronic equipment will be confiscated from the student by school personnel and disciplinary action will be taken.

## **30. Violation of individual school/classroom rules**

Each learning environment has different rules for students. These rules are for the safe and orderly operation of that environment. Students will be oriented to specific rules within each learning environment, all of which will be consistent with the Code of Student Conduct.

## **31. Violation of bus rules/ suspension of bus/ school transportation vehicle riding/transportation privileges**

When a student is being considered for suspension of bus riding/school transportation privileges, the administrator in charge will notify the student of the reason. The student will be given an opportunity to address the basis for the proposed suspension at an informal hearing. After that informal hearing, the principal, or assistant principal, or other administrator will decide whether

or not to suspend her/his bus/school transportation vehicle riding/transportation privileges for all or part of the school year.

If a student's bus/school transportation vehicle riding/transportation privileges are to be suspended, s/he and her/his parents will be notified of the reason for, and the length of, the suspension.

### **32. Interference, disruption or obstruction of the educational process**

Any actions or manner of dress that materially and substantially disrupts or interferes with school activities or the educational process, or which threaten to do so are unacceptable. Such disruptions include, but are not limited to, delay or prevention of lessons, assemblies, field trips, athletic and performing arts events.

### **33. Harassment and/or aggressive behavior (including bullying and cyberbullying)**

Harassment and/or aggressive behavior (including bullying/cyberbullying) towards a student, whether by other students, staff, or third parties is strictly prohibited and will not be tolerated. This prohibition includes physical, verbal, and psychological abuse, and any speech or action that creates a hostile, intimidating, or offensive learning environment. The Board will not tolerate any gestures, comments, threats, or actions which cause or threaten to cause bodily harm or personal degradation. Individuals engaging in such conduct will be subject to disciplinary action.

## **BULLYING, HARASSMENT, AND INTIMIDATION**

The Board of Education is committed to providing a safe, positive, productive, and nurturing educational environment for all of its students. The Board encourages the promotion of positive interpersonal relations between members of the school community.

Harassment, intimidation, or bullying toward a student, whether by other students, staff, or third parties is strictly prohibited and will not be tolerated. This prohibition includes aggressive behavior, physical, verbal, and psychological abuse, and violence within a dating relationship. The Board will not tolerate any gestures, comments, threats, or actions which cause or threaten to cause bodily harm or personal degradation. This policy applies to all activities in the district, including activities on school property or while enroute to or from school, and those occurring off school property if the student or employee is at any school-sponsored, school-approved or school-related activity or function, such as field trips or athletic events where students are under the school's control, in a school vehicle, or where an employee is engaged in school business.

This policy has been developed in consultation with parents, district employees, volunteers, students, and community members as prescribed in R.C. 3313.666 and the state Board of Education's Model Policy. The building administrator determines whether or not an incident should be called bullying.

Harassment, intimidation, or bullying means:

- A. any intentional written, verbal, graphic, or physical act that a student or group of students exhibits toward another particular student(s) more than once and the behavior both causes mental or physical harm to the other student(s) and is sufficiently severe, persistent, or pervasive that it creates an intimidating, threatening, or abusive educational environment for the other student(s); or
- B. violence within a dating relationship.

Aggressive behavior is defined as inappropriate conduct that is repeated enough, or serious enough, to negatively impact a student's educational, physical, or emotional well-being. This type of behavior is a form of intimidation and harassment, although it need not be based on any of the legally protected characteristics, such as sex, race, color, national origin, marital status, or disability. It would include, but not be limited to, such behaviors as stalking, bullying/cyberbullying, intimidating, menacing, coercion, name-calling, taunting, making threats, and hazing.

Harassment, intimidation, or bullying also means electronically transmitted acts (i.e., internet, e-mail, cellular telephone, personal digital assistance (PDA), or wireless hand-held device) that a student or a group of students exhibit toward another particular student(s) more than once and the behavior both causes mental and physical harm to the other student and is sufficiently severe, persistent, or pervasive that it creates an intimidating, threatening, or abusive educational environment for other students.

Any student or student's parent who believes s/he has been or is the victim of aggressive behavior should immediately report the situation to the building principal or assistant principal, or the superintendent. The student may also report concerns to teachers and other school staff who will be responsible for notifying the appropriate administrator or Board official. Complaints against the building principal should be filed with the superintendent. Complaints against the superintendent should be filed with the Board President.

Every student is encouraged, and every staff member is required, to report any situation that they believe to be aggressive behavior directed toward a student. Reports may be made to those identified above.

All complaints about aggressive behavior that may violate this policy shall be promptly investigated. The building principal or appropriate administrator shall prepare a written report of the investigation upon completion. Such report shall include findings of fact, a determination of whether acts of harassment, intimidation, and/or bullying were verified, and, when prohibited acts are verified, a recommendation for intervention, including disciplinary action shall be included in the report. Where appropriate, written witness statements shall be attached to the report.

If the investigation finds an instance of harassment, intimidation, and/or bullying has occurred, it will result in prompt and appropriate remedial and/or disciplinary action. This may



include up to an expulsion for students, up to discharge for employees, up to an exclusion for parents, guests, volunteers, and contractors, and removal from any official position and/or a request to resign for Board members. Individuals may also be referred to law enforcement officials.

Retaliation against any person who reports or files a complaint, or who is thought to have reported or filed a complaint, is prohibited and will not be tolerated. Such retaliation shall be considered a serious violation of Board policy and independent of whether a complaint is substantiated. Suspected retaliation should be reported in the same manner as aggressive behavior. Making intentionally false reports about aggressive behavior for the purpose of getting someone in trouble is similarly prohibited and will not be tolerated. Retaliation and intentionally false reports may result in disciplinary action as indicated above.

If a student or other individual believes there has been aggressive behavior, regardless of whether it fits a particular definition, s/he should report it and allow the administration to determine the appropriate course of action.

This policy shall not be interpreted to infringe upon the First Amendment rights of students (i.e., to prohibit a reasoned and civil exchange of opinions, or debate, that is conducted at appropriate times and places during the school day and is protected by state or federal law).

The complainant shall be notified of the findings of the investigation, and as appropriate, that remedial action has been taken. If after investigation, acts of bullying against a specific student are verified, the building principal or appropriate administrator shall notify the parent of the victim of such finding. In providing such notification care shall be taken to respect the statutory privacy rights of the perpetrator of such harassment, intimidation, and/or bullying.

If after investigation, act of harassment, intimidate, and/or bullying by a specific student are verified, the building principal or appropriate administrator shall notify in writing the parent of the perpetrator of that finding. If disciplinary consequences are imposed against such student, a description of such discipline shall be included in the notification.

## SEXUAL HARASSMENT

The District does not discriminate on the basis of sex in any education program or activity that it operates, including admission and employment. The District is required by Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 and the regulations promulgated through the U.S. Department of Education not to discriminate in such a manner. Inquiries about the application of Title IX to the District may be referred to the District's Title IX Coordinator, to the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights of the Department of Education, or both.

The Board designates the following individual to serve as the District's Title IX Coordinator:

Title: Sean Patton Assistant Superintendent  
Office address: 5640 Briarcliff Dr. Garfield Heights Ohio 44125  
Email: [spatton@ghbulldogs.org](mailto:spatton@ghbulldogs.org)  
Phone number: 216-475-8100

Any person may report sex discrimination, including sexual harassment, at any time, including during non-business hours. Such a report may be made in person, by mail, by telephone or by electronic mail, using the contact information listed for the Title IX Coordinator, or by any other means that results in the Title IX Coordinator receiving the person's verbal or written report.

### **34. Ethnic intimidation**

No student shall engage in ethnic intimidation. Ethnic intimidation is defined as engaging in behavior prohibited by any criminal statute of the Ohio Revised Code, by reason of race, color, religion, or national origin of another person or group of persons. Examples of ethnic intimidation include, but are not limited to the following:

Making offensively coarse utterances, gestures, displays, or communicating unwarranted and grossly abusive language to any person;

Insulting, taunting, or challenging another, under circumstances in which such conduct is likely to provoke a violent response;

Menacing: knowingly causing another person to believe that the offender will cause physical harm to the person or property of such other person or member of his immediate family.

### **Complaints**

Students and/or their parents may file reports regarding suspected harassment, intimidation, or bullying. Such reports shall be reasonably specific including person(s) involved, number of times and places of the alleged conduct, the target of suspected harassment, intimidation, and/or bullying, and the names of any potential student or staff witnesses. Such reports may be filed with any school staff member or administrator, and they shall be promptly forwarded to the building principal for review, investigation, and action.

### **Privacy/Confidentiality**

The school district will respect the privacy of the complainant, the individual(s) against who the complaint is filed, and the witnesses as much as possible, consistent with the Board's legal obligations to investigate, to take appropriate action, and to conform with any discovery or

disclosure obligations. All records generated under this policy and its related administrative guidelines shall be maintained as confidential to the extent permitted by law.

### **Reporting Requirement**

At least semi-annually, the superintendent shall provide to the President of the Board, a written summary of all reported incidents and post the summary on the district web site (if one exists). The list shall be limited to the number of verified acts of harassment, intimidation, and/or bullying, whether in the classroom, on school property, to and from school, or at school-sponsored events.

Allegations of criminal misconduct and suspected child abuse will be reported to the appropriate law enforcement agency and/or to Child Protective Services in accordance with statute. district personnel shall cooperate with investigations by such agencies.

### **Immunity**

A school district employee, student, or volunteer shall be individually immune from liability in a civil action for damages arising from reporting an incident in accordance with this policy and R.C. 3313.666 if that person reports an incident of harassment, intimidation, and/or bullying promptly, in good faith, and in compliance with the procedures specified in this policy. Such immunity from liability shall not apply to an employee, student, or volunteer determined to have made an intentionally false report about harassment, intimidation, and/or bullying.

### **Notification**

Notice of this policy will be annually circulated to and posted in conspicuous locations in all school buildings and departments within the district and discussed with students, as well as incorporated into the teacher, student, and parent handbooks. State and federal rights posters on discrimination and harassment shall also be posted at each building. All new hires will be required to review and sign off on this policy and the related complaint procedure.

### **Education and Training**

In support of this policy, the Board promotes preventative educational measures to create greater awareness of aggressive behavior, including bullying and violence within a dating relationship. The superintendent or designee shall provide appropriate training to all members of the school district community related to the implementation of this policy and its accompanying administrative guidelines. All training regarding the Board's policy and administrative guidelines, and aggressive behavior and bullying in general, will be age and content appropriate.

The superintendent shall develop administrative guidelines to implement this policy. Guidelines shall include reporting and investigative procedures, as needed. The complaint procedure established by the superintendent shall be followed.

### **35. Propping open doors**

Propping open, or holding open, an exterior door to a building will result in a suspension.

### **36. Opening exterior doors to the public**

Opening exterior doors to a building, or causing them to become open so that school or non-school people can enter, may result in a suspension and/or an expulsion.

### **37. Hazing**

Performing any act, or coercing another, including the victim, to perform any act of initiation into any class, team, or organization, that causes or creates a substantial risk of causing mental or physical harm is considered hazing. Permission, consent, or assumption of risk by an individual subjected to hazing shall not lessen the prohibitions contained in this rule.

Hazing by any individual, school group, club, or team is not permitted. This includes any form of initiation that causes or creates a risk of causing mental or physical harm, no matter how willing the participant may be. Hazing activities are prohibited at any time in school facilities, on school property, and/or off school property but connected to activities or incidents that have occurred on school property.

All incidents of hazing must be reported immediately to any of the following individuals: the building principal or other administrator; teacher; coach; student club advisor/supervisor, and/or superintendent. Students who engage in hazing may also be liable for civil and criminal penalties.

### **38. Violent conduct**

Students may be expelled for up to one school year for committing a violent act at school, on other school property, at an interscholastic competition, extracurricular event, or any other school program, or directing an act at a Board official or employee, regardless of where or when that act may occur, or their property that would be a criminal offense if committed by an adult and results in serious physical harm to person(s) or property.

### **39. Improper dress**

Clothing may not include words or visuals that are lewd, obscene, disruptive, abusive, or discriminatory, or that advertise drugs, alcohol or tobacco. Dress or grooming that is disruptive to the classroom or school atmosphere is not allowed. Shoes must be worn at all times for health and safety reasons.

#### **40. Careless or reckless driving**

Students are prohibited from driving on school property in such a manner as to endanger persons or property.

#### **41. Burglary**

Students are prohibited from entering a building or a specific area of a building without consent and with the intent to commit a crime, or entering a building without consent and committing a crime.

#### **42. Fighting**

Students are prohibited from engaging in adversarial physical contact (differentiated from poking, pushing, shoving or scuffling) in which one or both parties contributed to the situation by verbally instigating a fight and/or physical action. Promoting or instigating a fight (i.e., contributing to a fight verbally or through behavior) will result in disciplinary action.

#### **43. Lighting incendiary devices**

Students are prohibited from the unauthorized igniting of matches, lighters and other devices that produce flames.

#### **44. Possession of pornography**

Students are prohibited from possessing sexually explicit material on school property.

#### **45. Unauthorized use of vehicles**

Students are prohibited from occupying or using vehicles during school hours without parental permission and/or school authorization.

## **STUDENT TRANSPORTATION**

Throughout this document, the term “bus” includes school transportation vehicles.

**Bus/School Transportation Vehicle to School** (In this section, “bus” includes school transportation vehicles).

The Board furnishes transportation in compliance with state law. This fact does not relieve parents of students from the responsibility of supervision until such time as the student boards the bus and after the student leaves the bus at the end of the school day.

Students on a bus are under the authority of, and directly responsible to, the bus driver. The driver has the authority to enforce the established regulations for bus conduct. Disorderly conduct or refusal to submit to the authority of the driver is sufficient reason for refusing transportation services or suspending transportation services to any student once proper procedures are followed.

Students may only ride assigned buses and must board and depart from the bus at assigned bus stops. Students will not be permitted to ride unassigned buses for any reason other than an emergency, except as approved by the principal.

The principal may approve a change in a student’s regular assigned bus stop to address a special need. Parents should send a note to the principal stating the reason for the request and the duration of the requested change.

The Board authorizes the superintendent or other administrators to suspend a student from school bus riding privileges for a period not to exceed one school year. The only due process required is the student must receive notice of an intended bus riding suspension and an opportunity to appear before the superintendent or other administrator before the suspension is imposed.

The Board’s policy regarding suspension from bus riding privileges must be posted in a central location in each school building and made available to students upon request.

Regulations regarding conduct on school buses, as well as general information about the school transportation program, are available to all parents and students.

Students who are riding to and from school on district-provided transportation must follow all basic safety rules. This applies to school-owned buses as well as any contracted transportation.

The driver may assign seating or direct students in any reasonable manner to maintain transportation safety.

Students must comply with the following basic safety rules:

## **1. Prior to Loading (On the Road and at School)**

Each student shall:

- A. be on time at the designated loading zone (five (5) minutes prior to scheduled stop);
- B. stay off the road at all times while walking to and waiting for school transportation;
- C. line up single file off the roadway to enter;
- D. wait until the school transportation is completely stopped before moving forward to enter;
- E. refrain from crossing a highway until the driver signals it is safe to cross;
- F. properly board and depart the vehicle;
- G. go immediately to a seat and be seated.

It is the responsibility of parents to inform the bus driver when their children will not be using school transportation. Drivers will not wait for students who are not at their designated stops on time.

## **2. During the Trip**

Each student shall:

- A. remain seated while the school transportation is in motion;
- B. keep head, hands, arms, and legs inside the school transportation at all times;
- C. not push, shove or engage in scuffling;
- D. not litter in the school vehicle or throw anything in, into, or from the vehicle;
- E. keep books, packages, coats, and all other objects out of the aisle;
- F. be courteous to the driver and to other riders;
- G. not eat or play games, cards, etc.;
- H. not use nuisance devices (e.g., laser pointers) on the bus in a way that disrupts the safe transportation of students and/or endangers students or employees;
- I. not tamper with the school vehicle or any of its equipment (including, but not limited to emergency and/or safety equipment).

### **3. Exiting the School Vehicle**

Each student shall:

- A. remain seated until the vehicle has stopped;
- B. cross the road, when necessary, at least 10 feet in front of the vehicle, but only after the driver signals that it is safe;
- C. be alert to a possible danger signal from the driver.

The driver will not discharge students at places other than their regular stop at home or at school unless s/he has proper authorization from school officials.

#### **STUDENT CONDUCT ON SCHOOL BUSES**

(In this section, “bus” includes school transportation vehicles.)

Regulations regarding conduct on school buses, as well as general information about the school transportation program, are available to all parents and students.

The following regulations pertain to school bus conduct and are intended to ensure the safety and welfare of the students, the bus driver and other drivers on the road and to ensure safety and proper maintenance of school buses.

Students shall:

1. be careful in approaching bus stops, walk on the left facing oncoming traffic and be sure that the road is clear both ways before crossing the highway;
2. be on time at the bus stop in order to permit the bus to follow the time schedule;
3. sit in assigned seats (bus drivers have the right to assign a student to a seat in the bus and expect reasonable conduct similar to conduct expected in a classroom);
4. reach assigned seat in the bus without disturbing or crowding other students and remain seated while the bus is moving;
5. obey the driver promptly and respectfully and recognize that she/he has an important responsibility and that it is everyone’s duty to help ensure safety;
6. keep the bus clean and sanitary, refrain from chewing gum or consuming candy, food or drinks on the bus at any time;
7. refrain from loud talking or laughing (unnecessary confusion diverts the driver’s attention and might result in a serious accident);



8. keep head, arms and hands inside the bus at all times;
9. be courteous to fellow students and to the bus driver;
10. treat bus equipment as one would treat valuable furniture in her/his home (damage to the school bus is strictly forbidden); and
11. remain seated until the bus stops, wait for the signal from the bus driver and cross in front of the bus.

Failure of a student to follow these regulations may result in her/his forfeiting the right of transportation by school bus.

### **School Bus/Vehicle Transportation Discipline**

The Board authorizes the superintendent or other administrators to suspend a student from school bus riding privileges only for a period of up to one school year. The only due process required is notice to the student of an intended bus riding suspension and an opportunity to appear before the administrator considering the suspension before it happens. The administrator's decision is final.

When discipline problems with individual students arise, use the following guidelines.

1. If possible, the driver should resolve the problem.
2. When the driver is unable to resolve the problem, she/he should report it to the transportation supervisor (bus write up). The transportation supervisor will forward all bus write ups to the appropriate principal(s). After three (3) write ups, bus riding privileges for that student shall be suspended for up to five days. Any discipline or notification of suspension of bus riding privileges shall be communicated by the principal of the appropriate school with support from the transportation supervisor to the parent and student.
3. Problems which cannot be resolved by measures specified above are referred to the superintendent.

### **Videotapes on School Buses/School Transportation Vehicles**

The Board of Education has installed video cameras on school buses to monitor student behavior. If a student misbehaves on a bus and her/his actions are recorded on a videotape, the tape will be submitted to the principal and may be used as evidence of misbehavior. We do not allow the general public to view videos from school busses.

### **Penalties for Infractions**

A student who misbehaves on the bus shall be disciplined in accordance with the student conduct code and may lose the privilege of riding on the bus.

## **TRANSPORTATION OF STUDENTS BY PRIVATE VEHICLE**

When transportation by a district vehicle is either not available or not feasible, there may be a need to provide transportation to students by a private vehicle that is contracted by the Board. No student will be permitted to ride in a private vehicle unless written consent is provided by each student's parent using the form "Parental Consent for Transportation by Private Vehicle." Upon request, parents of participating students will be given the name of the driver, the owner of the vehicle, and the description of the vehicle.

## **SELF-TRANSPORTATION TO SCHOOL**

Driving to school is a privilege that can be revoked at any time. Students who are provided the opportunity to ride school transportation are encouraged to do so. Students and their parents assume full responsibility and liability for any transportation to and from school not officially provided by the school. All vehicles entering school property are subject to search and inspection.

## **PBIS**

The Garfield Heights City Schools provide positive educational experiences for our students. We create positive learning environments for them so that they can be appropriately challenged and so that they can develop the confidence and pride they need in order to succeed. In order to help us to accomplish this mission, we participate in the Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports (PBIS) program.

At the elementary level, students are expected to be prompt and prepared, to accept responsibility, to work hard, and to show respect. Middle School, Learning Center, and High School students are expected to be safe, respectful, and responsible.

All of our students, are expected to show Bulldog Pride by incorporating all of the qualities that are mentioned above.