



MARSHALLTOWN
COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

ANNUAL NOTICES

2022-2023

District policies, state and federal regulations require the district to annually post certain notifications to the public. These notices are distributed in several ways, including email. These notices include, but are not limited to student records, asbestos, nutrition, Section 504, FERPA, open enrollment and student rights.

It is the policy of the MCSD not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, religion, creed, age (for employment), marital status (for programs), sexual orientation, gender identity and socioeconomic status (for programs) in its educational programs and its employment practices. There is a grievance procedure for processing complaints of discrimination. If you have questions or a grievance related to this policy please contact Nora Ryan, Equity/Affirmative Action Coordinator, MCSD, 1002 South 3rd Avenue, Marshalltown, IA 50158, Phone 641-754-1000. Email – nryan@marshalltown.k12.ia.us.

Marshalltown Community School District

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Marshalltown Community School District

Administration

MCS D
Administration Center
1002 South 3rd Avenue
Marshalltown, IA 50158
Phone:(641)754-1000
Fax: (641)754-1003

Open daily Monday through Friday, except holidays, from 7:30 a.m to 4:30 p.m.

Se Habla Español!

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School District

Equal Educational Opportunity

(Board Policy 102)

The MCSD does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, religion, creed, age (for employment), marital status (for programs), sexual orientation, gender identity and socioeconomic status (for programs) in its educational programs and its employment practices. The belief in equal educational opportunity serves as a guide for the board and employees in making decisions relating to school district facilities, employment, selection of educational materials, equipment, curriculum, and regulations affecting students. There is a grievance procedure for processing complaints of discrimination. If you have questions or a grievance related to this policy, please contact Dr. Nora Ryan, Equity/Affirmative Action Coordinator, MCSD, 1002 South 3rd Avenue, Marshalltown, IA 50158, Phone 641-754-1000. Email – nryan@marshalltown.k12.ia.us.

The board requires all persons, agencies, vendors, contractors and other persons and organizations doing business with or performing services for the school district to subscribe to all applicable federal and state laws, executive orders, rules and regulations pertaining to contract compliance and equal opportunity.

Annual Notice of Nondiscrimination

(Board Policy 102.E1)

The MCSD offers career and technical programs in the following areas of study:

- 1) Agricultural, Food and Natural Resources
- 2) Applied Science, Technology, Engineering and Manufacturing
- 3) Information Solutions
- 4) Business, Finance, Marketing and Management
- 5) Health Science
- 6) Human Services

It is the policy of the MCSD not to discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, religion, creed, age (for employment), marital status (for programs), sexual orientation, gender identity and socioeconomic status (for programs) in its educational programs and its employment practices. There is a grievance procedure for processing complaints of discrimination. If you have questions or a grievance related to this policy please contact Nora Ryan, Equity/Affirmative Action Coordinator, MCSD, 1002 South 3rd Avenue, Marshalltown. IA 50158, Phone 641-754-1000. Email – nryan@marshalltown.k12.ia.us.

Section 504 Student and Parental Rights

(Board Policy 102.E3)

The MCSD does not discriminate in its educational programs and activities on the basis of a student's disability. Any qualified individual who wishes to complain about alleged discriminatory treatment falling under Section 504 or Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act ("TITLE II") shall be addressed by the following Grievance Procedure. Please see board policy Notice of Section 504 and Parental Rights 102.E3.

This Grievance Procedure is established to meet the requirements of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Americans with Disabilities Act ("ADA"). The District strongly prohibits retaliation on the basis of any grievance filed under this Policy. For more information contact the Director of Special Services, Matt Cretsinger at 641-754-1000.

Anti-Bullying/Anti-Harassment Policy

(Board Policy 104)

The MCSD is committed to providing all students, employees, and volunteers with a safe and civil school environment in which all members of the school community are treated with dignity and respect. Bullying

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and/or harassing behavior can seriously disrupt the ability of school employees to maintain a safe and civil environment, and the ability of students to learn and succeed.

Bullying and/or harassment of or by students, employees, and volunteers is against federal, state, and local policy and is not tolerated by the board.

Accordingly, school employees, volunteers, and students shall not engage in bullying or harassing behavior while on school property, while on school-owned or school-operated vehicles, while attending or participating in school-sponsored or sanctioned activities, and while away from school grounds if the conduct materially interferes with the orderly operation of the educational environment or is likely to do so.

Complaints may be filed with the superintendent or superintendent's designee pursuant to the regulation accompanying this policy. Complaints will be investigated within a reasonable time frame.

A school employee, volunteer, or student, or a student's parent or guardian who promptly, reasonably, and in good faith reports an incident of bullying or harassment, in compliance with the procedures in the regulation, to the appropriate school official designated by the school district, shall be immune from civil or criminal liability relating to such report and to participation in any administrative or judicial proceeding resulting from or relating to the report.

Retaliation Prohibited

Individuals who knowingly file false bullying or harassment complaints and any person who gives false statements in an investigation may be subject to discipline by appropriate measures.

Any student found to have violated or retaliated in violation of this policy shall be subject to measures up to, and including, suspension and expulsion. Any school employee found to have violated or retaliated in violation of this policy shall be subject to measures up to, and including, termination of employment. Any school volunteer found to have violated or retaliated in violation of this policy shall be subject to measures up to, and including, removal from service and exclusion from school grounds.

Definitions

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

- "Electronic" means any communication involving the transmission of information by wire, radio, optic cable, electromagnetic, or other similar means. "Electronic" includes but is not limited to communication via electronic mail, internet-based communications, pager service, cell phones, and electronic text messaging. "Harassment" and "bullying" mean any repeated or potentially repeated electronic, written, verbal, or physical act or other ongoing conduct toward an individual based on any trait or characteristic of the individual which creates an objectively hostile school environment that meets one or more of the following conditions:
 - 1) Places the individual in reasonable fear of harm to the individual's person or property.
 - 2) Has a substantial detrimental effect on the individual's physical or mental health.

3) Has the effect of substantially interfering with the individual's academic or career performance. Has the effect of substantially interfering with the individual's ability to participate in or benefit from the services, activities, or privileges provided by a school.

- "Trait or characteristic of the individual" includes but is not limited to age, color, creed, national origin, race, religion, marital status, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, physical attributes, physical or mental ability or disability, ancestry, political party preference, political belief, socioeconomic status, or familial status.
- "Volunteer" means an individual who has regular, significant contact with students.

Health and Well-Being

Hazardous Chemical Disclosure

(Board Policy 403.4)

Iowa law provides parents and employees with the "Right to Know" of any dangerous chemicals and/or cleaning supplies which may be in the educational environment or the workplace. Any requests for information should be filed with the Superintendent or the Director of Buildings and Grounds. Please see board policy Hazardous Chemicals-Right to Know 403.4 for more information.

Child Abuse Reporting

(Board Policy 402.2)

In compliance with state law and to provide protection to victims of child abuse, alleged child abuse will be reported to the proper authorities. All licensed school employees, teachers, coaches and paraeducators are mandatory reporters as provided by law and are to report alleged incidents of child abuse they become aware of within the scope of their professional duties. When a mandatory reporter suspects a student is the victim of child abuse, the mandatory reporter shall make an oral report of the suspected child abuse to the Iowa Department of Human Services within 24 hours of become aware of the abusive incident and shall make a written report to the Iowa Department of Human Services within 48 hours following the oral report. If the mandatory reporter believes the child is in immediate danger, the local law enforcement agency will also be notified.

Abuse of Students by School District Employees

(Board Policy 402.3)

Physical or sexual abuse of students, including inappropriate and intentional sexual behavior, by employees and volunteers will not be tolerated. An individual who has knowledge an employee has physically or sexually abused a student may immediately report it to the Director of Human Resources. Nora Ryan, Director of Human Resources, is the district's designated investigator for level 1 child abuse complaints against district employees. Marshalltown High School Principal, Jacqueline Wyant, is the alternate investigator. The Marshalltown Police Department will provide the designated investigators for level 2 child abuse complaints against school employees. Please see board policies Abuse of Students by School District Employees 402.3, Regulation 402.3-R, Exhibit 402.3-E1, and Exhibit 402.3-E2.

Student Health and Immunization Certificates

(Board Policy 507.1)

The Board of Directors believes that the health and safety of all the children attending public school is paramount. To ensure healthy children in our public schools, the Board requires the children to be immunized and receive physical examinations in accordance with its policies and the law.

Any student enrolling in kindergarten for the first time in the MCSD or desiring to participate in athletic extracurricular activities shall have a physical examination by a licensed physician. Each student shall submit an up-to-date certificate of health upon the request of the Superintendent of Schools. Failure to provide this information may be grounds for disciplinary action, and the student will be unable to participate in

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extracurricular athletics.

A student enrolling for the first time in the district shall also submit a certificate of immunization against diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus, poliomyelitis, measles, mumps, rubella, Hepatitis B, and any other immunization required under the law. The student will be admitted on a Provisional Certificate to the attendance center if the student has not yet completed the immunization process but has one of each of the required vaccines. This Provisional Certificate is good for 60 days. The meningitis vaccine is required for students entering 7th through 12th grade; a provisional does not apply. Failure to meet the immunization requirement will be grounds for disciplinary action up to and including expulsion. Upon recommendation of the Iowa Department of Education and Iowa Department of Public Health, students entering the district for the first time may be required to pass a TB test prior to admission. The district may conduct TB tests of current students.

Exemptions from the immunization requirement will be allowed only for medical or religious reasons recognized under the law. A valid Iowa State Department of Health Certificate of Immunization Exemption shall be completed and filed with the school nurse in each building for both the religious and the medical exemption.

Student Attendance

Compulsory Attendance

(Board Policy 501.3)

Parents within the school district who have children over age six and under age sixteen by September 15, in proper physical and mental condition to attend school, will have the children attend the school district at the attendance center designated by the board. Students will attend school the number of days or hours school is in session in accordance with the school calendar. Students of compulsory attendance age will attend school a minimum of 180 days or 1080 hours. Students not attending the minimum days or hours must be exempted by this policy as listed below or, referred to the county attorney. Exceptions to this policy include children who:

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

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

The principal will investigate the cause for a student's truancy.

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

Attendance Requirements

(Board Policy 501.3-E1)

Daily, punctual attendance, whether the student attends in person or via online programming, is an integral part

of the learning experience and is required of all students to receive the maximum benefit of the educational program. Students are expected to attend classes regularly and to be on time.

It is the responsibility of the parent, guardian, or legal custodian to make sure the student is enrolled in the MCSD, attends school in person or online as required by the laws of Iowa, and follows the district's policies and regulations for attendance.

Parents, guardians, or legal custodians within the school district who have children who are over six and under sixteen years of age by September 15 in proper physical and mental condition to attend school shall have the children attend the school district at the attendance center designated by the Board or in online program approved by the Board. If a child turns sixteen (16) after September 15, he/she must attend school during that school year. Students shall attend school 180 days or 1080 hours in accordance with the school calendar, with the exception of seniors who shall attend 175 days. Seniors may also be excused from make-up days due to inclement weather if they have met graduation requirements.

Enforcement of attendance requirements is the duty of both the local school district and the county attorney. The Board of Education is required to adopt rules describing the attendance requirements for students. Students must attend at least one hundred forty-eight days, to be met by attendance for at least thirty-seven days each school quarter (Iowa code section 280.3).

Any child who fails to attend school in person or online as required by this attendance policy, without reasonable excuse for the absence, shall be deemed to be a truant. If the parent, guardian, legal custodian or child refuses to accept the school's attempt to assure attendance or the school's attempt is unsuccessful, the matter shall be referred to the county attorney for mediation or prosecution.

Exceptions to this policy include children who:

- have completed the requirements for graduation in an accredited school or have obtained a high school equivalency diploma;
- are attending religious services or receiving religious instruction;
- are attending an approved or probationally approved private college preparatory school;
- are attending an accredited nonpublic school;
- are receiving competent private instruction from a parent, guardian, or legal custodian or Iowa licensed practitioner are excused for sufficient reason by any court of record or judge; have been excused under section 299.22 [deaf and blind]; or are exempted under section 299.24 [religious exemption] (299.2).

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

The principal or other school official shall investigate the cause for a student's truancy. If the principal or other school official is unable to secure the truant student's attendance, the principal or other school official should discuss the next step among administrators. Students enrolled in an online program may be required to attend in person as a consequence of excessive absenteeism. If actions to improve attendance are unsuccessful, the principal shall refer the matter over to the county attorney. Truant students will be subject to the processes outlined in the supporting administrative regulation.

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

Attendance Regulations

(Board Policy 501.3-E2)

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The MCSD believes there is a clear and direct connection between school attendance and student learning. This is true whether the student attends in person or via an online program. We believe that school attendance is first the parents' responsibility. We believe the school district should do everything we can to work with families to assure the regular attendance of our students. Our goal is student success, and regular attendance at school is important to achieving that goal.

Changes in school attendance can signal or be symptomatic of other problems. It is important that the school carefully monitor student attendance to identify problems and to intervene early. When an attendance problem is identified, the school and home must work together to analyze the problem and develop a plan to address the issues contributing to poor school attendance. To be successful, parents and everyone at school - administrators, teachers, nurses, counselor(s), other support staff - must see themselves as part of the effort.

A. Attendance

- a. In accordance with Iowa law, it is the parent's responsibility to ensure their student attends school (Code of Iowa, Chapter 299). The school will determine whether the absence is considered an excused or unexcused absence.

B. Absences

- a. Parent(s)/Guardian(s) are expected to notify the school regarding a student's absence on the day of the absence whether the student attends in person or online. An absence must be reported within 24 hours of the date of absence. Any absence not properly reported by phone or note will be considered an unexcused absence. As a measure of safety, the building will attempt to contact the parent if the child does not appear at school or in the online program.
- b. Reasons for a student's absences may include:
 - i. Documented chronic or extended illness and hospitalization;
 - ii. Documented medical or dental absence (it is expected that recurring appointments such as, but not limited to, orthodontia and dermatology, etc., will be scheduled outside of school hours);
 - iii. Death or serious illness in the immediate family or household;
 - iv. Suspension from school;
 - v. Religious holidays requiring absence from school;
 - vi. Prior approval or notification of court appearances or other legal proceedings beyond the control of the family;
 - vii. Classes missed because of attendance at a school-sponsored trip or activity;
 - viii. Other verified emergency as approved by the building administrator;
 - ix. The school does not condone students being absent from school for a family trip, and encourages parents to arrange such a trip to coincide with school vacation time.
 1. Advance notice must be given to the school by direct communication from the parents or head of household at least five (5) school days before the absence.
 2. All school work must be made up in advance, or arrangements made to make up the work, to the satisfaction of the teachers involved.
- c. Schoolwork missed because of absence must be made up. Students will be given two (2) days for each day missed to make-up work. Make-up time may not exceed six (6) school days following the student's return. The time allowed for make-up work may be extended at the discretion of the classroom or online teacher. Full credit will be given for schoolwork made up because of absences.
- d. An absent student not meeting the provisions required to have an excused absence will have an unexcused absence. Make-up work and assignments may be obtained and submitted within three (3) days of returning to school. If unexcused absences become excessive each child's

case will be reviewed for intervention.

- e. Days for a family trip greater than five (5) consecutive days will be considered unexcused. Any further school days missed due to a family trip within the same school year will be considered unexcused.
- f. Nine (9) consecutive days of unexcused absence will result in a child being unenrolled. Parents or guardians will be notified of these actions. This notification will be sent to the last known address or contact information.

C. Truancy

- a. Truancy is a student's absence from school or class without parent(s)/guardian(s) and/or school permission. Such absences are considered unexcused.

D. Excessive Absence

- a. Excessive absenteeism will be reviewed and could result in the student being recommended for retention.
- b. Excessive absence is any absence beyond the district policy of sixteen (16) allowable absences. Any absence by a student over sixteen (16) or days will be considered excessive and in violation of the student attendance policy. The parent(s)/guardian(s) may be subject to prosecution under the Iowa State Code Chapter 299.
- c. The following provides guidance, which may be followed when students have excessive absences:
 - i. When a student has been absent from school four (4) days during a given quarter, the parent(s)/guardian(s) may be contacted via telephone and/or regular mail regarding the student's absence record.
 - ii. When a student has been absent from school four (4) days during a quarter, interventions shall be implemented. Interventions may include: home visits, attendance contract, change from online or in-person assignment letters, requests for required medical documentation, and a School Attendance Review Committee (SARC) hearing which includes meeting with the building administrator.
 - iii. When a student has been absent from school for eight (8) or more days per school year, the parent(s)/guardian(s) may be contacted via mail and a required meeting may be scheduled with the SARC to develop an intervention plan to improve the attendance of the student.
 - iv. Failure to improve attendance per the identified plan will result in a required parent meeting with the building administration and the district truancy officer or his/her designee.
 - v. Final Referral: If attendance does not consistently improve, a letter will be sent to the county attorney with documentation of nonattendance by the student. Referral to the county attorney will be based only on excessive absences.
 - vi. SARC: Members of the SARC may include teachers, counselors, nurses, administrator(s), social workers, AEA personnel, Juvenile Court Officers, or district administration. Students served under an IEP must be represented through their case coordinator.

E. Activity Absences

- a. A student present as a participant at a sanctioned school activity will not be considered absent. While the student is not counted absent, it should be noted that it is the responsibility of the student to arrange for any make-up work. (See section B3)

F. Tardy Procedure

- a. A tardy is defined as not being on time to school or class. Because a tardy constitutes a class disruption, each will be treated as a violation of the attendance regulations.
- b. PK-6
 - i. Tardy to class refers to the student not being in the classroom when the bell rings or present online at the beginning of online instruction.
 - 1. A student who is tardy five (5) or more times will receive written notification from

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the building administrator and/or designee and may be referred for interventions.

2. When a student has ten (10) or more tardies a meeting will be scheduled with the classroom teacher, administrator, parent and/or counselor. An attendance plan will be developed and monitored daily.

- c. Middle School and High School

1. The following guidelines will be applied to any period of attendance for a student:
 - a. Any student who arrives late to school, must report to the attendance office upon entry to school.
 - b. Consequences related to tardiness in a specific class will be the responsibility of the teacher. These consequences will be approved by administration and presented to students at the start of each semester.

- G. Grievance

- a. Any action taken under this administrative regulation at the building level may be grieved under the terms and provisions of the Complaints and Grievances (502.4)

Open Enrollment

(Board Policy 501.14 and 501.15)

The school district will participate in open enrollment as a sending district and receiving district.

Parents requesting open enrollment out/in of the school district for their student will notify the sending and receiving school district in accordance with district practice. The notice is made on forms provided by the Department of Education. The forms are available at the central administration office.

Parents of children who will begin kindergarten and prekindergarten children enrolled in special education programs and included in the district's basic enrollment will file in the same manner set forth above.

The receiving district will approve or deny open enrollment requests according to the timelines established by law. The parents may withdraw the open enrollment request prior to the board's approval of the application. The receiving district's superintendent will notify the parents and sending school district by mail within five days of the school district's action to approve or deny the open enrollment request. An open enrollment request out of the school district from parents of a special education student is reviewed on a case-by-case basis. The determining factor for approval of such an open enrollment request will be whether the special education program available in the receiving school district is appropriate for the student's needs. The area education agency director of special education serving the receiving district will determine whether the program is appropriate. The special education student will remain in the school district until the final determination is made.

Homeless Children and Youth

(Board Policy 501.16)

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

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

- Children and youth who are:
 - Sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason (sometimes referred to as "doubled up");

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

Please see board policy Homeless Children and Youth 501.16 for more information.

- Under the McKinney-Vento Act, children in homeless situations have the right to:
- Go to school, no matter where they live or how long they have lived there;
- attend either the local school or the school of origin, if this is in their best interest;
- the school of origin is the school the child attended when he/she was permanently housed, or the school in which the child was last enrolled; receive transportation to and from the school of origin;
- enroll in school immediately, even if missing records and documents normally required for enrollment such as a birth certificate, proof of residence, previous school records, or immunization/medical records;
- enroll, attend classes, and participate fully in all school activities while the school arranges for transfer of records;
- have access to the same programs and services that are available to all other students including transportation and supplemental educational services;
- have access to free school meals/lunch programs;
- attend school with children not experiencing homelessness;
- segregation based on a student's status as homeless is prohibited.

The local liaison for homeless education is:

Eric Goslinga
 Homeless Children and Youth Liaison
 1002 S 3rd Avenue
 Marshalltown, IA 50158
 Phone: 752-0039
 Fax: 754-1003

Student Rights and Responsibilities

Weapons

(Board Policy 502.6)

The District supports a “zero tolerance” concept toward weapons and violence in our schools. The Board believes weapons and other dangerous objects and look-a-likes in school district facilities cause material and substantial disruption to the school environment or present a threat to the health and safety of students, employees and visitors on the school district premises or property within the jurisdiction of the school district. School district facilities are not an appropriate place for weapons or dangerous objects and look alike. Weapons and other dangerous objects and look alike shall be taken from students and others who bring them onto the school district property or onto property within the jurisdiction of the school district or from students who are within the control of the school district. Parents or guardians of students found to possess weapons or dangerous objects or look-a-likes on school property shall be notified of the incident. Possession or confiscation of weapons or dangerous objects may be reported to the law enforcement officials, and students may be subject to disciplinary action including suspension or expulsion. Please see board policy Weapons 502.6.

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Smoking, Drinking, Drugs

(Board Policy 502.7)

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

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

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

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

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

Interviews of Students by Law Enforcement and Outside Agencies

(Board Policy 502.9)

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

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

request, the principal will attempt to contact the parents to inform them of the request and to ask them to be present. It shall be the policy of the MCSD that a [reasonably] cooperative effort be maintained between the school administration and law enforcement agencies. Law enforcement officials may be summoned in order to conduct an investigation of alleged criminal conduct on the school premises or during a school-sponsored activity or to maintain the educational environment. They may also be summoned for the purpose of maintaining or restoring order when the presence of such officers is necessary to prevent injury to persons or property. If a student is involved in a criminal offense that involves violence, weapons, harassment, theft, possession of alcohol or drugs, law enforcement officials may be contacted. Administrators have the responsibility and the authority to determine when the assistance of law enforcement officers is necessary within their respective jurisdictions. The School District's administrators shall at all times act in a manner which protects and guarantees the rights of students and parents. Please see policy Interviews of Students by Law Enforcement and Outside Agencies 502.9.

Gangs

(Board Policy 502.11)

The MCSD believes that the presence of gangs and gang activities may cause substantial disruption of school and school activities and prohibits the existence of gangs and gang activities on or about school property or at any school activity. Gang membership is a behavior that will not be tolerated as it is contrary to a safe, orderly, and respectful school community. Please see board policy Gangs 502.11 and its accompanying regulation for more information.

Violence

(Board Policy 502.12)

The Board of Directors of the MCSD believes our society should be free of violence and that the school should set a non-violent example for our children. We believe disputes should be resolved by peaceful means. We believe unnecessary depiction of violence in television, movies, print, and on line, should be discouraged. We believe the School Board and staff should be proactive of a non-violent society. Fighting, assault, and other violent acts will be dealt with as serious offenses. If a student is involved in criminal offenses, law enforcement agencies will be contacted. Students may be taken to the police station, charged with disorderly conduct and referred to juvenile authorities.

Student Discipline

Student Conduct

(Board Policy 503.1)

- I. Philosophy
 - A. The Board believes inappropriate student conduct causes material and substantial disruption to the school environment, interferes with the rights of others, or presents a threat to the health and safety of students, employees, and visitors on school premises. Appropriate classroom behavior allows teachers to communicate more effectively with students.
 - B. The MCSD recognizes the vital relationship between an orderly atmosphere and a positive and successful learning experience in school. Discipline is a necessary ingredient for success, and its foundation originates in the home. As the first teacher of the child, it is the parent's responsibility to develop good habits of behavior as well as positive attitudes toward school. The child benefits when the home and the school work together toward the goal of educating the child to become a responsible member of society capable of self-discipline and effective decision making. The District encourages parents and guardians to recognize their responsibilities, and seeks a cooperative effort in the implementation of an effective climate. The implementation of school procedures is the joint responsibility of the Board of Education, school staff, students, and their parents. The dignity of the student, as an individual, should be protected with proper consideration for his or her personal feelings which may be associated with race, color, age, religion, creed, national origin, sex, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity or disability. The recognition by the student and the staff member of mutual

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responsibilities in this connection will establish a mutual respect stimulating a sound environment for carrying out school procedures. Respect for the teachers, the principal, and staff in their professional capacity is an important part of the school system and that dignity should be protected. Members of the school staff shall have the authority necessary to carry out such school procedures, including the use of reasonable physical restraint to prevent and/or stop any act of interference with the scholarly, disciplined atmosphere of the school. Teachers and principals are assured of Central Office Administration and Board of Education cooperation and support in the efforts to maintain a properly disciplined atmosphere.

II. Jurisdiction

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

III. School Discipline (Definition)

- A. School discipline is the guidance of the conduct of students in a way which permits the orderly and efficient operation of the school, as well as the maintenance of a scholarly, controlled environment in which maximum educational benefits for all pupils may be achieved.

IV. Breach of Discipline Breach of discipline is any conduct by students which interferes with the maintenance of school discipline. Acts or behavior which tend to conflict with, or disrupt, the education program or which are antagonistic to other students or to school personnel cannot be tolerated. Insubordination and misbehavior are incompatible with good citizenship and good government.

V. Examples of Breach of Discipline (Not intended to be a complete listing)

- A. Inappropriate behaviors such as: temper tantrums, bully type behavior, fighting, cheating
- B. Use of profane, vulgar or obscene language, or loud and boisterous conduct which disturbs the orderly, efficient, and disciplined atmosphere and operation of the school
- C. Refusal to comply with the requests or directions of teachers, administrators, or other school personnel who are carrying out school responsibilities or duties (open defiance, insubordination or willful disobedience)
- D. Malicious mischief or vandalism. Defacing or destruction of any building or fixture which may include the willful writing, making marks, drawing characters, etc. on walls, furniture and fixtures
- E. Smoking or use of tobacco products on school premises or possession of cigarettes, cigars, smoking tobacco, e-cigarettes, or chewing tobacco on school premises in violation of school regulations
- F. The use, possession, sale, or attempted sale, of any alcoholic beverage or controlled substance on school property or at any school related activity
- G. Physical attack upon or threat of physical violence to teachers, students, or other school personnel, or persons within school jurisdiction
- H. Violation of policies 502.6, 502.11, 502.12 regarding weapons, gangs or violence
- I. Personal misbehavior, such as extortion, intimidation, or possession of dangerous objects
- J. Display of racial bigotry, intolerance or harassment due to race, color, age, religion, creed, national origin, sex, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity or disability
- K. Violation of any criminal statute of the State of Iowa, or the United States. Examples of violations of such laws may include: assault, larceny, robbery, theft, unlawful assembly, disturbing public assembly, malicious threats, malicious use of the telephone, or distribution of obscene material

L. Violation of Internet rules

VI. Assault and Threats to School Personnel

- A. A student who commits an assault against an employee on school district property or on property within the jurisdiction of the school district; while on school-owned or school-operated chartered vehicles; or while attending or engaged in school district activities be suspended by the principal. If suspended, Notice of the suspension is sent to the board president. The board will review the suspension and decide whether to hold a disciplinary hearing to determine whether to impose further sanctions against the student which may include expulsion. In making its decision, the board shall consider the best interests of the school district, which shall include what is best to protect and ensure the safety of the school employees and students from the student committing the assault. Assault for purposes of this section of this policy is defined as, when, without justification, a student does any of the following:
1. an act which is intended to cause pain or injury to, or which is intended to result in physical contact which will be insulting or offensive to another, coupled with the apparent ability to execute the act; or
 2. any act which is intended to place another in fear of immediate physical contact which will be painful, injurious, insulting or offensive, coupled with the apparent ability to execute the act; or
 3. intentionally points any firearm toward another or displays in a threatening manner any dangerous weapon toward another.
 4. The act is not an assault when the person doing any of the above and the other person are voluntary participants in a sport, social or other activity, not in itself criminal, when the act is a reasonably foreseeable incident of such sport or activity, and does not create an unreasonable risk of serious injury or breach of the peace.
- B. A student shall not be suspended or expelled under this Section if the suspension or expulsion would violate the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.

VII. Rules and Regulations Enforcement (Disciplinary Action)

- A. Students who fail to abide by this policy, and the administrative regulations supporting it, may be disciplined for conduct which disrupts or interferes with the education program; conduct which disrupts the orderly and efficient operation of the school district or school activity; conduct which disrupts the rights of other students to participate in or obtain their education; conduct that is violent or destructive; or conduct which interrupts the maintenance of a disciplined atmosphere. Disciplinary measures include, but are not limited to, removal from the classroom, detention, suspension, probation, and expulsion. Each school building principal and the director of transportation may make such rules and regulations as deemed necessary to implement and carry out the intent of this policy subject to the approval of the superintendent and Board of Education. In the consideration of such approval, the superintendent shall give due regard to the desirability of uniformity of such rules and regulations.

VIII. Special Education Rights

- A. Students identified as special education students shall receive all due process considerations required under federal and state legislation. A review of the student's individual educational program shall precede an expulsion hearing under this policy and shall be made a part of the record in any disciplinary proceedings where applicable.

Disciplinary Procedures And/Or Penalties (Responsibility)

Board Policy 503.1-R1

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As set forth in the rules and regulations of the Board of Education and the Administration, discipline shall be subject to the following procedures and penalties. These actions are authorized to be taken either individually or collectively by the designated school official.

A. Classroom Teacher Responsibility

a. Teachers are responsible for classroom discipline; therefore, actions for disciplinary offenses are the responsibility and the obligation of the classroom teacher. The term "classroom teacher" is used in a broad sense and is to include educational aides or any other staff member involved in the process of supervising or instructing students. An offense that is not greatly disturbing to the class routine is a minor offense; however, it is possible that repeated minor offenses could become a major problem. The classroom teacher is authorized to take the following possible actions:

- i. Verbal correction
- ii. Denial of classroom privileges
- iii. Removal - from a class or activities of the class. Removal from the classroom means a student is sent to the building principal's office. It is within the discretion of the person in charge of the classroom to remove the student. Policy 503.1 and its accompanying regulation are not intended to address the use of therapeutic classrooms or seclusion rooms for students. Secondary students excluded from class by a classroom teacher may not be readmitted to the same class the day of the infraction and a conference may be held by the principal with the student and teacher prior to readmission to the class. Elementary students excluded from a class by a teacher may be readmitted the same day following a conference with the student and teacher.
- iv. Detention. Detention is requiring the student to serve disciplinary time before and/or after school or at other times determined by the teacher or administrator. The time served shall be supervised and the student shall be required to do constructive work. Detention should be served within the day of the violation, if possible. A bus student may serve the detention on the following day, if necessary, so that transportation arrangements may be made.
- v. Physical restraint. Restraint is considered an act of controlling the actions of a student when the student's actions may inflict harm to self or to others and is not considered physical punishment. Teachers and administrators may use reasonable and necessary physical force to prevent a student from harming self or others. See Board Policy 503.5/503.5E.
- vi. Restitution. Restitution is the act of making up for damages or harm caused by the student's actions which resulted in the implementation of disciplinary procedures. A student may be held responsible for situations where school or personal property is damaged as a result of the student's actions which resulted in the implementation of disciplinary procedures.

B. Administration Responsibility

a. When a situation arises in which the educational process is unable to proceed or if the situation is of a serious nature, the classroom teacher can no longer be considered the sole disciplinarian. The student who causes serious disturbances in the classroom shall be referred to the building principal or designee for assistance in correcting the discipline problem. The building principal shall maintain, review, and provide to the staff and students guidelines that will foster a positive learning environment. When a student has been referred to the principal or designee for breach of discipline, the principal may take any of the actions outlined previously

for teachers. In addition to these actions, the principal is authorized to take any of the following steps if deemed necessary:

- i. Suspension (either an in-school suspension, an out-of-school suspension) means a restriction from school activities or loss of extracurricular eligibility. An in-school suspension means the student will attend school but will be temporarily isolated from one or more classes while under supervision. An in-school suspension will not exceed ten (10) consecutive school days. An out-of-school suspension means the student is removed from the school environment, which includes school property, classes and activities. An out-of-school suspension will not exceed ten (10) consecutive school days. A restriction which is limited to school activities means a student will attend school, classes and practice but will not participate in school activities.
- ii. Probation means a student is given a conditional suspension of a penalty for a definite period of time in addition to being reprimanded. The conditional suspension means the student must meet the conditions and terms for the suspension of the penalty. Failure of the student to meet these conditions and terms will result in immediate reinstatement of the penalty.
- iii. Suspension to Consider Expulsion. In the event an apparent breach of discipline is so aggravated that in the opinion of the building principal, expulsion of a student might be considered, the principal or designee may suspend a student for such length of time as may be necessary to determine whether the student should be expelled. In such case, the principal should arrange a conference with the student, the student's parents or guardians, and the Director of Special Services, or the Director of Human Resources when the Director of Special Services is unavailable, to consider whether or not the student has been guilty of a breach of discipline so aggravated that the matter should be submitted to the Board of Education to consider the expulsion of the student from school. The Board of Education will hold a hearing within ten (10) school days of the commencement of the suspension. If the hearing cannot be held within ten (10) school days of the commencement of the suspension, an alternate educational plan will be arranged for the student.
- iv. Expulsion means an action by the board to remove a student from the school environment, which includes, but is not limited to, property, classes and activities, for a period of time set by the board. Discipline of special education students, including suspensions and expulsions, will comply with the provisions of applicable federal and state laws.
- v. Cooperation with Law Enforcement Officials. If students are involved in fighting, police may be called and students may be taken to the police station. They may be charged with disorderly conduct or one of various levels of assault and referred to juvenile authorities. Police may be involved in other criminal actions such as theft or possession of alcohol, drugs, tobacco, nicotine, and weapons. In the case of tobacco possession, the student will be cited while at school.

C. Board of Education Responsibility

- a. Expulsion from school may be imposed by the Board of Education (See expulsion procedure, Board Policy 503.2)

Student Suspension

(Board Policy No. 503.1-R2)

I. Administrative Action

A. Probation

1. Probation is conditional suspension of a penalty for a set period of time. Probation may be imposed by the principal for infractions of school rules which do not warrant the necessity of removal from school.

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2. The principal will conduct an investigation of the allegations against the student prior to imposition of probation. The investigation will include, but not be limited to, written or oral notice to the student of the allegations against the student and an opportunity to respond. Written notice and reasons for the probation will be sent to the parents.
- B. In-School Suspension
1. In-school suspension is the temporary isolation of a student from one or more classes while under administrative supervision. In-school suspensions may be imposed by the principal for infractions of school rules, which are serious but which do not warrant the necessity of removal from school.
 2. The principal will conduct an investigation of the allegations against the student prior to imposition of an in-school suspension. The investigation will include, but not be limited to, written or oral notice to the student of the allegations against the student and an opportunity to respond. In-school suspension will not be imposed for more than ten (10) school days. Written notice and reasons for the in-school suspension will be sent to the student's parents.
- C. Out-of-School Suspension
1. Out-of-school suspension is the removal of a student from the school environment for periods of short duration. Out-of-school suspension is to be used when other available school resources are unable to constructively remedy student misconduct.
 2. A student may be suspended out of school for up to ten (10) school days by a principal for a commission of gross or repeated infractions of school rules, regulations, policy or the law, or when the presence of the student will cause interference with the maintenance of the educational environment or the operation of the school. The principal may suspend students after conducting an investigation of the charges against the student, giving the student:
 - a) Oral or written notice of the allegations against the student, and
 - b) The opportunity to respond to those charges. At the principal's discretion, the student may be allowed to confront witnesses against the student or present witnesses on behalf of the student.
 3. Notice of the out-of-school suspension will be mailed no later than the end of the school day following the suspension to the student's parents and the superintendent. A reasonable effort is made to personally notify the student's parents and such effort is documented by the person making or attempting to make the contact. Written notice to the parents will include the circumstances which led to the suspension and a copy of the board policy and rules pertaining to the suspension.
- D. Suspensions and Special Education Students
1. Students who have been identified as special education students may be referred for a review of the student's Individual Education Program (IEP). The IEP may be revised to include a continuum of intervention strategies and programming to change the behavior.
 2. Students who have not been identified as special education students may be referred for evaluation after the student's suspension to determine whether the student has a disability and is in need of special education.
- II. Due Process
- A. Before a principal or designee may impose any of the five (5) kinds of suspensions previously mentioned, the following minimum steps of due process must be afforded to the student.
1. The principal or designee shall conduct an informal investigation of the charges against the student.

2. The principal or designee shall give the student oral or written notice of the allegations and of the time and place of a hearing concerning those allegations.
3. The principal or designee shall conduct the hearing where the student shall be advised of the basis for the charges and afforded the opportunity to respond to the charges.
4. The investigation, notice to the student and informal hearing, must precede removal of the student from school. Nothing, however, shall prevent the immediate suspension of a student when the student's continued presence on school property would endanger the student's safety or well-being, the safety or well-being of other members of the school, or would substantially interfere with the proper functioning of the school. In the event of an immediate suspension, a hearing will be held within three (3) school days at such time and place as designated by the principal with written or oral notice to the student and/or parent or guardian.
5. The principal or designee will document the basis and procedures used for each and every suspension.
6. Notice of an out-of-school suspension will be mailed to the student's parents or legal guardians, superintendent, and to the President of the Board of Education no later than the end of the day following the suspension. There shall be documentation showing that a reasonable effort has been made by the Administration in the attempt to contact the home. The written notice to the student's parents or guardians should include the circumstances involving the student which led to the suspension, and identification of the Board of Education Policy and/or rules pertaining to the suspension.
7. No more than one administrative suspension may be imposed upon a student for the same set of facts.
8. Expulsion: Board of Education Action (See Board Policy 503.2)
 - a) Board of Education expulsions are extreme measures of discipline to be employed only when all available school resources are unable to cope constructively with student misconduct. The removal of a student from the educational environment for any length of time is viewed as a severe consequence to be used sparingly.
 - b) Upon the recommendation of the superintendent or designee, and after giving at least three (3) days' written notice to the student of time and place of the Board of Education meeting and hearing upon the question of expulsion, the student may be expelled from school by the Board of Education after such hearing for serious or repeated violations of discipline.
 - c) Condition of Readmission: The Board of Education may consider, and by a majority vote, grant readmission to a student expelled by Board of Education action at any time and upon any condition it may determine.

Student Expulsion

(Board Policy. 503.2)

Only the board may remove a student from the school environment. The removal of a student from the school environment, which includes, but is not limited to, classes and activities, is an expulsion from school. Students may be expelled for violations of board policy, school rules or the law. It is within the discretion of the board to discipline a student by using an expulsion for a single offense or for a series of offenses depending on the nature of the offense and the circumstances surrounding the offense. It is within the discretion of the superintendent to recommend to the board the expulsion of a student for disciplinary purposes. Only the board may take action to expel a student and to readmit the student. The principal will keep records of expulsions in addition to the board's records. When a student is recommended for expulsion by the board, the student is provided with:

1. Notice of the reasons for the proposed expulsion;

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

In addition to these procedures, a special education student must be provided with additional procedures. A determination should be made of whether the student is actually guilty of the misconduct. A staffing team should determine whether the student's behavior is caused by the student's disability and whether the conduct is the result of inappropriate placement. Discussions and conclusions of this meeting should be recorded. If the special education student's conduct is not caused by the disability, the student may be expelled or suspended for a long-term period following written notice to the parent and pursuant to the school district's expulsion hearing procedures. If the misconduct is caused by the disability and a change in placement is recommended, the change must be made pursuant to the placement procedures used by the school district. Please see board policy Student Expulsion Regulation 503.2-R for more information.

Fines, Fees, and Charges

(Board Policy 503.3)

MCSD will provide students with educational materials, approved by the Board of Education, in all grades through the Senior High. The Board may establish reasonable fees for textbook rental and for purchase of consumable materials. Textbooks remain the property of the District. The board believes students should respect school district property and assist in its preservation for future use by others. Students may be assessed fines, charges, or fees for the materials needed in a course, for overdue school materials, for participating in activities, or for misuse of school property. The superintendent will inform the board of the dollar amount to be charged to students or others for fines, charges, or fees annually. Parents of students meeting specific financial eligibility standards will be eligible for a waiver of student fees or a reduction of student fees based upon the request of the parent. It is the responsibility of the superintendent, in conjunction with the principal, to develop administrative regulations regarding this policy. Please see policy 503.3-R Student Fee Waiver and Reduction Procedures for more information on how to apply.

Good Conduct Rule

(Board Policy 503.4)

Participation in school activities is a privilege. School activities provide the benefits of promoting additional interests and abilities in the students during their school years and for their lifetimes. Students who participate in extracurricular activities serve as ambassadors of the school district throughout the calendar year, whether away from school or at school. Students who wish to have the privilege of participating in extracurricular activities must conduct themselves in accordance with board policy and must refrain from engaging in activities which are illegal, unhealthy or which reflect adversely upon the student, his or her family, our school or our community. Students who fail to abide by this policy and the administrative regulations supporting it may be subject to disciplinary measures. The principal will keep records of violations of the good conduct rule. It is the responsibility of the superintendent to develop rules and regulations for school activities. Students wanting to participate in school activities must meet the requirements set out by the school district for participation in the activity.

Please see Student Conduct in Extra-Curricular Activities Code No. 503.4-R1 and Student Conduct in Extra-Curricular Activities Code No. 503.4-R2 for more information.

Chapter 103 and Physical Restraint

Corporal Punishment, Mechanical Restraint and Prone Restraint

(Board Policy 503.5)

The use of corporal punishment, mechanical restraint and/or prone restraint is prohibited in all schools. Corporal punishment is defined as the intentional physical punishment of a student. It includes the use of unreasonable or unnecessary physical force or physical contact made with the intent to harm or cause pain. It may be necessary at times, however, to use physical restraint of a student to protect the student, others, or property from harm. No employee is prohibited from any of the following which are not considered corporal punishment:

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

Mechanical restraint means the use of a device as a means of restricting a student's freedom of movement. Mechanical restraint does not mean a device used by a trained individual for specific approved therapeutic or safety purposes for which the device was designed and, if applicable, prescribed, including restraints for medical immobilization, adaptive devices or mechanical supports used to allow greater freedom of mobility than would be possible without use of such devices or mechanical supports; and vehicle safety restraints when used as intended during the transport of a student in a moving vehicle.

Prone restraint means any restraint in which the student is held face down on the floor.

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

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

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

Physical Restraint and Seclusion of Students

(Board Policy 503.6)

It is the goal of the district that all students can learn and grow in a safe and peaceful environment that nurtures the student and models respect for oneself and others. On occasion, trained district employees and others may have to use behavior management interventions, physical restraint and/or seclusion of students. The goal of these interventions is to promote the dignity, care, safety, welfare and security of each child and the school community. With this objective in mind, the district will prioritize the use of the least restrictive behavioral interventions appropriate for the situation.

Physical restraint means a personal restriction that immobilizes or reduces the ability of a student

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to move the student's arms, legs, body, or head freely. Physical restraint does not mean a technique used by trained school personnel, or used by a student, for the specific and approved therapeutic or safety purposes for which the technique was designed and, if applicable, prescribed. Physical restraint does not include instructional strategies, such as physically guiding a student during an educational task, hand-shaking, hugging, or other non-disciplinary physical contact.

Seclusion means the involuntary confinement of a child in a seclusion room or area from which the child is prevented or prohibited from leaving; however, preventing a child from leaving a classroom or school building are not considered seclusion. Seclusion does not include instances when a school employee is present within the room and providing services to the child, such as crisis intervention or instruction.

Physical restraint or seclusion is reasonable or necessary only:

- To prevent or terminate an imminent threat of bodily injury to the student or others; or
- To prevent serious damage to property of significant monetary value or significant nonmonetary value or importance; or
- When the student's actions seriously disrupt the learning environment or when physical restraint or seclusion is necessary to ensure the safety of the student or others; and
- When less restrictive alternatives to seclusion or physical restraint would not be effective, would not be feasible under the circumstances, or have failed in preventing or terminating the imminent threat or behavior; and
- When the physical restraint or seclusion complies with all applicable laws.

Prior to using physical restraint or seclusion, employees must receive training in accordance with the law. Any individual who is not employed by the district but whose duties could require the individual to use or be present during the use of physical restraint or seclusion on a student will be invited to participate in the same training offered to employees on this topic. When required by law, the superintendent or the superintendent's designee will ensure a post-occurrence debriefing meeting is held, maintain documentation and fulfill all reporting requirements for each occurrence of physical restraint or seclusion as required by law.

Student Scholastic Achievement

Testing Program

(Board Policy 505.4)

A comprehensive testing program is established and maintained to evaluate the education program of the school district and to assist in providing guidance or counseling services to students and their families. No student is required, as part of any applicable program, funded by the United State Department of Education, to submit to a survey, analysis or evaluation that reveals information concerning:

- political affiliations or beliefs of the student or student's parent;
- mental or psychological problems of the student or the student's family;
- sex behavior or attitudes;
- illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating or demeaning behavior;
- critical appraisals of other individuals with whom respondents have close family relationships;
- legally recognized, privileged and analogous relationships, such as those of lawyers, physicians and ministers;
- religious practices, affiliations or beliefs of the student or student's parent; or
- income, (other than that required by law to determine eligibility for participation in a program or for receiving financial assistance under such program); without the prior consent of the student (if the

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

Parent and Family Engagement

(Board Policy 505.8)

It is the policy of Marshalltown Community Schools that parents and family members of participating children shall have the opportunity to be involved jointly in the development of the district plan and in the district's review process for the purpose of school improvement. Recognizing that parental involvement is the key to academic achievement, we seek to involve parents in an effective home-school partnership that will provide the best possible education for our students. The district provides coordination, technical assistance and other supports necessary to aid in the planning and implementation of parent involvement activities. The district encourages parent involvement and supports this partnership through providing information about standards and assessments; providing training and materials for parents to help their children; educating school personnel about involving parents and the value of parent contributions; and developing roles for community organizations and businesses to work with parents and schools.

1. This jointly developed and agreed upon written policy is distributed to parents and family members of participating Title I children through the Parent Handbook which is available to every family at the time of registration. In school-wide buildings, this will include all parents. (ESSA Section 1116(a)(2))
2. The district will provide technical assistance and support to schools in planning and implementing effective parent and family engagement activities to improve student academic achievement and school performance through professional development regarding parent and family engagement. The district will partner with community groups as a means to engage families more creatively and successfully. (ESSA Section 1116(a)(2)(B))
3. The district will work to find ways to work cooperatively with other Federal, state, and local programs. The Title I program will work with local public preschool programs, Headstart programs, local library programs, and special education programs (IDEA). Our homeless education program coordinates with the local backpack program to offer support to students that are food insecure, especially over the weekends. (ESSA Section 1116(a)(2)(C))
4. The district conducts an annual evaluation of the content and effectiveness for the Parent and Family Engagement Policy. The evaluation includes parents in a meaningful manner. In addition to surveys, the district uses focus groups and open discussion groups for this evaluation. Parents and families have a voice. The evaluation tools and methods identify the type and frequency of school-home interactions and the needs of parents and families have to better support and assist their children in learning. The evaluations will target at least three key areas: barriers, ability to assist learning, and successful interactions. (ESSA Section 1116(a)(2)(D)(i-iii))
5. The district uses the findings for the annual evaluation to design evidenced-based strategies for more effective parent and family engagement. The evaluation results will help uncover best practices that are working and adapt those ideas to the district and individual school needs. (ESSA Section 1116(a)(2)(E))
6. The district involves parents and family members in activities of the school. The district has established a parent advisory committee comprised of a sufficient number and representative group of parents or family members to adequately represent the needs to the population, revised, and reviewed the Parent and Family Engagement Policy. (ESSA Section 1116(a)(2)(F))
7. At least one annual meeting will be held to inform parents and family members of the school's participation in the Title I program and to explain the requirements of the program and their right to be involved. The meeting shall be for parents of both public and private school. All elementary buildings will hold an annual meeting in the fall. Notification will be sent in the district and building newsletter. (ESSA Section 1116(c)(1))
8. Parent and family meetings, including parent conferences, will be held at different times during the day and Title I funds may be used to pay reasonable and necessary expenses associated with parent and family engagement activities, including transportation, childcare, or home visit expenses to enable parents to participate in school-related meetings and training sessions. (ESSA Section 1116(c)(2))

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9. The district will involve parents in the planning, review, and improvement of the school's Title I program through participation in stakeholder groups and in-person meetings where parents give input and feedback. (ESSA Section 1116(c)(3))
10. In a schoolwide program plan, parents are asked to be involved in the joint development of the building's schoolwide plan through in-person meetings, surveys and electronic feedback as appropriate. Applies only to Title I schools operating a Schoolwide Program. (ESSA Sections 1116(c)(3) and 1114))
11. Parents and family members of participating children are given assistance in understanding the Title I program, with timely information about the Title I program. Through annual meetings and parent-teacher conferences, the school will provide parents and family members of participating children with a description and explanation of the curriculum in use at the school, the forms of academic assessment used to measure student progress, and the proficiency levels students are expected to meet. Parents and family members receive an explanation of the school's performance profile, the forms of academic assessment used to measure student progress, and the expected proficiency levels in the annual progress report distributed to all stockholders in the spring of the year, through individual reports given to parents at conference time, and through report cards. (ESSA Section 1116(c)(4)(A) & (B))
12. If requested by parents, the school will provide opportunities for regular meetings to formulate suggestions and to participate, as appropriate, in decisions relating to the education of their children, and respond to any such suggestions as soon as practicably possible. (ESSA Section 1116(c)(4)(C))
13. If the schoolwide plan under Section 1114(b) is not satisfactory, parents of participating students may comment. Comments may be made in writing to the school principal. (ESSA Section 1116(c)(5))
14. A jointly developed school/parent compact outlines how parents and family members, the entire school staff, and students all share responsibility for improved student achievement. The compact also describes the means by which the school and parents will build and develop a partnership to help children achieve our local high standards. It is distributed in the parent handbook and is reviewed at the annual meetings. (ESSA Section 1116(d))
15. Parents will be notified of this policy in an understandable and uniform format and, to the extent practicable, provided in a language the parents can understand. The policy will be provided in English and Spanish and will be free of educational jargon. (ESSA Section 1116(b)(1))
16. In order to ensure effective involvement of parents and to support a partnership among the school involved, parents, and the community to improve student academic achievement, each school and local educational agency shall:
 - a. Provide assistance to parents in understanding challenging State academic standards, State and local academic assessments, the requirements of this part, and how to monitor a child's progress and work with educators to improve the achievement of their children; b. Provide materials and training to help parents to work with their children to improve their children's achievement, such as literacy training and using technology (including education about the harms of copyright piracy), as appropriate, to foster parental involvement;
 - i. Educate teachers, specialized instructional support personnel, principals, and other school leaders, and other staff, with the assistance of parents, in the value and utility of contributions of parents, and in how to reach out to, communicate with, and work with parents as equal partners, implement and coordinate parent programs, and build ties between parents and the school;
 - ii. Coordinate and integrate parent involvement programs and activities with other Federal, State, and local programs, including public preschool programs, and conduct other activities, such as parent resource centers, that encourage and support parents in more fully participating in the education of their children;

- iii. Ensure that information related to school and parent programs, meetings, and other activities is sent to the parents of participating children in a format and, to the extent practicable, in a language the parents can understand; and
 - iv. Provide such other reasonable support for parental involvement activities under this section as parents may request. (ESSA Section 1116(e)(1-14))
17. The school, to the extent practicable, will provide opportunities for the informed participation of parents and family members (including parents and family members who have limited English proficiency, parents and family members with disabilities, and parents and family members of migratory children) by providing information and school reports required under Section 1111 in a format and language the parties can understand. (ESSA Section 11116(f))

Student Records

Education Records Access

(Board Policy 506.1)

The board recognizes the importance of maintaining student records and preserving their confidentiality as provided by law. Student records containing personally identifiable information are kept confidential at collection, storage, disclosure and destruction stages. The board secretary is the custodian of student records. Student records may be maintained in the central administration office or administrative office of the student's attendance center. Parents and eligible students will have access to the student's records during the regular business hours of the school district. An eligible student is a student who has reached eighteen years of age or is attending an institution of postsecondary education at the post high school level.

Parents of an eligible student are provided access to the student records only with the written permission of the eligible student unless the eligible student is defined as a dependent by the Internal Revenue Code. In that case, the parents may be provided access without the written permission of the student. A representative of the parents or eligible student, who has received written permission from the parents or eligible student, may inspect and review a special education student's records. Parents, other than parents of an eligible student, may be denied access to a student's records if the school district has a court order stating such or when the district has been advised under the appropriate laws that the parents may not access the student records. Parents may inspect an instrument used for the purpose of collection of student personal information prior to the instrument's use.

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

Parents and eligible students will have a right to access the student's records upon request without unnecessary delay and in no instance more than forty-five calendar days after the request is made. Parents, an eligible student or an authorized representative of the parents will have the right to access the student's records prior to an Individualized Education Program (IEP) meeting or hearing.

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

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

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If the parents or an eligible student believes the information in the student records is inaccurate, misleading or violates the privacy or other rights of the student, the parents or an eligible student may request that the school district amend the student records. The school district will decide whether to amend the student records within a reasonable time after receipt of the request. If the school district determines an amendment is made to the student record, the school district will make the amendment and inform the parents or the eligible student of the decision in writing.

If the school district determines that amendment of the student's record is not appropriate, it will inform the parents or the eligible student of their right to a hearing before the hearing officer provided by the school district. If the parents' and the eligible student's request to amend the student record is further denied following the hearing, the parents or the eligible student are informed that they have a right to place an explanatory letter in the student record commenting on the school district's decision or setting forth the reasoning for disagreeing with the school district. Additions to the student's records will become a part of the student record and be maintained like other student records. If the school district discloses the student records, the explanation by the parents will also be disclosed.

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

- to school officials within the school district and AEA personnel whom the superintendent has determined to have a legitimate educational interest, including, but not limited to, board members, employees, school attorney, auditor, health professionals, and individuals serving on official school committees;
- to officials of another school district in which the student wishes to enroll, provided the other school district notifies the parents the student records are being sent and the parents have an opportunity to receive a copy of the records and challenge the contents of the records unless the annual notification includes a provision that records will automatically be transferred to new school districts;
- to the U.S. Comptroller General, the U.S. Attorney General, the U.S. Secretary of Education or state and local educational authorities;
- in connection with financial aid for which the student has applied or which the student has received if the information is necessary to receive the financial aid;
- to organizations conducting educational studies and the study does not release personally identifiable information;
- to accrediting organizations;
- to parents of a dependent student as defined in the Internal Revenue Code;
- to comply with a court order or judicially issued subpoena;
- consistent with an interagency agreement between the school district and juvenile justice agencies;
- in connection with a health or safety emergency; or,
- as directory information.
- In additional instances as provided by law.

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

The superintendent will also keep a list of individuals, agencies and organizations which have requested or

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

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

When personally identifiable information, other than permanent student records, no longer needs to be maintained by the school district to provide educational services to a special education student, the parents or eligible student are notified. This notice is normally given after a student graduates or otherwise leaves the school district. If the parents or eligible student request that the personally identifiable information be destroyed, the school district will destroy the records. Prior to the destruction of the records, the school district must inform the parents or eligible student the records may be needed by the parents or eligible student for social security benefits or other purposes. In the absence of parents' or an eligible student's request to destroy the records, the school district must maintain the records for at least five years after an individual is determined to be no longer eligible for special education.

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

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

The school district may share any information with the agencies contained in a student's permanent record, which is directly related to the juvenile justice system's ability to effectively serve the student. Prior to adjudication information contained in the permanent record may be disclosed by the school district to the parties without parental consent or court order. Information contained in a student's permanent record may be disclosed by the school district to the agencies after adjudication only with parental consent or a court order. Information shared pursuant to the agreement is used solely for determining the programs and services appropriate to the needs of the student or student's family or coordinating the delivery of programs and services to the student or student's family.

Information shared under the agreement is not admissible in any court proceedings, which take place prior to a disposition hearing, unless written consent is obtained from a student's parent, guardian, or legal or actual custodian.

Confidential information shared between the school district and the agencies will remain confidential and will not be shared with any other person, unless otherwise provided by law.

Information shared under the agreement is not admissible in any court proceedings, which take place prior to a disposition hearing, unless written consent is obtained from a student's parent, guardian, or legal or actual custodian. The school district may discontinue information sharing with an agency if the school district determines that the agency has violated the intent or letter of the agreement.

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Agencies will contact the principal of the attendance center where the student is currently or was enrolled. The principal will then forward copies of the records within 10 business days of the request.

The school district will provide training or instruction to employees about parents' and eligible students' rights under this policy. Employees will also be informed about the procedures for carrying out this policy. It is the responsibility of the superintendent to annually notify parents and eligible students of their right to inspect and review the student's records, seek amendment of the student's education records that the parent or eligible student believes to be inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the student's privacy rights, consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in the student's education records, except to the extent that the law authorizes disclosure without consent; and file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the district to comply with the law. The notice is given in a parents' or eligible student's native language. Should the school district collect personal information from students for the purposes of marketing or selling that information, the school district will annually notify parents of such activity.

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

Education Records Access Annual Notice

(Board Policy 506.1-E8)

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

1. The right to inspect and review the student's education records within 45 days of the day the district receives a request for access. Parents or eligible students should submit to the school principal (or appropriate school official) a written request that identifies the record(s) they wish to inspect. The principal will make arrangements for access and notify the parent or eligible student of the time and place where the records may be inspected.
2. The right to request the amendment of the student's education records that the parent or eligible student believes are inaccurate or misleading or in violation of the student's privacy rights. Parents or eligible students may ask the school district to amend a record that they believe is inaccurate or misleading. They should write the school principal, clearly identify the part of the record they want changed, and specify why it is inaccurate or misleading. If the district decides not to amend the record as requested by the parent or eligible student, the district will notify the parent or eligible student of the decision and advise them of their right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment. Additional information regarding the hearing procedures will be provided to the parent or eligible student when notified of the right to a hearing.
3. The right to consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in the student's education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent. One exception, which permits disclosure without consent is disclosure to school officials with legitimate educational interests. A school official is a person employed by the district as an administrator, supervisor, instructor, or support staff member (including health or medical staff and law enforcement unit personnel); a person serving on the school board; a person or company with whom the district has contracted to perform a special task (such as an attorney, auditor, AEA employees, medical consultant, or therapist); or a parent or student serving on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee or student assistance team, or assisting another school official in performing his or her tasks. A school official has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record

in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibility. Upon request, the district discloses education records without consent to officials of another school district in which a student seeks or intends to enroll or is already enrolled if the disclosure is for purposes of the student's enrollment or transfer.

4. The right to inform the school district that the parent does not want directory information, as defined below, to be released. Directory information can be released without prior parental consent. The school district will not market or sell directory information without prior consent of the parent. Any student over the age of eighteen or parent not wanting this information released to the public must make objection in writing by September 15 to the principal. The objection needs to be renewed annually. For elementary students, directory information consists of the following: the student's name, grade level, participation in officially recognized activities and sports, special recognition of awards received and a photograph or other likeness of the student. For middle school and high school students, directory information consists of the following: the student's name, grade level, date of birth, name of parent or guardian, participation in officially recognized activities or sports, weight and height of members of athletic teams, special recognition or awards received and a photograph or other likeness of the students.
5. The school district may share any information with the Parties contained in a student's permanent record, which is directly related to the juvenile justice system's ability to effectively serve the student. Prior to adjudication information contained in the permanent record may be disclosed by the school district to the Parties without parental consent or court order. Information contained in a student's permanent record may be disclosed by the school district to the Parties after adjudication only with parental consent or a court order. Information shared pursuant to the agreement is used solely for determining the programs and services appropriate to the needs of the student or student's family or coordinating the delivery of programs and services to the student or student's family. Information shared under the agreement is not admissible in any court proceedings, which take place prior to a disposition hearing, unless written consent is obtained from a student's parent, guardian, or legal or actual custodian. Information obtained from others shall not be used for the basis of disciplinary action of the student. This agreement only governs a school district's ability to share information and the purposes for which that information can be used.
6. The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the district to comply with the requirements of FERPA. The name and address of the office that administers FERPA is: Family Policy Compliance Office, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW, Washington, DC, 20202- 8520

Student Directory Information

(Board Policy 506.2)

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

For elementary students, directory information consists of the following: the student's name, grade level, participation in officially recognized activities and sports, special recognition of awards received and a photograph or other likeness of the student.

For middle school and high school students, directory information consists of the following: the student's name, grade level, date of birth, name of parent or guardian, participation in officially recognized activities or sports, weight and height of members of athletic teams, special recognition or awards received and a photograph or other likeness of the students.

Prior to developing a student directory or to giving general information to the public, parents will be given notice annually of the intent to develop a directory or to give out general information and have the opportunity to deny

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the inclusion of their child's information in the directory or in the general information about the students. It is the responsibility of the superintendent to provide notice and to determine the method of notice that will inform parents.

You have the right to refuse the designation of any or all of the categories of personally identifiable information as directory information with respect to your student provided that you notify the school district in writing by September 15. You may file board policy form 506.2-E1- Authorization for Releasing Student Directory Information if you desire to make such a refusal.

Use of Directory Information

(Board Policy 506.2-R1)

Two federal laws (Section 9528 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (20 U.S.C. § 7908) and 10 U.S.C. § 503(c)) require local educational agencies (LEAs) receiving assistance under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA) to provide military recruiters, upon request, with the following information – names, addresses and telephone listings – unless parents have advised the LEA that they do not want their student's information disclosed without their prior written consent

Because the Marshalltown School District has not identified students' address and phone number as "directory information," we are required to give separate and specific notice regarding the release of this information to military recruiters and to provide you with the opportunity to request that this information not be provided to military recruiters.

If you do not want the MCSD to disclose directory information from your child's education records without your prior written consent, you must notify the District in writing by September 15. The MCSD has designated the following information as directory information:

- Student's name
- Photograph
- Date and place of birth
- Grade level
- Participation in officially recognized activities and sports
- Weight and height of members of athletic teams (middle school and high school only)
- Degrees, honors, and awards received

Instructional Curriculum

Health Education

(Board Policy 603.5)

Students in grade levels kindergarten through twelve will receive, as part of their health education, instruction about personal health; food and nutrition; environmental health; safety and survival skills; consumer health; family life; human growth and development; substance abuse and non-use, including the effects of alcohol, tobacco, drugs and poisons on the human body; human sexuality; self-esteem; stress management; interpersonal relationships; emotional and social health; health resources; prevention and control of disease; and communicable diseases, including acquired immune deficiency syndrome. The purpose of the health education program is to help each student protect, improve and maintain physical, emotional and social well-being. The areas stated above are included in health education and the instruction are adapted at each grade level to aid understanding by the students. Parents who object to health education instruction in human growth and development may file a written request that the student be excused from the instruction. The

written request will include a proposed alternate activity or study acceptable to the superintendent. The superintendent will have the final authority to determine the alternate activity or study.

Academic Freedom and Teaching Controversial Issues

(Board Policy 603.9 and 603.9-R)

The MCSD's Board believes students should have an opportunity to reach their own decisions and beliefs about conflicting points of view. Academic freedom is the opportunity of licensed employees and students to study, investigate, present, interpret, and discuss facts and ideas relevant to the subject matter of the classroom and appropriate to and in good taste with the maturity and intellectual and emotional capacities of the students. It is the responsibility of the teacher to refrain from advocating partisan causes, sectarian religious views, or biased positions in the classroom or through teaching methods. Teachers are not discouraged from expressing personal opinions as long as students are aware it is personal opinion and students are allowed to reach their own conclusions independently. It is the responsibility of the principal to ensure academic freedom is allowed, but not abused in the classroom

A "controversial issue" is a topic of significant academic inquiry about which substantial groups of citizens of this community, this state, or this nation hold sincere, conflicting points of view. It is the belief of this MCSD that controversial issues should be fairly presented in a spirit of honest academic freedom so that students may recognize the validity of other points of view but can learn to formulate their own opinions based upon dispassionate, objective, unbiased study and discussion of the facts related to the controversy. It shall be the responsibility of the instructor to present full and fair the opportunity and means for students to study, consider, and discuss all sides of controversial issues, including, but not limited to, political philosophies. It shall be the responsibility of the instructor to protect the right of the student to study pertinent controversial issues within limits of good taste, and to allow the student to express personal opinions without jeopardizing the student's relationship with the teacher. It shall be the responsibility of the teacher to refrain from advocating partisan causes, sectarian religious views, or selfish propaganda of any kind through any classroom or school device; however, an instructor shall not be prohibited from expressing a personal opinion as long as students are encouraged to reach his own decision independently. The board encourages full discussion of controversial issues in a spirit of academic freedom that shows students that they have the right to disagree with the opinions of others, but that they also have the responsibility to base the disagreement upon facts and to respect the right of others to hold conflicting opinions.

ESSA Sec. 1112: Parents Right to Know

In compliance with the requirements of the Every Students Succeeds Act, Title 1 funded school parents may request the following information:

1. Whether the student's teacher --
 - a. has met State qualification and licensing criteria for the grade levels and subject areas in which the teacher provides instruction;
 - b. is teaching under emergency or other provisional status through which State qualification or licensing criteria have been waived; and
 - c. is teaching in the field of discipline of the certification of the teacher.
2. Whether the child is provided services by paraprofessionals and, if so, their qualifications.

School Lunch Program

Meal Charges

(Board Policy 710.4)

In accordance with state and federal law, the MCSD adopts the following policy to ensure school district employees, families, and students have a shared understanding of expectations regarding meal charges. The policy seeks to allow students to receive the nutrition they need to stay focused during the school day, prevent the overt identification of students with insufficient funds to pay for school meals, and maintain the financial integrity of the nonprofit school nutrition program.

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Payment of Meals

Students have use of an individual meal account. When the balance reaches \$0.00 a student may charge no more than THREE (3) meals or the cost of THREE (3) lunches to this account. When an account reaches this limit, a student shall not be allowed to charge further meals until the negative account balance is paid. Students will not be allowed to charge a la carte purchases to their account after the balance reaches \$0.00. Funds may be deposited into the student account online through the District's website or by bringing a check/cash to the student's school office, cafeteria or to the Food Service Office. Students who qualify for free meals shall never be denied a reimbursable meal, even if they have accrued a negative balance from previous purchases. Schools are encouraged to provide a reimbursable meal to students with outstanding meal charge debt. If an alternate meal is provided, the meal must be the same meal presented in the same manner to any student requesting an alternate meal. Students with outstanding meal charge debt shall be allowed to purchase a meal if the student pays for the meal when it is received. A student who has charged the maximum allowance to the student account and cannot pay out of pocket for a meal, will be provided with an alternate meal at no cost that meets the minimum federal and state requirements. If a student elects not to select the alternate meal, the student's account will be charged for the meal. Students with unpaid balances of \$50.00 or more at the end of each month will be turned to collections. Employees may use a charge account for meals, but may charge no more than one meal to this account. When an account reaches this limit, an employee shall not be allowed to charge further meals until the negative account balance is paid. A la Carte purchases will not be allowed if there are not sufficient funds in the account to cover the purchase.

Negative Account Balances The school district will make reasonable efforts to notify families when meal account balances are low. Additionally, the school district will make reasonable efforts to collect unpaid meal charges classified as delinquent debt. The school district will coordinate communications with parents or guardians to resolve the matter of unpaid charges. Parents or guardians will be notified prior to becoming negative. Notifications of low balances will be sent out when the account balance is below \$10.00. Parents or guardians will be notified of an outstanding negative balance once the negative balance reaches \$0.00. Negative balances not paid prior to end of the school year or upon transfer out of the district, will be turned over to the superintendent or superintendent's designee for collection. Options may include: collection agencies, small claims court, or any other legal method permitted by law.

Unpaid Student Meals Account The district will establish an unpaid student meals account in a school nutrition fund. Funds from private sources and funds from the district flexibility account may be deposited into the unpaid school meals account in accordance with law. Funds deposited into this account shall be used only to pay individual student meal debt.

Buildings and Grounds-Safety Program

Asbestos Notification

(Board Policy 804.4)

School board policy Asbestos-Containing Materials 804.4 states friable and non-friable asbestos-containing materials will be maintained in good condition and appropriate precautions will be followed when the material is disturbed for any reason. If there is a need to replace asbestos it will be replaced with non-asbestos-containing materials. The School District will implement the rules of AHERA and will provide the necessary funding to implement the response actions as required. The School District will notify, appoint and train as necessary the appropriate person as required in the rules.

For information regarding response action activities, removal projects, or general asbestos related information

for Marshalltown Community School facilities, contact the Director of Buildings and Grounds or review the Asbestos Management Plan located in the school building's main office during regular school hours. The director can be reached by contacting the school district Buildings and Grounds office at the Central Services Building – phone 641-754-1090.

Use of Recording Devices on School Property

(Board Policy 804.6 and 804.6--R1)

The Marshalltown Community School District Board of Education authorizes the use of video surveillance equipment at school sites throughout the District and on school transportation. Video surveillance will help protect and enhance the safety of students and staff; protect school property and assets from theft and vandalism; assist school officials in detecting and deterring unacceptable behavior; and assist in identifying intruders or other persons endangering the health, well-being or safety of school community members. The monitoring of actions and behavior of individuals who come onto school property is a significant factor in maintaining order and discipline and protecting students, staff, visitors, and school and student property. Video surveillance systems serve to complement other means being employed in the District to promote and foster a safe and secure teaching and learning environment for students and staff. The Board recognizes that the use of a video surveillance system does not replace the need for the ongoing vigilance of the school staff assigned by the building principal to monitor and supervise the school building. Rather, the video surveillance system serves as an appropriate and useful tool with which to augment or support the in-person supervision provided by staff.

This policy does not address or cover instances where school officials record a specific event (e.g., a play, music performance, athletic contest, graduation, or Board meeting), or an isolated instance where a classroom is videotaped for educational or research purposes.

Authorized videotaping for educational, instructional and/or research purposes is permitted and is not addressed by this policy.

The Superintendent is directed to develop administrative regulations to address the use of video surveillance/electronic monitoring equipment in school buildings, school buses and on property owned and/or operated by the Board.

Video surveillance is to be implemented in accordance with this policy and the related regulations, as well as Iowa's Open Record Law, the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act, and all other relevant state and federal laws. The Board will not accept or tolerate the improper use of video surveillance/electronic monitoring equipment and will take appropriate action in any cases of wrongful use of this policy.

Non-District Generated Recordings

The use of non-district owned recording devices on school property and at school events will be regulated. Students, parents and community members will not be permitted to take recordings of other students or employees during school hours unless the recording is authorized in advance by building administration. Students and employees found to violate this policy will be subject to disciplinary measures consistent with board policy and applicable student and employee handbooks. This policy will not be construed or enforced in a way that infringes on employee activity otherwise protected by law.

It is important to foster a community spirit and sense of unity within the district. However, the district acknowledges that not every student or staff member feels comfortable or safe being recorded. At district-sponsored extracurricular events and activities, the use of non-district owned recording devices by the public may be monitored by administration if a concern is made known to district administration by a student, employee or parent. Any individuals determined to be making recordings considered bothersome to students or staff may be asked to stop or destroy their recording and may be asked to leave the event.

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Notice

The Marshalltown Community School District Board of Directors has authorized the use of recording devices on school district property. The recording devices will be used to enhance safety and security within the educational environment. Students, employees, and parents are hereby notified that the content of the recording may be used in a student or employee disciplinary proceeding. The content of the recording may be confidential student records and will be retained with other student records. Recordings will only be retained if necessary for use in a student or employee disciplinary proceeding or other matter as determined necessary by the administration. Parents may request to view the recording of their child if the recordings are used in a disciplinary proceeding involving their child.

A complete list of updated policies approved by the school board is available at <https://www.marshalltown.k12.ia.us/schoolboardpolicies/>