

East Webster High School



“Be The Best”

Student Handbook

2026-2027

Webster County School District Student/Parent Handbook 2026-2027

This handbook is property of _____

Purpose of the Handbook

This handbook is provided to keep students, parents, teachers, and school administrators informed concerning the rules, regulations, policies, and organization of the district. The handbook deals with most of the activities and programs offered. However, a handbook of this nature cannot be all-inclusive and students/parents are encouraged to contact school officials when questions arise. The personnel of the district hold to the philosophy that all students can be successful when there is a joint, cooperative effort between the school and home. Parents are encouraged to work toward that goal to better insure the success of the student as he/she progresses through the public education system.

This handbook represents the rules, regulations, and policies of the district. The Board of Education serves as the policy-making body. It is the duty of all teachers and administrators to apply policy. However, it must be remembered that while policy is not inflexible, there is a proper procedure to policy modification and arbitrary disregard for policy is not acceptable. In many cases, the rules and regulations set forth herein have been abbreviated due to space limitations. Full policy statements are contained in the district's policy manual located at each school and the district office. The Board's adoption of this handbook makes the rules and regulations included herein policy. The Board of Education reserves the right to amend, or delete any and all policies as local conditions and practices may dictate.

WEBSTER COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Mrs. Gabby Davis, President of the Board of Education

James Mason, Superintendent of Education

SCHOOL CALENDAR

The school calendar has been devised to provide 180 days of classroom instruction for students plus 7 workdays for teachers. Should inclement weather conditions or other unavoidable acts of nature necessitate the closing of the school district from the minimum school term of 180 days, the required make-up days will be scheduled from Holidays or the last week of May.

All personnel are requested to adhere to the approved calendar for the 2026-2027 school year in order to eliminate as much interference as possible with the instructional program.

Determined efforts should be made by all administrative personnel to permit no encroachment on teaching and learning time by non-instructional activities and to permit no scheduling of major extracurricular activities during major school district testing periods.

Staff Days (floating) 2 Days.....July 13-27, 2026

In-service for ALL Certified PersonnelJuly 28, 29, 30, 2026
and Assistant Teachers 8:00 a.m. – 3:00
P.M.

Registration of Students and Beginning of Instruction.....July 31, 2026

School Food Services BeginJuly 31, 2026

Progress Reports Issued.....September 4, 2026

Holiday.....September 7, 2026

1st Nine-Weeks Tests.....September 28-October 2, 2026

Report Cards IssuedOctober 9, 2026

Holiday/Fall Break.....October 12-16, 2026

Progress Reports IssuedNovember 13, 2026

HolidaysNovember 23-27, 2026

First Semester High School Examinations.....December 15-18, 2026

Period 1,2December 15, 2026

Period 3,4December 16, 2026

Period 5,6December 17, 2026

Period 7..... 12:00 noon dismissalDecember 18, 2026

First Semester BreakDecember 21, 2026- January 1, 2027

Professional Development..... January 4, 2027

Classes Resume After Semester Break.....	January 5, 2027
Report Cards Issued	January 8, 2027
Holiday.....	January 18, 2027
Progress Reports Issued	February 8, 2027
Professional Development.....	February 15, 2027
3rd Nine-Weeks Test.....	March 1-5, 2027
Spring Holidays	March 8-12, 2027
Report Cards Issued	March 19, 2027
Holiday.....	March 26, 2027
Holiday.....	March 29, 2027
Progress Reports Issued.....	April 16, 2027
Senior Graduation	
Eupora High School.....	Friday, May 14, 2027.....7:00 p.m.
East Webster High School.....	Sunday, May 16, 2027.....2:00 p.m.
Second Semester High School Examinations.....	May 18-21, 2027
Period 1,2	May 18, 2027
Period 3,4	May 19, 2027
Period 5,6	May 20, 2027
Period 7	May 21, 2027
Last Day of School for Students.....	12:00 noon dismissal.....May 21, 2027
Teachers Last Day.....	May 21, 2027
Student Appraisal Reports mailed	May 21, 2027

Important Notices:

School Violence/Threats Of Violence

Violence or threats of violence or any other activity that disrupts the educational process and/or threatens the health or general safety of other students or staff **will not be tolerated**. The administration and school staff will take threats of violence seriously and violators will be dealt with swiftly and accordingly. Violent acts or threats of violent acts will not be viewed as pranks or "playing around" activities by students or others.

Further, students and staff have a duty to report any knowledge they may have regarding the threat of a violent act to school authorities. This includes, but is not limited to, reporting knowledge of verbal or written comments by an individual or group of individuals stating their intent to commit a violent act or knowledge that an individual is in possession of an item that is considered or could be considered a weapon.

Section 37-11-18, Mississippi Code of 1972, as Amended

"Any student in any school who possesses any controlled substance in violation of the Uniform Controlled Substances Law, a knife, handgun, other firearm or any other instrument considered to be dangerous and capable of causing bodily harm or who commits a violent act on educational property as defined in Section 97-37-17, Mississippi Code of 1972, shall be subject to automatic expulsion for a calendar year by the superintendent or principal of the school in which the student is enrolled; provided, however, that the superintendent of the school shall be authorized to modify the period of time for such expulsion on a case by case basis. Such expulsion shall take effect immediately subject to the student's right to appeal to the local school board."

Prohibition Of The Use Of Tobacco On School Property

(As Adopted by the MS Legislature General Session 2000)

The Mississippi Legislature acted during the 2000 Legislative Session to adopt and codify the following state law as recited under Sections 97-32-25, 97-32-27, and 97-32-29. In summary, these laws prohibit the use of tobacco by any person on certain educational property and to prescribe fines for violations thereof, and for related purposes. Educational property under this law means any public school building or bus, public school campus, grounds, recreational area, athletic field, or other property owned, used, or operated by any local school board, school, or directors of any public educational institution or during a school-related activity.

Pledge Of Allegiance To The United States Flag

Sec 37-13-6 MS code of 1972 states: "From and after July 1, 2002, the school boards of all public schools of this state shall require teachers to have all pupils repeat the oath of allegiance to the U S flag at the beginning of the first hour of class each day school is in session.

"I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation, under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

Mr. James Mason, Superintendent of Education
95 Clark Ave.
Eupora, MS 39744
258-5921

Mr. Conner Hood

Mr. Daniel Bingham

Mrs. Gabby Davis

Mr. Josh Palmer

Mrs. Bailey King

District –Wide Administrators/Coordinators

Dixie Pogue, Federal Programs Director – (662) 258-5921 Ext. 10
95 Clark Avenue
Eupora, MS 39744

Dixie Pogue, Special Education Coordinator – (662) 258-5921 Ext. 12
95 Clark Avenue
Eupora, MS 39744

For Special Education and Gifted Programs contact Dixie Pogue at the above number and extension, or dpogue@webstercountyschools.org . For questions concerning the 504 plan contact the building administrator.

Chris Shea, Technology Coordinator – (662) 258-5921 Ext. 11
95 Clark Avenue
Eupora, MS 39744

School Directory

East Webster High School

195 Old Cumberland Rd.
Maben, MS 39750

Corey Stidham, Principal

Matt Snow, Asst. Principal

Alex-Anne Silver, Counselor

Jason Smith and Clayton Dodd Co-AD

662-263-5321

662-263-5321

662- 263-5321

662-263-5321

Webster County Career and Technology Center

Randee Jernigan, Director

Kelly Powell, Counselor

662- 258-8206

662-258-8206

The School Day for District Schools

School

East Webster Elementary

East Webster High School

Webster County Career and Technology Center

Classes Begin

7:30 a.m.

7:40 a.m.

1st Block

2nd Block

3rd Block

Classes End

2:35 p.m.

2:46 p.m.

7:45-9:55

10:00-11:40

12:15-2:00

Students who are attending the Webster County Career and Technology Center will need to bring this School Handbook with them when they attend vocational classes for the first day. Webster County Career and Technology students will be held accountable for the rules, regulations and information in this handbook just as any student who attends a Webster County School.

Academic Progress

A.....90-100
B.....80-89
C.....70-79
D.....65-69

F.....64 and below

Grading Formula

Teachers shall use the following formula when calculating student grade average:

50% Test

25% Classwork, Homework, Projects, etc.

9 weeks test will be 25% of final average

Semester exams will count 25% of the semester average

Grading System- Weighted Courses

For students entering 9th grade, the following will apply:

Any Advanced Placement or Dual Credit Course will be weight at 1.10 times the student's grade for figuring a student's GPA and QPA

Report Cards

Students will receive a report card four times per year. For the first three quarters, it is the student's responsibility to take it home and give it to his/her parents. These must be signed and returned the next day. At the end of the year, report cards are mailed home. Note: Student report cards will be held if any fines, dues, or overdue books are unpaid or not returned.

Progress Reports

Between report cards, you will receive a progress report describing outstanding work or a need to improve.

Parent Conferences

All parents are invited to schedule a conference to discuss your child's progress. This is a very important way to communicate student's strengths and areas for improvement. Conferences may be scheduled at any time during the school year but only before or after school or during that teacher's conference period.

Testing/Assessment (Policy II)

During the school year, you will be given various tests, which will give us important information about your abilities, achievement, and interests. Tests show the individual progress you have made AND the ways that we can improve our instructional program.

Promotion Requirements (Policy IHE)

Grades 6-8: Students may fail only one subject and be promoted to the next grade.

Grades 9-12: Students will be classified in grades 9-12 according to the number of units earned and the level of English completed as follows:

Freshman:	0-5 credits with no English
Sophomore:	5-10 credits with English I
Junior	10.5-16 credits with English II
Senior:	16.5-up credits with English III

Graduation Requirements (Policy IHF):

Students must satisfy state and district graduation requirements by the graduation date in order to participate in the graduation ceremony. These requirements include:

*Pass the Subject Area Tests in Algebra I, English II, Biology, and U.S. History.

*If a student does not pass subject area test they will not be eligible for a diploma from EWH, and will not be able to walk during graduation.

Advanced Placement Courses

AP Biology

AP Calculus

AP English Literature & Composition

AP U.S. History

AP Language & Composition III

To qualify for Valedictorian or Salutatorian a student must take two (2) AP courses or 2 dual credit courses. All students taking one or more AP classes will take the AP test for all classes they are enrolled in (a fee per test must be paid by the student). Students are awarded an extra quality point on GPA for completing an AP class.

Merit Ceremony

Scholarships presented at the Merit Banquet must be through organizations. A committee will determine the scholarships that will be given at the banquet.

Financial Obligations

Students may incur financial obligations such as lost or damaged textbooks, workbooks, lab fees, and activity fees. It is their responsibility to pay all financial obligations by the end of each semester. Students who owe money at the end of a semester will not receive their report cards until they meet their obligations. Students unable to pay because of financial hardship should talk to the secretary to set up a plan to help them meet their obligations. Report cards, diplomas, and/or transcripts will be held until all financial obligations are met.

Guidance Services

Guidance services are available for every student in the school. These services include assistance with educational planning, interpretation of test scores, occupational and career information, and help with home, school, and personal problems. Students wishing to see a counselor should schedule an appointment in the guidance office before school, after school, break, or during lunch.

Schedule Changes

In order to make a schedule change, a student must first request a change in writing. Since prior planning was done to develop the schedule, changes in schedules will not always be granted. Schedules will not be changed after the first five days. Schedule changes will be made for the following reasons only:

1. Repeating a class that has already been passed (unless repeating to raise the grade).
2. Another course is needed for graduation.
3. Students have been placed into an inappropriate level class or do not meet the prerequisite.

Note: Students must be enrolled in six classes each semester.

Note: Students should seriously consider the courses they select. Consult with counselors and teachers; talk with your parents. Changes after course selection cards are turned in will be made only for extenuating circumstances.

Bell Schedule

Opening bell
1st Period

7:40
7:45-8:38

2nd Period	8:41-9:31
Break	9:31-9:41
3rd Period	9:45-10:35
4th Period	10:38-11:28
5th Period	11:31-12:59
6th Period	1:02-1:52
7th Period	1:56-2:46
JH Dismissal	2:46
HS Dismissal	2:48
Carpool/Student Drivers	2:50

Graduation Requirements (Policy IHF):

Students must satisfy state and district graduation requirements by the graduation date in order to participate in the graduation ceremony. These requirements include:

*Passing the Subject Area Tests (SATP) in Algebra I, English II, Biology, and U.S. History

Mississippi has two diploma options: The Traditional Diploma and the Alternate Diploma. The Traditional Diploma is for all students. The Alternate Diploma is an option for students with a Significant Cognitive Disability (SCD).

TRADITIONAL DIPLOMA OPTION

Curriculum Area	Units	Required Subjects
English	4	• English I * English II
Mathematics	4	• Algebra I
Science	3	• Biology
Social Studies	3 ½	• 1 World History • 1 US History * ½ U.S. Government * ½ Economics * ½ Mississippi Studies
Physical Education	½	
Health	½	
Arts	1	
Career Readiness	1	
Technology or Computer Science	1	
Additional Electives	5 ½	
Total Units Required	24	

Requirements

- Student should identify an endorsement area prior to entering 9th grade. Endorsement requirements can only be changed with parental permission.
- For early release, students must have met College or Career Readiness Benchmarks (ACT subscores 17 English and 19 Math or earned a Silver level on ACT WorkKeys or SAT equivalency subscores). Alternately, a student must meet ALL of the following
 - Have a 2.5 GPA
 - Passed or met all MAAP assessments requirements for graduation
 - On track to meet diploma requirements
 - Concurrently enrolled in Essentials for College Math or Essentials for College Literacy

ALTERNATE DIPLOMA OPTION

Curriculum Area	Units	Required Subjects
English	4	• Alternate English Elements I-IV
Mathematics	4	• Alternate Math Elements I-III • Alternate Algebra Elements
Science	2	• Alternate Biology Elements • Alternate Science Elements II
Social Studies	2	• Alternate History Elements(Strands: U.S. History and World History) • Alternate Social Studies Elements (Strands: Economics and U.S. Government)
Physical Education	½	
Health	½	• Alternate Health Elements
Arts	1	
Career Readiness	4	• Career Readiness I-IV (Strands: Technology, Systems, Employability, and Social)
Life Skills Development	4	• Life Skills Development I-IV(Strands: Technology, Systems, Personal Care, and Social)
Additional Electives	2	
Total Units Required	24	

Requirements

- The Alternate Diploma is not equivalent to a traditional high school diploma and is not recognized by postsecondary entities that require a traditional high school diploma.
- All students are required to participate in the Mississippi Assessment Program-Alternate Assessment (MAAP-A) with a score TBD.
- Students who have met the criteria on their IEP for having a Significant Cognitive Disability (SCD) may participate in a program of study to earn the Alternate Diploma.

Traditional Diploma Endorsement Options

Students pursuing a Traditional Diploma should identify an endorsement prior to entering 9th grade. There are three endorsement options: Career and Technical, Academic, and Distinguished Academic Endorsement.

CAREER AND TECHNICAL ENDORSEMENT

Curriculum Area	Units	Required Subjects
English	4	• English I • English II
Mathematics	4	• Algebra I
Science	3	• Biology I
Social Studies	3½	• 1 World History • 1 U.S. History • ½ U.S. Government • ½ Economics • ½ Mississippi Studies
Physical Education	½	
Health	½	
Arts	1	
College and Career Readiness	1	• Must occur in the student's junior or senior year, or in the student completion of a 4-year sequence.
Technology or Computer Science	1	
CTE Electives	4	• Must complete a four-course sequential program of study
Additional Electives	3 ½	
Total Units Required	26	

Additional Requirements

- Earn an overall GPA of 2.5.
- Earn Silver level on ACT WorkKeys.
- Earn two additional Carnegie Units for a total of 26.
- Must successfully complete one of the following:
 - One CTE dual credit or earn articulated credit in the high school CTE course
 - Work-Based Learning experience or Career Pathway Experience
 - Earn a State Board of Education approved national credential

ACADEMIC ENDORSEMENT

Curriculum Area	Units	Required Subjects
English	4	• English I • English II
Mathematics	4	• Algebra I + two (2) additional math courses above Algebra I
Science	3	• Biology I + two (2) additional science courses above Biology I
Social Studies	3½	• 1 World History • ½ Economics • 1 U.S. History • ½ Mississippi Studies • ½ U.S. Government
Physical Education	½	
Health	½	
Arts	1	
College and Career Readiness	1	• Must occur in the student's junior or senior year, or in the student completion of a 4-year sequence.
Technology or Computer Science	1	
Additional Electives	7 ½	• Must meet 2 advanced electives of the CPC requirements for MS IHLs
Total Units Required	26	

MERIT POINTS STUDENT ACTIVITY FORM

An award is given at the end of each year to the students who have earned 30 or more merits. The points may be accumulated over a period of 4 years. To be recognized as a merit graduate, a student must have 120 merits. Merits are based on 1st semester averages. The student must have been enrolled at East Webster High School 1st semester in order to receive merit points. The purpose of the award is to recognize students who have participated in extracurricular activities and have brought credit to themselves and to the school. **Merit slips must be signed by the faculty member who sponsored the activities or by a classroom teacher who was responsible for a student's grades. Merit forms must be turned in by the date set by the Merit Committee each year. No Exceptions!**

Academics

- 5 – Valedictorian
- 4 – Salutatorian
- 3 – Star Student
- 3 – Special Honor Grad
- 2 – Honor Grad
- 4 – “A” Average
- 2 – “B” Average

State Test

- Bio/US History*
- 4 – Advanced
- 2 – Proficient

Eng II/ Alg I

- 4 – PL 5
- 2 – PL 4

ACT

- 3 – 26 and up
- 2 – 22-25
- 1 – 20-21

Athletics (Grades 9-12)

- Max 5 Per Sport
- 5 – State Champion
- 4 – North Half Champion
- 3 – District Champion
- 2 – Player/Member

Chorus (Max 15 pts)

- 3 – Superior at competition

Public Relations

- 3 – Mr./Miss EWHS
- 2 – Homecoming Queen
- 1 – Homecoming Maid
- 1 – Beauty Review
- 1 – Who's Who/Class Elections

School Sponsored Contests

- (Quiz Bowl, Science Fair, Talent Show)
- 4 – First place
- 3 – Second Place
- 2 – Third Place
- 1 – Participant

Student Council

- 5 – President
- 4 – Vice President
- 3 – Secretary
- 3 – Reporter
- 1 – Grade Representative

Class Officers

- 3 – President
- 2 – Vice President
- 1 – Secretary/Reporter/Treasurer

Blood Donor

- 3 – Donor 3 times
- 2 – Donor 2 times
- 1 – Donor 1 time

Clubs (State Affiliated)

- 2 – Office
- 1 – Member

Theater (Plays)

- 5 – Lead Character
- 3 – Supporting Character
- 2 – Asst. Director
- 2 – Backstage (Tech, Costumes, Makeup)

Band

- 5 – Lion's Band
- 5 – MHSAA State Champion
- 5 – Superior Rating MHSAA Competition
- 3 – Superior Rating MHSAA Color Guard, Percussion, or Drum Major
- 2 – Indoor Percussion member
- 2 – Solo and Ensemble
- 2 – Any honor band approved by director
- 2 – band member
- 2 – Trying out for Lion's Band
- 2 – Captain (drumline, color guard)
- 2 – Drum Major
- 2 – Winterguard Member

- If any teacher's name is forged, all merit points for this year will be voided.
- Only the club sponsor can sign for the merit points earned in that club.
- One coach can't sign for all sports
- ISS – 3 demerits for each day
- OSS – will disqualify a student from being a Merit Student for the year.

Commencement Exercises (Policy IHF)

In order to participate in commencement exercises, a student who is eligible for graduation must be present for practice as scheduled, and follow the directions given by the administration, or he/she will not walk in the ceremony.

Walking in graduation ceremonies is a privilege not a right. The principal can decide this. Graduation is a prestigious occasion and commands the utmost respect from the graduates as well as those attending.

Graduation With Honors (Policy JN)

Graduating seniors who have maintained an 85-92.99 academic average and credible citizenship records through the high school grades (9-12) will be honor graduates. Those graduating seniors who have maintained a 93-100 academic average will be special honor graduates. No student will be considered an honor graduate if he/she fails any subjects 9-12.

Special Awards:

Valedictorian:	Student completing the IHL core curriculum and maintaining the highest four-year average in scholarship and attending that school in the eleventh and twelfth grade. Neither correspondence nor summer school courses will be calculated into this average. To qualify for Valedictorian a student must take 2 advanced placement classes or 2 dual credit courses.
Salutarian:	Student completing the IHL core curriculum and maintaining the second highest four-year average in scholarship and attending that school in the eleventh and twelfth grade. Neither correspondence nor summer school courses will be calculated into this average. To qualify for Salutarian a student must take 2 advanced placement classes or 2 dual credit courses.
Other Awards:	Students will be selected as set forth by the Awards committee.

Awards presented by local organizations are also offered at some schools. Copies for criteria for selection are available at each school in the principal's office.

Graduation with Honors, Valedictorian, Salutarian, and Class Rank will be calculated at the end of the senior year

***Graduating juniors are not eligible for Valedictorian, Salutarian, Historian, or Reporter.**

Seniors/ Work Permits

Seniors who are employed and provide the proper documentation may check out at 2:00 pm. Any Senior who has not passed a State Test required to graduate is denied the privilege to check out at 2:00 pm.

HELP US, PLEASE!

If you move or obtain a new phone number (or your parents have a new work or message phone number), please let the office know immediately. We really need this information, especially in case of an emergency.

Residency Requirements

East Webster High School is required by the Mississippi State Department of Education that all students attending EWHS have current and correct proof of residency. Students must reside in the residence with a legal guardian. The parent(s) or legal guardian(s) must provide this school with at least two (2) of the items numbered 1 through 6 below as verification of their address. Additional items of verification may be required by the school district. Documents with a post office box as an address will not be accepted.

1. Mortgage documents or property deed and filed Homestead Exemption Application for that property.
2. Apartment or home lease
3. Utility bills (Electric, water, gas, trash)
4. Driver's license
5. Voter precinct identification
6. Automobile registration
 - A personal visit by a designated school district official may be necessary

Guidelines and Behavior Expectations

Respect Yourself

Respect Others

Respect Property

How do you respect yourself?

1. Be prepared for school! Bring all necessary books, supplies, and materials for class. Come to school healthy and rested. Do your best to complete schoolwork, including homework.
2. Follow all school and classroom rules, including the DRESS CODE!
3. Attend school every day! Be on time to class.
4. Treat others the way that you wish to be treated: THE GOLDEN RULE!

How do you show respect for others and property?

1. Respect the rights, feelings, and property of others, including your peers!
2. Show respect for the authority of all adults!
3. Follow our expectations for behavior in the classroom, around the school, and in your community.
4. Use appropriate, courteous language at all times. (No swearing, harassing, or obscene language or gestures!)
5. Stay on our campus all day. Eupora High School and East Webster High School are CLOSED CAMPUSES.

Positive Behavior Instructional Support System

In order to fulfill the WCSD mission of providing a quality education that prepares students for a successful future, a positive behavior system must be in place. Students are encouraged to:

Be Safe:

- Walk quietly in the building.
- Keep hands, feet and objects to yourself.
- Walk to and from the classroom and the restrooms.

Be Respectful:

- Please be quiet when adults or teachers are talking.
- Please obey the adults or teachers on duty.
- Please share and take turns with others.
- Please respect all school property and property of others.

Be Responsible:

- Listen and follow the directions given.
- Do your best to complete all schoolwork on time.
- Do not fight. Tell an adult.
- Keep the classroom and the restroom clean.
- Stand in lines orderly and quietly.

Positive Rewards for all Rules:

- Students will receive small rewards for good behavior.
- Students that display good behavior with no warnings will be given a reward at the end of each nine weeks

School –wide Rules: At all times,

- Listen, follow directions, and do your best to complete all schoolwork.
- Be quiet when a teacher is talking.
- Walk quietly in the halls.
- Keep hands, feet, and objects to yourself.
- Respect all school property and the property of others.
- Be on time.
- Be prepared and ready to work.
- Be aware of emergency procedures.

Break Area Rules: when on the playground/ break area,

- Walk to break.
- Obey teachers on duty.
- Share and take turns.
- Line up quietly and quickly.
- Listen and follow the teacher's directions.

Cafeteria Rules:

- Talk with an inside voice.
- Clean your area before leaving.
- Line up quietly.
- Stand in line in an orderly manner.
- Be courteous to cafeteria workers.

Restroom Rules:

- Refrain from loud talking.
- Keep feet on the floor.
- Flush the toilet and wash hands.
- Display courtesy to others.

- Keep the restroom clean.
- Keep walls free of graffiti.

Guidelines for Implementation:

- By the first day of school, teachers will have rules posted in the classroom and hallways.
- The first week of school, teachers will also teach a lesson on school-wide rules and administer a test.
- The second week of school teachers will teach a lesson on campus, cafeteria, and bathroom rules and administer a test.
- Each nine weeks teachers will review all rules.

Student Conduct and Discipline

Administrators and teachers shall hold students accountable for unaccepted behavior during the regular school day, on the bus, and at school related activities. Disciplinary action may consist of corporal punishment, in-school or out-of-school suspension, expulsion, or placement in Alternative Education.

Safety Program

- Any activity taking place in the school building or on the school grounds shall be adequately supervised.
- The private vehicles of students shall remain parked and locked while at school and until the end of the student's school day. The private vehicle of a student shall not be used by the student or by another student to run errands, transport students to school sponsored activities, field trips or for any other purpose other than the personal transportation of the student to and from school and for doctors' appointments and bona fide emergencies approved in advance by parent/guardian and principal. The parent reassumes control over the student at the time the student leaves the school premises.
- Students who are to be players, participants, or performers in school-sponsored activities shall be transported to all such activities in school district owned or leased vehicles.
- Students, as members of clubs, teams, groups, etc., who are to be players, participants, or performers are expected and shall travel to and from school-sponsored activities as a group.
- All practices and rehearsals for any school-sponsored activity shall take place in school or on the school grounds under the supervision of school personnel. There shall be no practices or rehearsals for school-sponsored activities in private homes or public businesses.
- Classroom teachers, club sponsors and sponsors/directors of extracurricular activities, including sports shall never leave those in their charge unsupervised and unattended whether at school, away from school, during school hours or after school hours. This includes field trips, club trips and sports events.
- No student shall be abandoned by a sponsor/director/chaperon at the completion of a school-sponsored activity to wait for a ride or to walk home.

Supervision at Events

Students who are under the supervision of school personnel at home and away events, regardless of whether they travel to the event with school personnel or not, **must** remain on the East Webster side of the event. Students may be held accountable for things that happen while attending other contests not involving Webster County Schools.

ATTENDANCE PROCEDURES (JBD)

Attendance in school and participation in class are an integral part of academic achievement and the teaching/learning process. Regular attendance develops patterns of behavior essential to professional and personal success in life. Regular attendance by every student is mandatory. The State of Mississippi requires that every child in the State abide by the Compulsory School Attendance law. Parents or legal guardians have the responsibility for ensuring that students attend and remain at school daily.

ATTENDANCE RECORDS

School officials will keep an accurate record of attendance, including accurate attendance records in each class. The classroom teacher, principal, and MSIS data operator will maintain records. Attendance records will be used to enforce the Compulsory Attendance Law of Mississippi.

66% RULE

To comply with the state attendance law, the Webster County School District will calculate an attendance percentage by dividing each student's actual minutes attended by his potential instructional minutes per day. If the percentage attended is at least 66% of the **potential school day**, the student will be counted present for the day.

New MDE Attendance Guidelines

School Attendance Law Breakdown

New Version	Previous Version
Must attend 66% of student's instructional day	Must attend 63% of school day
Certificate of Enrollment deadline of August 15	Certificate of Enrollment deadline of September 15
Any day after the 3 rd day must have medical excuse	Not addressed
Only 5 excused absences per semester unless extenuating circumstances or approved by the superintendent or designee	No cap
Court petition may be filed at 8 unexcused absences	Court petition may be filed at 12 absences
Cannot file petitions in court unless school has implemented interventions for attendance	No interventions required
Absence Reporting Requirement is within close of next business day of unlawful absence	Report within 2 days or 5 days, whichever is shorter

Chronic Absenteeism Accountability/Interventions

New Version	Previous Version
Accountability Reports and Improvement Plans	None
Required Intervention at 3 days – Tiered Intervention begins	
Strategies for family engagement, partnering with community organization, training of staff on culturally responsive family engagement practices	

District Policies at 10% Chronic Absenteeism

New Version	Previous Version
Exceeds 10% of any subgroup or grade level, must adopt written reduction plan, and published	None
MDE shall provide technical assistance to district in the development and implementation of reduction strategies	

Districts shall have board action to adopt and implement policies to standards for excuses, establish family engagement protocols for at risk students. Policies must be posted on district websites and reviewed at least every three years and reported annually to the school board using disaggregated attendance data. **Schools may be sanctioned if found to be in noncompliance on the monitoring process.**

EXCUSED ABSENCES

Each of the following shall constitute a valid excuse for temporary nonattendance of a compulsory- school-age child enrolled in a public school, provided satisfactory evidence of the excuse is provided to the superintendent of the school district, or his designee. An absence is excused when the absence results from the compulsory-school-age child's attendance at an authorized school activity with the prior approval of the superintendent of the school district, or his designee. These activities may include field trips, athletic contests, student conventions, musical festivals and any similar activity.

1. An absence is excused when the absence results from illness or injury which prevents the compulsory-school-age child from being physically able to attend school.
2. An absence is excused when isolation of a compulsory-school-age child is ordered by the county health officer, by the State Board of Health or appropriate school official.
3. An absence is excused when it results from the death or serious illness of a member of the immediate family of a compulsory-school-age child. The immediate family members of a compulsory-school-age child shall include children, spouse, grandparents, parents, brothers and sisters, including stepbrothers and stepsisters.
4. An absence is excused when it results from a medical or dental appointment of a compulsory- school-age child.
5. An absence is excused when it results from the attendance of a compulsory-school-age child at the proceedings of a court or an administrative tribunal if the child is a party to the action or under subpoena as a witness.
6. An absence may be excused if the religion to which the compulsory-school-age child or the child's parents adheres, requires or suggests the observance of religious event. The approval of the absence is within the discretion of the superintendent of the school district, or his designee, but approval should be granted unless the religion's observance is of such duration as to interfere with the education of the child.
7. An absence may be excused when it is demonstrated to the satisfaction of the superintendent of the school district, or his designee, that the purpose of the absence is to take advantage of a valid educational opportunity such as travel, including vacations or other family travel. Approval of the absence must be gained from the superintendent of the school district, or his designee, before the absence, but the approval shall not be unreasonably withheld.
8. An absence may be excused when it is demonstrated to the satisfaction of the superintendent of the school district, or his designee, that the conditions are sufficient to warrant the compulsory- school-age child's nonattendance. However, no absences shall be excused by the school district superintendent, or his designee, when any student suspensions or expulsions circumvent the intent and spirit of the compulsory attendance law.

NOTE: After a student has exceeded two (2) excused absences based on a parent's note in a 9-week grading period, he/she must present a doctor's excuse or court document for each additional day missed no later than two school days from the day missed.

ABSENCES IN GRADES PreK-12

When a student misses school, a parent/guardian must provide a written document to designated school officials within 48 hours (2 school days) for an excused absence to be granted. The school will code absences in accordance with state guidelines. All other absences will be considered **unexcused**.

SCHOOL-RELATED ACTIVITIES

All planned classroom activities are important. It is the intention of the Webster County School District that class absences are kept to an absolute minimum through close monitoring by the principal. School-related activities must be approved in advance by the principal. The following school-related activities will not be counted as absences from either class or school:

1. Field trips sponsored by the school
2. School-initiated and scheduled activities
3. Athletic events requiring early dismissal from school
4. Acquiring driver's permits/driver's license with a parental note

LATE CHECK-IN AND EARLY CHECK-OUTS

It is in the best interest of the student and school's instructional program that all students are in class and ready to begin when the instructional day/period starts. Late check-ins should be avoided. Likewise, a student is expected to remain at school throughout the school day except in case of an emergency. To protect the integrity of the instructional program,

appointments should be scheduled after the end of the school day, whenever possible. Building level administrators on each campus will develop and implement standard procedures in managing excessive tardiness and early checkouts. **For late check-ins, the parent must sign the student in at the office.**

A parent's note excusing an absence should include the date(s) the student was absent, the reason for the absence, the parent/legal guardian's signature, and a phone number where the parent/legal guardian may be reached during the school day. A student with an excused absence will be allowed to make up missed work with full credit. If a student receives an unexcused absence, he/she will not be allowed to make up any work that was missed and will receive a zero (0) for work that was missed, and may face further disciplinary action as deemed appropriate by the building level principal.

College Days

Students who are classified as seniors will be permitted two excused college days during their senior year. These visits should be used during the months of September through April. Students wishing to make a college visit should submit **a request in writing one week prior to the scheduled visit**. In order for the absence to be excused, the student must present a signed college visitation form upon his return to school (Visitation forms are generally available on all college campuses). A college day absence will not count against exam exemption.

Make-up Work

It is the student's responsibility to make up work that is missed. A student, who needs to make up work after an absence, must contact each of his/her teachers immediately upon returning to school to make arrangements for making up the work. If a student has received an assignment before the absence, the assignment is due the day the student returns to class.

All work missed during an absence must be made up within the time allowed by the "one day plus" rule. For example, if a student missed school on Wednesday, then all make-up work will be due Friday, (1-day + 1 day missed).

On school-sponsored trips, students are encouraged to secure assignments ahead of time

A student who receives out-of-school suspension will not be allowed to make up any daily work missed. A grade of zero will be recorded for all assigned work missed during the suspension.

Requests for assignments in advance will be honored to the extent that the teacher and the principal deem them appropriate. Advanced assignments will not be provided on material that has not been taught in class.

Tardiness

A student is tardy if he/she is not in class when the tardy bell rings. A student who is tardy for 1st period will go to morning break detention. Students will not use parent notes for tardies. After 3 tardies/break DT, the student will serve one day In School Suspension. Tardies will reset at the end of the semester.

Tardiness to school caused by the following reasons shall be excused and not be recorded against a student:

1. School transportation or other school related actions.
2. Medical or dental appointments only if accompanied by a note from the physician, dentist or other medical staff on their office letterhead.
3. Illness of the student if accompanied by a valid statement or note from the parent, legal guardian or custodian.
4. Special circumstances such as natural disasters, weather, traffic accidents, or other causes acceptable to the building administrator.

In order to promote the concepts of timeliness and responsibility in students, the following policy shall be followed in regard to tardiness:

1. Students are expected to be in classes promptly. Students are not allowed to be out of class without the permission of the principal/assistant principal.
2. Students are allowed sufficient time to pass from one class to the next and should not be tardy except in cases of emergency. In the event the student needs more than the specified time, the student should report to their class first and obtain the permission of the teacher.
3. Tardiness will result in morning or afternoon detention.
4. Work missed due to an unexcused tardy may not be made up. A student is tardy to school if the student arrives any time after the tardy bell for the first period or after the student's first class begins.

Any student who is tardy to school MUST report to the appropriate administrative office BEFORE going to his/her assigned class.

5. Tardiness due to personal illness, illness in the family, death in the family, or other emergencies may be approved if a written note from the student's parent/guardian or the person responsible for bringing the student to school is presented at the time of arrival. This will count against your 10 parent notes allowed for the entire school year. Oversleeping, clock failure, missed rides, etc. will not be an excuse for tardiness. In all cases, the principal in charge of issuing the admittance slip may, in his/her absolute discretion, verify any such note.
6. Unexcused tardiness of more than five minutes will be considered as cutting.
7. Students in attendance for less than 30 minutes in a class period will be counted absent for that period.

School principals are authorized to determine appropriate management and disciplinary techniques to be used when students are tardy for school or classes.

Students must check into the office upon arriving and check out before leaving. The school will be secure from 7:45 to 2:55.

(As with tardies, even if an unexcused absence is an adult's fault, it will still count against the student).

Arrival at school (mornings)

Before school students must remain outside in designated areas, in the cafeteria for breakfast, or in a tutoring session. On bad weather days, an announcement will be made and students will be allowed to report to their first period class or the designated area (9-12 – gym, 6-8- P.E. building).. Teachers must be in room supervising students. Students should not enter rooms where there is no teacher present. Students shall not be permitted to arrive more than 30 minutes prior to the beginning of the school day and are expected to leave school promptly at the end of the school day unless staying in or participating in a school sponsored and supervised activity (Policy EBB).

Absence on the Day of an Activity

Any student participating in an activity is expected to be in school the entire day of the activity. This includes practice. Any exceptions to this rule will be made at the discretion of the principal. Students are also expected to be in attendance the day after school activities.

Exemptions

Students in grades 6-12 **may exempt second (Fall) semester exams** if they meet any of the following criteria:

1. Overall "A" course average and has no more than four (4) absences for the year.
2. Overall "B" course average and has no more than three (3) absences for the year.
3. Overall "C" course average and has no more than two (2) absences for the year

Students in grades 6-12 **may exempt second (Spring) semester exams** if they meet any of the following criteria:

2nd Semester Courses:

1. Overall "A" course average and has no more than four (4) absences for the semester.
2. Overall "B" course average and has no more than three (3) absences for the semester.
3. Overall "C" course average and has no more than two (2) absences for the semester.

Dual Credit courses do not follow the exemption policy

A student has the option to take an exam if he/she feels it will improve his/her grade.

All absences will be counted except those that are school related such as choir/band trips, athletic contests, senior college days, etc. It is the student's responsibility to gather and provide documentation of school related absences.

Suspensions will invalidate the privilege of exemption in all classes.

Hall Passes

Students are not permitted in the halls during class periods unless they are accompanied by a teacher or have a hall pass. It is important that students use the most direct routes to and from their destination. One student per hall pass is required at all times.

NOTE: Passes are given to students for emergency use of the restroom, to the office, or on an errand for the teacher. Students will not be permitted to leave class without a pass.

Restroom Use

Students may use the restroom before and after school, between classes, during break, or at lunchtime. Only in extreme situations should a student ask to leave a classroom to use the restroom. In such cases he/she must have a Hall Pass from a teacher. Please help keep the restrooms clean for the safety and welfare of everyone.

Seniors/ Work Permits

Seniors who are employed and provide the proper paperwork may check out at 2. Any Senior who has not passed a State Test required to graduate is denied the privilege to check out at 2.

Textbooks

Responsibility for textbooks rests with the student to whom the book was issued. The student to whom it was issued must pay for lost or damaged books. Theft will not be accepted as a reason for non-payment. Before graduating or withdrawing all outstanding bills or fines from previous years must be paid.

School's Right to Search (Policy JCDA)

- Students may be searched at school or at a school function pursuant to board policy.
- Lockers, desks, or storage places provided for student use are, and remain at all times, property of the school district. These areas and the contents therefore are subject to a random search at any time, pursuant to board policy.
- Students' vehicles at school or at a school function may also be searched pursuant to board policy.
- The school administration and staff have a right to search a student's personal belongings (including electronic devices) when in the interest of the welfare of other students or is necessary to preserve good order and discipline in the school.

DESCRIPTOR TERM:	DESCRIPTOR CODE:	ISSUED
Mandatory Drug Testing / Student Drug Testing Policy	JCDAC-WC-1	05-
	09-16	
	RESCINDS:	ISSUED:

MISSION STATEMENT:

Webster County School District recognizes that drug abuse is a significant health problem for students, detrimentally affecting overall health, behavior, learning ability, reflexes, and the total development of each individual. Our stakeholders are determined to help students by providing another incentive for them to say "No". It is critical that educators and parents continually seek ways to implement effective programs that provide the appropriate actions to address and foster a drug free environment in our schools. Drug abuse includes but is not limited to, the use of illegal drugs, alcohol, and the misuse of legal drugs and medications.

DEFINITIONS:

Drug: Any substance considered illegal by Mississippi Statutes or which is controlled by the Food & Drug Administration unless prescribed by a licensed physician and the misuse of legal drugs and medications.

Activity Programs: Any activity that meets the guidelines of the Mississippi High School Activities Association and /or sponsored by the Webster County School District. This includes all school sponsored academic, athletic/spirit and student groups.

School Year: From the first day of classes in the fall, unless the activity begins prior to the first day of classes, in which event, from the first day of practice through the last day of classes in the spring.

TESTING AGENCY:

The district will choose certified medical personnel for the purpose of randomly selecting students consistent with the criteria set forth by the district, processing sample results, and maintaining privacy with respect to test results and related matters.

PRESCRIPTION MEDICATION:

Students who are taking prescription medication may provide a copy of the prescription or a doctor's verification, which will be considered in determining whether a "positive" test has been satisfactorily explained. That documentation will be forwarded to the testing coordinator to consider the student's use of such medication to assure the accuracy of the result. Students who refuse to provide verification and test positive will be subject to the actions specified below for "positive test".

SCOPE OF TESTS:

The drug screening samples will be tested for illegal drugs and the misuse of prescription drugs. Student samples will not be screened for the presence of any substances other than an illegal drug or for the existence of any physical condition other than drug intoxication. As a quality control measure, the school reserves the right to send any urine sample that appears unusual in color and /or consistency to a laboratory for testing and confirmation or non-confirmation.

RANDOM SELECTION CRITERIA:

All students who opt to participate in activity programs as previously defined and all students requesting driving privileges on campus will be entered into a pool for random selection.

PROCEDURES FOR STUDENTS:

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

Students not involved in activities or driving on campus may be allowed to participate voluntarily in the testing pool with a consent form signed by the parent. Parents may also request that their child be drug tested at the next available date at the parent's expense. (Form D)

Student Selection: In adherence to this policy, **ALL** students in activity programs may be subjected to drug testing at the beginning of the school year. In addition, random testing will be conducted a minimum of once each semester. Selection for random testing will be by lottery drawing from a "pool" of all students participating in activity programs and drivers in the district at the time of the drawing. A single test can be required by a principal from a student for reasonable suspicion. The superintendent or designee shall take all reasonable steps to assure the integrity, confidentiality, and random nature of the selection process including, but not necessarily limited to, assuring that the names of all participating students are in the pool, assuring that the agency selecting the students has no way of knowingly choosing or failing to choose particular students for the testing, assuring that the identity of students drawn for testing is not known to those involved in the selection process, and assuring direct observation of the process by the least intrusive means possible while assuring brevity and privacy.

SAMPLE COLLECTION:

Samples will be collected **within a two (2)-hour time period** on the same day the student is selected for testing. **ALL** testing will consist of urine samples. If a student is absent on that day, the student may be tested upon the student's return to school. A student who is notified and fails to report immediately shall result in a positive screening, and will be subject to the actions specified below for a "positive test." If a student is unable to produce a urine sample, the student may be required to submit a hair sample. Students are responsible for any additional costs associated with hair sample testing. Otherwise, the student will remain at the testing facility until a sample can be produced.

LIMITED ACCESS TO RESULTS:

The results will be reported only to the superintendent and the District Drug Testing Review/Enforcement Committee. The District Drug Testing Review/Enforcement Committee shall consist of the high school principals and the superintendent. The committee will review **ALL** testing results. The committee will have the responsibility of contacting the athletic directors with positive test results and overseeing the procedures in the event of a positive test result.

PROCEDURES IN THE EVENT OF A POSITIVE RESULT:

Whenever a student's test result indicates the presence of illegal drugs or the misuse of legal or prescription drugs ("positive test"), the following will occur: If the sample tests positive, a custodial parent or legal guardian will be notified and a meeting will be scheduled with the superintendent or his/her designee, the

student, the custodial parent or legal guardian, and the student's principal and head coach or sponsor.
(Forms B,C,)

FIRST POSITIVE RESULT:

For a positive result, the student will be placed on probation and not be allowed to participate in competitions, presentations, activities and driving privileges of Webster County Schools for a period of twenty (20) school days. For athletic/activity purposes the suspension will begin from the first regular scheduled contest in the sport the student participates (excluding jamborees, scrimmages, and classic games). If the twenty school days cannot be completed during one sports season, it will carry over to the next sport season the student participates. A student may practice or attend an organization's meetings at the discretion of the sponsor/coach but may not compete, dress out for competition, take part in a club's scheduled event beyond meetings or drive on campus. The student will be recommended for counseling; if any charge is incurred, it will be the responsibility of the parents. On day twenty one (21), the student will be allowed to be retested (at the expense of parent-guardian). If the retest results are found to be positive, this will count as the official second positive result. If the test results are found to be negative, the student will again become eligible for driving on campus, competitions, presentations, and activities relating to Webster County Schools. However, the student must submit to a mandatory drug screen or lab test on a monthly basis at the expense of the parent/guardian for the remainder of that school year.

SECOND POSITIVE RESULT:

A second positive result in the 24-month period following the first positive test will result in the student's suspension from participating in activities and driving on campus for 90 school days.

THIRD POSITIVE RESULT:

For the third positive result, the student will be suspended from participating in activities and driving on campus for the remainder of his/her enrollment with the school district.

NON-PUNITIVE NATURE OF POLICY:

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

OTHER DISCIPLINARY MEASURES:

By accepting this policy, the district is not precluded from utilizing other disciplinary measures set forth in the Student Handbook. Likewise, this policy does not preclude the district from following its disciplinary procedure and resulting action when founded upon reasonable belief and suspicion that a student has participated in drug-related activities. If a student exhibits physical manifestations in which administration determines to be as a result of drug or alcohol use, the student will be subject to the consequences listed in the Drug and Alcohol Policy defined in the Student Handbook. A student will be referred to alternative school if he/she refuses or compromises the integrity of a drug test. If a student refuses or compromises the integrity of a drug test, he/she cannot participate in extracurricular activities including but not limited to sporting events, driving privileges, school plays, prom, and graduation exercises.

Cafeteria Prices

Student breakfast - FREE Adult - \$2.00

Student lunch - \$3.00 full pay; \$.40 reduced pay. Adult - \$4.25

Visitors

All visitors MUST sign in at the office. Sorry, but for supervision and insurance reasons, student visitors (including former students) are NOT allowed. The schools, because of space factors in the classrooms, will not be able to allow school pupils to have pupil visitors accompany them as visiting guests in the school (Policy KM).

Medicine at School

In order to take medicine at school, there must be a doctor's medical form completed and on file in the office. Then, the student's medication is kept there and administered by school personnel.

EAST WEBSTER HIGH NOR WEBSTER COUNTY SCHOOLS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY LOST OR STOLEN ITEMS.

PLEASE WRITE YOUR NAME ON ALL YOUR POSSESSIONS AND CLOTHING, AND NEVER BRING CASH IN EXCESS OF \$10.00 OR VALUABLES TO SCHOOL. PURCHASING/SELLING/TRADING OF STUDENTS PERSONAL ITEMS WILL NOT BE PERMITTED. THE ITEMS PURCHASED/SOLD/TRADED WILL BE RETURNED TO THE ORIGINAL OWNER.

Deliveries

The office will NOT deliver forgotten items, such as lunches, uniforms, homework, money, or school projects during class time. Students can stop by the office during break, lunch, and after school to check if any items have been dropped off for them. Please remember that parents are NOT allowed to deliver forgotten items to classrooms.

Insurance

Each student will have the opportunity of taking group student accident insurance. Soon after school begins each teacher will distribute information concerning the insurance plan. If the parent desires to have their child take the insurance, he may sign the proper forms and return the fee to the school. Any student who participates in an activity must have on file in the principal's office a copy of their insurance coverage including policy number. This must be on record in the office prior to their participation.

Telephone

The office telephone is to be used by students only in case of emergency. Students are only allowed to use the office phone before school, after school, at break, or at lunch. Please refrain from coming in the office and requesting use of the phone unless you do have a TRUE emergency such as sickness or injury.

CHECKS

Your Check is Welcome. Your check is welcome at all schools in the Webster County School District. The Webster County School District recognizes that occasionally a parent may inadvertently overdraw a checking account and a check may be returned by your bank. In order to recover these funds in a private and professional manner, the Webster County School District has contracted with Nexcheck, LLC, for collection of returned checks. Each person writing a check to a school or the School District should write the check on a commercially printed check with your name, address, **and one phone number**. Counter or starter checks will not be accepted. When a person writes a check to a school or the School District, the person writing the check agrees that, if the check is returned, it may be represented electronically on the same account, and that the fee established by law, now \$40, may be debited from the same account.

If the check and fee are not collected electronically, then Nexcheck will contact you by mail and by telephone in order for you to make arrangements to pay. All payments need to be made directly through Nexcheck, P.O. Box 19699, Birmingham, AL 35219. For a convenience fee, payments of both check and fee may be made electronically at www.nexcheck.com or over the phone using a credit card, debit card or electronic check.

WEBSTER COUNTY SCHOOLS DISCIPLINE POLICY

Disciplinary Measures

The Webster County School District employs a variety of disciplinary measures in dealing with students who exhibit inappropriate behavior. The application of discipline is based upon the age of the student, the form and/or seriousness of the misbehavior, and other factors that allow for certain levels of discretion depending upon the circumstances. While sequential application of disciplinary measures is a goal, **it should be clearly understood that school personnel have flexibility in the administration of discipline.** The following listing of disciplinary techniques is not all inclusive; however, it does represent a compilation of typical alternatives used by the school in the disciplinary process. These techniques are not listed in sequential order nor are there any indication that these techniques are to be used in the order given.

1. Teacher Report – Teacher contacts the parent or sends notes to parents that denote inappropriate behavior in the classroom by the student. This is used to correct minor, inappropriate behavior.
2. Verbal Reprimands/Warning Notes/Letters - Issuance of warnings concerning behavior.
3. Conferences-Held with teacher, student, parent, administrator, counselor, etc. to discuss behavior and/or progress.
4. Denial/Loss of Privileges - Includes, **but is not limited to**, loss of break time, participation in or attendance at extracurricular activities, loss of the privilege to bring a vehicle on campus, etc. Administrators are authorized to determine the duration of the loss of privileges. They may assign a temporary loss or determine permanent removal, depending upon the circumstances.
5. Detention - Assigned by administrators with appropriate arrangements. Student misbehavior and/or uncooperativeness will not be tolerated. Truancy, misbehavior, and/or uncooperativeness during the Detention assignment will result in the student being referred to an administrator for further disciplinary action.
6. Counseling Services - Arranged as necessary with school counselors/district behavior specialists.
7. Corporal Punishment - Only administered in the presence of a witness in accordance with the district's corporal punishment policy (Policy JDB).
8. In-School Suspension (ISS) - Assigned by administrators with appropriate arrangements. Held during normal school hours. **Attendance for the entire day is required.** (7:40 a.m. – 2:55 p.m.)
9. Out-of-School Suspension (OSS) - Assigned by school level administrators.
10. Alternative School Placement/Assignment - In accordance with the district's alternative school program regulations. May be assigned by school administrators.
11. Saturday School-Assigned by administrators and arranged at varying intervals during the school year. Student misbehavior and/or uncooperativeness will not be tolerated. Truancy, misbehavior, and/or uncooperativeness during the detention assignment will result in the student being referred to an administrator for further disciplinary action.
12. Suspension and/or Expulsion from Bus Riding Privileges - For misconduct in connection with student transportation.
13. Restitution - Requirement that the student/parent/guardian make financial restitution to the school/district. This may include, but is not limited to, acts of destruction to school property, vandalism, defacement of buildings, desks, lockers, etc. It may also include theft of school property, destruction/loss of textbooks or other instructional materials owned by the school and failure of a student to return fundraising obligations.
14. Expulsion from School - Denial of the right to attend school or school activities in the district by the Board of Education.
15. Performance of School Service - Assigning work tasks such as picking up paper, cleaning desktops, sweeping floors, etc.
16. Other - Any other appropriate disciplinary technique(s) as determined.

Students who are assigned to in-school-suspension, out-of-school suspension or the Alternative Program will not be allowed to participate or attend extra-curricular activities of any school in the district for the length of the assignment. Parents who wish their child to NOT receive corporal punishment (paddling) must come to the school to fill out the appropriate paperwork each school year. Students should inform school personnel that they are on the non-corporal punishment list before receiving punishment.

The Board of Education and Superintendent of WCSD has taken a firm stand on five types of offenses. If you commit any of the five offenses, either on school grounds or at school-sponsored events, you will be disciplined within the guidelines listed below:

District Wide Violations Non-Discretionary Expellable Offenses:

<u>INFRACTION</u>	<u>CONSEQUENCE</u>	<u>ADDITIONAL RESOURCES</u>
Bomb/Facsimile Possession or Bomb Threats	Suspension /Recommendation for Expulsion Notify Authorities	Policy JCDAE Weapons
Distribution of Intoxicants Drugs and Alcohol	Suspension /Recommendation for Expulsion Notify Authorities	Policy JCDAC Drugs and Alcohol
Firearms	Suspension/ Recommendation for Expulsion Notify Authorities	Policy JCDAE Weapons
Violent Physical Attack on a Staff Member	Suspension/ Recommendation for Expulsion Notify Authorities	Policy JCBE Unlawful or Violent Acts
Weapons Used to Cause Bodily Harm/Injury	Suspension/ Recommendation for Expulsion Notify Authorities	Policy JCDAE Weapons

Webster County Schools Discipline Policy

The cornerstone for the Webster County Schools discipline policy is that each student has the right to learn in an atmosphere free from disruption. It is therefore the responsibility of staff to help create a climate in the schools in which students can mature educationally and emotionally as they gain knowledge, self-control, and self-confidence. Students are also expected to help take responsibility for their successful completion of high school by respecting others' rights to a safe and comfortable school environment.

Discipline Guidelines: The following guidelines clarify rules and regulations that are in effect in the Webster County Schools. The rules and regulations not only apply to student behavior while in the Webster County Schools, but also extend to any situation that may occur on the way to or from school or at extracurricular activities. During the first days of school, students will be asked to sign the student code of conduct saying that they understand what constitutes serious violations of the disciplinary portion of the Student Code of Conduct and the penalties imposed for such violations.

1. **Bomb Threats:** Students who are found guilty of possessing, fabricating, or planning the fabrication or execution of bombs, or any student found guilty of making bomb threats or of giving false information concerning the placement of explosive or destructive devices, will be suspended for ten days and ***recommended for expulsion***.
2. **Drug and Alcohol Abuse:** Any student found to be under the influence of or in possession of a controlled, dangerous substance (including alcohol) will be suspended and referred to the proper authorities. Any student involved in the sale or distribution of drugs will be ***recommended for expulsion***. Non-alcoholic beverages in bottles that look like those for alcoholic beverages are prohibited as well as items that are intended to resemble or be mistaken for illegal drugs. Use of any substance, legal or illegal, that is mind-altering, including glue, aerosol propellant, tea leaves, etc., will be treated with the same consequences as for use of illegal drugs.
3. **Firearms:** Any student carrying, possessing, handling, fabricating, using, or storing a firearm will be ***recommended for expulsion***.
4. **Physical Abuse:** Students deliberately attempting to physically harm others will be suspended. A violent physical attack on a staff member will result in a ***recommendation for expulsion***.

5. **Weapons:** Weapons are firearms, knives, brass knuckles, sticks, bats, and anything else which may be concealed and/or used as an instrument to hurt another person. Bringing facsimiles (model Uzzis, water pistols, etc.) to school may result in a suspension and **recommendation for expulsion**.
6. **School Safety Act:** Foul, profane, obscene, threatening, defiant, or abusive language, or action toward teachers or other school employees. Defiance, ridicule, or verbal attack of a teacher. The willful deliberate or overt acts of disobedience of the direction of a teacher or other school employees. The failure to accept disciplinary policy. Will result in OSS and possible recommendation for alternative school or expulsion.
7. **Academic Dishonesty / Cheating:** Academic dishonesty or cheating is defined as using someone else's work, words, or ideas and passing it or them off as one's own (plagiarism); giving one's own work, works or ideas to another; engaging in computer piracy; copying from another student's paper or artwork; or talking during a test.

1st Offense: Zero on Assignment

2nd Offense: 2 days ISS and Zero on Assignment

3rd Offense: Zero on Assignment and 5 days ISS or possible OSS

8. **Bullying, Cyberbullying (Policy JDDA)**

Students are protected from bullying or harassing behavior by other students or employees. It is the intent to maintain an environment free from bullying and harassing behavior. (JDDA-P) Cyberbullying will also result in confiscation of cell phone if done on school grounds. (Refer electronic device for means of getting phone back.)

1st Offense: 2 days ISS

2nd Offense: 3 days ISS

3rd Offense: OSS and/or possible recommendation for alternative school

9. **Bus Conduct:** Students must ride the correct bus and refrain from any unsafe or disruptive behavior. Violation may result in loss of riding privileges.

1. Pupil shall follow directions of the driver the first time given.
2. Pupil shall arrive at the bus stop before the bus arrives.
3. Pupil shall wait in a safe place, clear of traffic, and away from where the bus stops.
4. Pupil shall walk in an orderly line and avoid horseplay.
5. Pupil shall cross the road or street in front of the bus only after the bus has come to a complete stop and upon direction of the driver.
6. Pupil shall go directly to an available or assigned seat when entering the bus.
7. Pupil shall remain seated and keep aisles and exits clear.
8. Pupil shall exhibit classroom conduct at all times.
9. Pupil shall refrain from throwing or passing objects on, from, or into buses.
10. Pupil is permitted to carry only objects that can be held on his/her lap.
11. Pupil shall refrain from the use of profane language, obscene gestures, tobacco, alcohol, drugs, or any other controlled substance on the bus.
12. Pupil shall refrain from eating and drinking on the bus.
13. Pupil shall not carry hazardous materials, nuisance items, and animals on to the bus.
Exception: If the Individualized Education Plan requires a special needs student to use an animal, such as a seeing eye dog or monkey, for mobility purposes, then the assigned animal will be permitted on the bus.
14. Pupil shall respect the rights and safety of others.
15. Pupil shall refrain from leaving or boarding the bus at locations other than the assigned stops at home of school.
16. Pupil shall refrain from extending head, arms or objects out of the bus windows.
17. Pupil shall refrain from hitching rides via the bumper or other parts of the bus.

1st Offense: 3 day bus suspension(May get warning for minor first offense)

2nd Offense: 5 days bus suspension

3rd Offense: 10 days bus suspension

4th Offense: 20 days bus suspension

5th Offense: Suspension for remainder of school year

Fighting on the bus will result in more severe discipline.

10. **Cafeteria Rules:** Table manners should be refined in the cafeteria as table manners at home. Students are expected to help keep the cafeteria clean. Strict adherence to the lunch schedule must be observed.

The following are specific rules to observe in the cafeteria:

- Students are not allowed to carry food into the cafeteria from a fast food restaurant that is wrapped or in bags or boxes displaying a logo.
- Cutting line or holding places in line are forbidden.

- Students should get their trays as quickly as possible, and when finished eating, they should return trays to the kitchen along with ice cream wrappings, milk containers, etc.
- Students shall not leave the cafeteria without the expressed permission of the teacher to whom assigned.
- Food is not to be taken into the hallways or classrooms from the cafeteria.

1st Offense: Detention

2nd Offense: 2 days ISS

3rd Offense: 5 days ISS

11. **Contraband:** Any substance or articles or items forbidden on campus by policy- not a state code violation) ISS, OSS, or recommendation for alternative school or expulsion could result.

12. **Cyber bullying: Refer to bullying.**

13. **Destruction of Property/Damaging Equipment/Vandalism:** Deliberately defacing, damaging, or destroying school property or property belonging to others (graffiti is included) is considered Destruction of Property. Consequences will include payment for any damage done, suspension, and possibly ***recommendation for alternative school or expulsion.***

14. **Dismissal Precautions (Policy JGFC):** East Webster High School is a closed campus. Students must have permission to check out and immediately report to the office when checking in after the opening of school.

Before leaving school, students must be signed out by his/her parents or someone on your emergency card. Including parents, a total of four people may be included on your emergency card. (YOU WILL NEVER BE ALLOWED TO LEAVE SCHOOL WITH SOMEONE WHO IS NOT ON YOUR EMERGENCY CARD!) For your protection, anyone who picks you up may be asked to show identification. Then, when you return to school, you must check in at the office BEFORE going to class.

Checking Out From School

- A. No student shall leave school without permission from the principal or his designee.
- B. Students shall be allowed to check out from school for personal illness or bona fide emergencies. Students must secure a check-out permit from the principal's office and carry it around to all of his/her teachers for the remainder of the day if such illness or emergency arises at school.
- C. Students having an appointment with a doctor or dentist or for other valid reasons may check out as follows:
 1. A parent/guardian appointed by the Chancery Court or one adult, designated by parent/ guardian may personally come to the School and withdraw a student.
 2. The student may present a doctor or dentist appointment card to the principal and receive a check-out permit.
 3. The check-out request will be excused if signed by parent, legal guardian, doctor, or dentist.
- D. Any student leaving school on school related business must first obtain written permission from his/her teacher and then personally sign out at the principal's office. Upon return to the school, the student must personally sign in.
- E. No student shall leave school without a check-out request or without signing out at the principal's office.
- F. Any student leaving school without following procedure will be subject to suspension.

Work Permit:

Work permits at Webster County Schools shall be allowed to Seniors. Seniors may be issued work permits at 2:00 p.m. (7th period only). A signed notarized affidavit of employment must be presented to the high school principal. Signatures on the affidavit must include parent/legal guardian and employer. The school district reserves the right to revoke this privilege if a student abuses this policy and does not report to work.

*Note there will be a new state policy that will go into effect the 20-21 school year, on early work release.

15. **Dress Code (Policy JCDB)**

Your clothing and general appearance must be clean, safe, and appropriate for school. We expect everyone to follow good taste; do not come to school in any clothing which is disruptive or may make it difficult for you OR others to learn. It is the responsibility of parents, guardians and students to see that all students' dress is consistent with the school dress code.

In relation to student dress, the district's core values are as follows:

- Students should be able to dress for school in a manner that expresses their individuality as long as it does not interfere with the learning process and health and safety of themselves or other students; and
- Students should be treated equitably. Dress code should not create disparities or reinforce or increase marginalization of any individual or group.

Minimum Dress Requirements

- Clothing must cover from the top of the shoulder and extend down to the middle of the thigh.
- Shirts and blouses must cover the shoulder and cover all undergarments.
- Rips or tears in clothing should be lower than the knee, and pants should be pulled up to the waist.
- See-through or mesh garments must not be worn without clothing underneath that meet the minimum dress code requirements.
- Tight fitting clothing must be covered with a garment that meets the minimum dress code requirements.
- Shoes must be worn at all times and should be safe for the school environment.
- Hats and head coverings are prohibited inside of buildings
- Piercings are limited to the ears.

Additional Requirements

- Clothing may not depict, imply, advertise, or advocate illegal, violent, or lewd conduct, weapons, or the use of alcohol, tobacco, or drugs.
- Clothing may not depict or imply pornography, nudity, or sexual acts.
- Clothing may not display or imply vulgar, discriminatory, or obscene language or images.
- Clothing may not display or imply political or fraternal organizations or campaigns.
- Clothing may not state, imply, or depict hate speech/ imagery targeting groups based on race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, religious affiliation, or any other protected classification.
- Apparel, jewelry, accessories, or any manner of grooming that by virtue of its color, arrangement, trademark, or any other attribute, denotes membership in a gang that advocates for illegal or disruptive behavior is prohibited.

All dress code violations shall be reported to the office. The building principal has the right to make the final decision on any questionable clothing. Students in violation of the dress code will be required to comply. Time missed from class/school will be subject to being unexcused and students will receive a zero for any work missed. Students who violate the dress code shall be subject to disciplinary action.

1st Offense: Detention

2nd Offense: 2 days ISS

3rd Offense: 3 days ISS

16. **Eating in School:** Food is to be consumed in the cafeteria, break area and outside only. Food or drink in the classroom is at the teacher's discretion. **Absolutely no food or drink in the computer labs .**

17. **Electronic Devices/Electronic Communication Devices:** A goal of the Webster County School District is to provide a safe and orderly school environment. The school board and administration realize that cell phones serve a valid purpose for students, therefore these devices will be allowed to be on campus. However, cell phones should be turned off and remain out of sight at all times. Phones are not to be kept in pouch pockets or pockets, headphones are not to be visible. Cell phones can be used in emergency situations, and for school use with permission from school officials. If they are used during school without permission of school officials or in any way that disrupts school process, they will be confiscated and must be picked up by a parent after the fine has been paid.

1st Offense: \$25 Fine or confiscation for 1 calendar week

2nd Offense: 3 days ISS and \$50 Fine or confiscation for 1 month

3rd Offense: 5 days ISS and \$100 Fine or confiscation for 3 months

Refusal to yield electronic devices to a teacher or administrator.

1st Offense: 5 days ISS

2nd Offense: 10 days ISS

3rd Offense: 5 days OSS

18. **False Fire Alarm:** Individuals who are responsible for false fire alarms will be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law and pay costs of any damages and for fire equipment called to the scene. Students can also expect school-based disciplinary action of suspension and possible **recommendation for expulsion.**

19. **Fighting:** Fighting will not be tolerated on school property at any time. Students involved in fighting will be suspended.

1st Offense: 3 days OSS

2nd Offense: 5 days OSS

3rd Offense: 10 days OSS and referral to Alternative School

Provoking a Fight: Refer to Harassment/Intimidation

20. **Forgery:** Forgery is the altering of a document in any manner or the signing of someone else's name to a document. Forging a document or possession of a forged document is a violation.

1st Offense: 2 days ISS

2nd Offense: 3 days ISS

3rd Offense: 5 days ISS

21. **Gambling:** Gambling, for monetary reward will not be permitted on school grounds.

1st Offense: 2 days ISS

2nd Offense: 3 days ISS

3rd Offense: 2 days OSS

22. **Gang Behavior:** signs, symbols, gestures, handshakes, or other actions.

1st Offense: 3 days ISS

2nd Offense: 2 days OSS

3rd Offense: 3 days OSS

23. **Harassment/ Intimidation:** Intimidation is an act of frightening another person by threats or by deliberate physical contact such as pushing, tripping, and bumping, or by using means to cause others to fight, or by attempting to secure money or property through threat of physical harm. **This type of behavior will not be tolerated and will be dealt with severely.**

1st Offense: 5 days ISS

2nd Offense: 10 days ISS or OSS with possible recommendation for alternative school.

24. **Insubordination:** Insubordination is failure to carry out a reasonable request from a member of the school staff.

1st Offense: 2 days ISS

2nd Offense: 5 days ISS

3rd Offense: 3 days OSS

25. **Littering:** Students are required to put all trash, including lunch items, in trash containers. Students caught littering can lose privileges and or face additional punishment at the discretion of the principal

26. **Profanity and Obscenity:** Offensive language and actions considered obscene have no place in school or school-related activities.

1st Offense: 2 days ISS

2nd Offense: 3 days ISS

3rd Offense: 5 days ISS

27. **Public Display of Affection:**

1st Offense: 2 days ISS

2nd Offense: 3 days ISS

3rd Offense: 5 days ISS

Major offense of explicit sexual contact would result in OSS and possible recommendation for alternative school.

28. **Sexual Harassment:** Sexual harassment is defined as unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and/or other inappropriate oral, written, or physical conduct of a sexual nature that takes place under any of the following circumstances:

- When submission to or rejection of such conduct by an individual is used by the offender as the basis for making personnel or academic decisions affecting the individual subjected to sexual advances.
- When submission to such conduct is made, explicitly or implicitly, a term or condition of employment, instruction or participation in school activities.
- When such conduct has the effect of unreasonably interfering with the individual's work and/or academic performance or creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive work or learning environment.

Sexual harassment committed by students against students or staff is inappropriate behavior and violates policies. If students believe that they are the subjects of sexual harassment, they should promptly report such incidents to their parents, a school administrator, counselor, or teacher.

Any student who violates the sexual harassment policy will be subject to disciplinary action. Depending on the severity of the offense, such action could include, but is not limited to, counseling, corporal punishment, in-school suspension, out of school suspension, referral to alternative school, or expulsion.

1st Offense (major): 5 days OSS

2nd Offense: 10 days OSS

3rd Offense: Recommendation for alternative school

29. Still or Video Camera: Still and video cameras are not permitted in the building unless they are being used for class assignment. Refer to electronic devices for consequences.

30. Stealing: Persons involved in stealing shall be suspended and responsible for restitution; police may be notified.

1st Offense: 2 days ISS /restitution

2nd Offense: 3 days ISS/restitution

3rd Offense: 3 days OSS/restitution

31. Technology Violation: Inappropriate internet/ technology use as deemed by teacher/ administrator.

1st Offense: 2 days ISS

2nd Offense: 3 days ISS

3rd Offense: 5 days ISS

Technology violation of Pornography will be OSS and possible referral to alternative school.

32. Tobacco Possession, use or distribution of: One is considered to be smoking if observed in possession of a lit cigarette, exhaling smoke, or found behind an obstruction from which smoke is observed. Student possession or use of tobacco, including chewing tobacco, snuff, or paraphernalia is not permissible at school or at any school-related activity. All materials shall be confiscated and not returned.

1st Offense: 3 days ISS

2nd Offense: 5 days ISS

3rd Offense: 3 days OSS

***All tobacco products are subjected to being tested for containing controlled substances. Any products found to contain controlled substances will face further disciplinary action. (refer to drug policies.)**

33. Traffic Violations on School Property (JGFF): Student parking is a privilege, not a right! Seniors will be given preference.

- Permits are required. Purchased the first week of school.
- Multiple permits will NOT be issued for students driving more than one vehicle.
- All vehicles must be registered with the school and properly display the decal.
- The school is not responsible for damage to the vehicle or its contents.
- There will be no driving over 5 mph. Reckless driving will result in the permit being revoked.
- Students are not allowed to move or return to their car during the school day.
- Driving on school roads and parking on school property is a courtesy offered to students and others by the school board.
- The parking facilities located at the various school district buildings are not public parking areas and are to be used for school purposes only. School purposes include attendance at school activities or other school authorized activities which occur before or after the regular school day.
- Violators may be charged with trespassing and or vehicles towed at owner's expense.
- The administration, obtaining suggestions from the local police department, shall establish rules and regulations to assure traffic safety. The district shall not assume any responsibility for damage to vehicles.
- Students shall not sit in or upon vehicles parked on the school campus.
- Students shall be responsible for locking their vehicles upon arrival since the school district shall assume no responsibility for any loss.
- Failure to abide by vehicle regulations may result in the loss of the right to bring a vehicle to school or other disciplinary action.

- Student automobiles are subject to administrative searches and canine searches at any time during the school year.
- Students with valid Driver's License and insurance in Grades 10, 11 and 12 only may bring an automobile provided they register the automobile in the principal's office and secure a parking permit.
- Students are not allowed to park off campus and walk onto campus. Students who park off campus can face disciplinary action by the school, and could also face action by the landowner for which they park. If students have licenses and insurance they must purchase a parking permit and park on campus. Any student who drives without a license on campus will have to park the vehicle, be reported to authorities, and parents will be called to come retrieve it.
- Any student's automobile without a parking permit after the first ten (10) days of school will not be allowed to bring their automobile back to school for the remainder of the year.
- Students enrolled at the Webster County Vocational Center may drive their vehicle to the Vocational Center for the following purposes only:
 - a. The vehicle is to have repair work;
 - b. To pick up a completed project;
 - c. To deliver materials necessary for a project.

A Live Work Form will be completed the day prior to the vehicle usage. The driver will be the only occupant to and from the Vocational Center. A Live Work Form is good for only one day.

1st Offense: Driving privileges revoked for 5 days

2nd Offense: 5 days ISS and driving privileges revoked for 45 school days

34. Trespassing: Any person found on school grounds who has no official, school-related business at the time in question is subject to trespassing laws.

35. Violation of Testing Procedures: Any student who violates the testing procedures set by the teacher will lose credit for that test.

2 days ISS, zero on test, 25% off nine-weeks test & exams

36. Skipping Class: A student is in an unauthorized area, out of place, or more than 5 minutes late to class is considered a cut.

1st Offense: 2 days ISS

2nd Offense: 3 days ISS

3rd Offense: 5 days ISS

37. Unexcused Absences:

1st Offense: Detention

2nd Offense: Detention

3rd Offense: 1 day ISS

38. Videoing/ Posting videos or Pictures Taken at School: Students who video fights or take pictures with cell phones and/or post them on social media. (Refer to electronic devices.)

39. Vaping/ Possession of Vape

1st Offense: 3 days OSS

2nd Offense: 5 days OSS

3rd Offense: 10 days OSS/Alternative School

- *It should be clearly understood that school personnel have flexibility in the administration of discipline.*
- *Students who receive excessive referrals will be referred to the Disciplinary Committee for possible alternative school placement.*
- *Students returning from alternative school, will face a 30 day probationary period. Any referral within those 30 days would result in going back to alternative school.*
- *Corporal punishment is still a viable option for school officials, and can be used for minor and some first time offenses at the principal's discretion. However, the new*

house bill 1182 states: that corporal punishment shall not be used at any time for any reason on a student with a disability as defined by the Individuals with Disability Education Act, which grants a student an IEP, or a student with a 504 plan according to the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

Athletic Code

Athletics are completely voluntary programs. No student is obligated to take part in any athletic activity. Participation is not required for graduation, nor must the student have extra class credits for post high school training or educational programs. Because athletics are voluntary and because those participating represent the student bodies of the Webster County Schools, it is important that to participate, the standards must be of the highest. The dignity of the school program is reflected through athletics, and the selection of candidates must be based upon school performance, attitude, conduct, cooperation, and an earnest and sincere desire to represent the student body in a manner which complements the school and community. Therefore, to enhance esprit de corps, prevent adverse public reaction, prevent dissension on teams, and for the general welfare of teams and participants, the following regulations governing dress, grooming, conduct and scholastics for pupils participating in and traveling to or from athletic activities are in effect:

1. **CONDUCT:** Classroom teachers may be requested periodically to verify that the participant is demonstrating acceptable citizenship. As representatives of Webster County Schools, athletes are expected to conduct themselves as responsible citizens at all times at other schools, on buses, and in restaurants, etc.

ANY ATHLETE WHO IS SUSPENDED FROM SCHOOL MAY NOT ATTEND PRACTICE AND/OR PARTICIPATE IN ANY CONTEST DURING THE SUSPENSION. ANY STUDENT REASSIGNED FOR DISCIPLINARY REASONS TO AN ALTERNATIVE SCHOOL IS NOT ELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE IN CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES UNTIL THE REASSIGNMENT ENDS.

2. **GROOMING:** Essentially, the student should be neat and clean in appearance.

3. **DRUG AND ALCOHOL USE OR POSSESSION:** It is the position of Webster County Schools that the unlawful possession or use of controlled substances or alcohol by students is harmful and wrong. Students who possess or use alcoholic beverages or controlled substances on or off school grounds will be subject to appropriate disciplinary action listed in the handbook.

4. **DRESS:** Clothing should be neat and clean. Only the official school uniform may be worn during a contest. The uniform may not be altered in any way. Refer back to the dress code for guidelines for appropriate attire.

5. **TRAINING:** Participants are to demonstrate acceptable standards of conduct and training at all times both in and out of season.

6. **DISMISSAL:** The head coach is responsible for the following actions within three days following a participant's suspension from that coach's sport.

1. A conference with the suspended participant to inform him/her of his/her standing.
2. Notification of parent or guardian informing them of the participant's status.

Any student athlete who begins a sport season and quits that sport will not be allowed to participate (practice, off season weights, etc) in another sport until the sport that was quit has completed its entire season (regular season through playoffs).

7. **LETTERING:** At the beginning of the season, each coach shall provide each participant with a copy of the lettering requirements for his/her sport.

It is the responsibility of each head coach to give every candidate of his/her team a copy of the Athletic Code and review it at a squad meeting.

Athletic Review Committee

The Athletic Review Committee is made up of the Athletic Director, the principal, a counselor, and the head coach of the sport in which the athlete participates. Its purpose is to evaluate the athlete's attitude, conduct, and cooperation during a second or third violation of the Athletic Code. The Athletic Review Committee will also convene at the request of the Principal to review special situations involving athletes, to discuss procedures, and to ensure a quality athletic program in the Webster County Schools.

Eligibility for Athletics

The Mississippi High School Activities Association sets the eligibility requirements for athletes and publishes these requirements in their handbook.

Attendance of Students Participating in a School Activity

Any student participating in an activity is expected to be in school the entire day of the activity. This includes practice. Any exceptions to this rule will be made at the discretion of the principal. Students are also expected to be in attendance the day after school activities.

Coach and Sponsor Expectations

The student must comply with any additional rules and regulations set by the coach or advisor for that activity. Before the activity begins, the coach or advisor will inform the participants in that activity of all basic rules and additional expectations. However, it is still the student's responsibility to acquaint him/herself with all applicable eligibility rules.

Concerns-Procedure

When a parent or athlete has a concern regarding the Athletic Department, the parent or athlete should follow the following steps:

- Speak with the Coach
- If not satisfied, speak with the Athletic Director
- If not satisfied, speak with the Principal
- If not satisfied, speak with the Superintendent

WEBSTER COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT NETWORK AND INTERNET ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY (AUP) 2023-2024

The Webster County School District recognizes the value of computer and other electronic

resources to improve student learning and to enhance the administration and operation of its school. To this end, the Webster County School District encourages the responsible use of computers and computer networks, which include Internet usage, e-mail, web applications and other electronic resources in support of the mission and goals of Webster County Schools.

Because the Internet and e-mail is an unregulated, worldwide vehicle for communication, information available to staff and students is impossible to fully control. Therefore, the Webster County School District adopts this policy governing the voluntary use of electronic resources, e-mail, and the Internet to provide guidance to individuals and groups obtaining access to these resources on Webster County School District -owned equipment or through Webster County School District -affiliated organizations.

Rights and Responsibilities

It is the policy of the Webster County School District to maintain an environment that promotes ethical and responsible conduct in all online network activities by staff and students. It shall be a violation of this policy for any employee, student, or other individual to engage in any activity that does not conform to the established purpose and general rules and policies of network usage. Within this general policy, the school site recognizes its moral obligation to protect the wellbeing of students in its charge. To this end, the Webster County School District retains the following rights and recognizes the following obligations:

1. To log network use and to monitor file server space utilization by users, and assume no responsibility or liability for files deleted due to violation of file server space allotments.
2. To remove a user account on the network.
3. To monitor the use of online activities. This may include real-time monitoring of network activity and/or maintaining logs of Internet and/or e-mail activity for later review.
4. To provide internal and external controls as appropriate and feasible. Such controls shall include the right to determine who will have access to Webster County School District -owned equipment and, specifically, to exclude those who do not abide by the Webster County School District's acceptable use policy or other policies governing the use of school facilities, equipment, and materials. Webster County School District reserves the right to restrict online destinations through software or other means.
5. The Webster County School District complies with the regulations of CIPA, the Children's Internet Protection Act H.R. 4577, by providing Internet content filtering services for staff and students. Filtering services are a means of protection from objectionable sites but cannot provide a 100% guarantee. Therefore, the Webster County School District provides no guarantees but will diligently attempt to protect staff and students from accessing such objectionable Internet sites.
6. To provide guidelines and make reasonable efforts to train staff and students in acceptable use and policies governing online communications and e-mail.

Staff Responsibilities

1. Staff members who supervise students, control electronic equipment, or otherwise have occasion to observe student use of said equipment online shall make reasonable efforts to monitor the use of this equipment to assure that it conforms to the mission and goals of the Webster County School District.
2. Although the Webster County School District will maintain an Internet filtering service, staff members will continue to monitor student use to prevent the access of objectionable sites.
3. Staff shall make reasonable efforts to become familiar with the Internet and e-mail use so that effective monitoring, instruction, and assistance may be achieved.
4. Staff shall exercise extreme caution in using any student and other staff member's likeness, picture, personal information, and/or original work of art, prose, or poetry for distribution through any electronic media within the Webster County School District.

User Responsibilities

1. Use of any electronic media including the Internet and e-mail provided by the Webster County School District is a privilege that offers a wealth of information and resources for research.
2. Users agree to learn and comply with all of the provisions of this policy. Through the actual use of any network related service, the user warrants and signifies his agreement to any/all of the provisions of this policy.
3. Webster County School District recognizes the concept of “Free Speech” and individual privacy. The Internet, network, and e-mail services are owned and/or operated by the Webster County School District and reserves the right to exercise reasonable control over any electronic communication and/or publication users may produce.

Internet

The Internet is a global system of interconnected computer networks that use the standard Internet Protocol Suite (TCP/IP) to serve billions of users worldwide. It is a network of networks that consists of millions of private, public, academic, business, and government networks of local to global scope that are linked by a broad array of electronic and optical networking technologies. The Internet carries a vast array of information resources and services, most notably the interlinked hypertext documents of the World Wide Web (WWW) and the infrastructure to support electronic mail.

Guidelines

1. All use of the Internet should be in support of educational and research objectives consistent with the mission and objectives of the Webster County School District.
2. Observe proper etiquette when using electronic communication and never publicly display personal information.
3. Respect the legal protections for data and software provided by copyright and licenses.
4. Network accounts are to be used only by the authorized owner of the account for the authorized purpose.
5. Exhibit exemplary behavior on the network as a representative of your school and community. Be polite at all times.
6. From time to time, the Webster County School District will make determinations on whether specific uses of the network are consistent with the Acceptable Use Policy.

Unacceptable Uses

1. Giving out personal information about another person, including home address or phone number is strictly prohibited.
2. Any use of the network for commercial or for-profit purposes is prohibited.
3. Excessive use of the network for personal reasons shall be cause for disciplinary action.
4. Any use of the network for product advertisement or political lobbying is prohibited.
5. Users shall not intentionally seek information on, obtain copies of, or modify files, other data, or passwords belonging to other users, or misrepresent other users on the network.
6. No use of the network shall serve to disrupt the use of the network by others.
7. Malicious use of the network to develop programs that harass other users, or infiltrate a computer or computing system, and/or damage the software components of a computer or computing system is prohibited.
8. Hate mail, chain letters, harassment, discriminatory remarks, and other antisocial behaviors are prohibited on the network.
9. The unauthorized installation of any software, including shareware and freeware for use on the Webster County School District computers is prohibited.
10. Use of the network to access or process pornographic material, objectionable web sites,

inappropriate test files (as determined by the system administrator or building administrator), or files dangerous to the integrity of the local area network is prohibited.

11. The Webster County School District network may not be used for downloading entertainment/music/video/movie software or other files for transfer to a user's home computer, other personal computer, DVD, or any music/movie device. This prohibition pertains to freeware, shareware, copyrighted commercial and non-commercial software, and all other forms of software and files not directly related to the instructional and administrative purposes of the Webster County School District. Software, files, and/or licenses owned by Webster County School District cannot be transferred to staff or student personal or home computers. This violates the copyright laws.

12. Downloading, copying, otherwise duplicating, and/or distributing copyrighted materials without the specific written permission of the copyright owner is prohibited, except that duplication and/or distribution of materials for educational purposes is permitted when such duplication and/or distribution would fall within the Fair Use Doctrine of the United States Copyright Law (Title 17, USC).

13. Use of the network for any unlawful purpose is prohibited.

14. Use of profanity, obscenity, racist terms, or other language that may be offensive to another user is prohibited.

15. Establishing network or Internet connections to live communications, including voice and/or video (relay chat/live chat), is prohibited unless specifically authorized by the system administrator or building administrator.

E-Mail

Electronic mail, most commonly abbreviated email or e-mail, is a method of exchanging digital messages. E-mail systems are based on a store-and-forward model in which e-mail server computer systems accept, forward, deliver and store messages on behalf of users, who only need to connect to the e-mail infrastructure, typically an e-mail server, with a network-enabled device for the duration of message submission or retrieval. Originally, e-mail was always transmitted directly from one user's device to another's; nowadays this is rarely the case.

Guidelines

1. E-mail is provided by the Webster County School District and is NOT considered private. The Webster County School District can monitor and review any messages sent or received by the users as deemed appropriate by the system administrator.
2. Check electronic e-mail often to see if there are any messages.
3. Respect the legal protections for data and software provided by copyright and licenses.
4. Take care not to express personal views that could be regarded as defamatory or libelous.
5. Always be mindful that e-mail use is a privilege, and the user is a representative of the Webster County School District.
6. Be aware that all electronic mail activity may be monitored and logged or scanned for viruses and/or offensive material.

Unacceptable Uses

1. Do not send excessively large electronic mail messages or attachments. There is a size limit to messages and attachments.
2. Do not indiscriminately forward electronic mail messages to users and/or groups without knowing whether the group users wish to receive such messages. For example: these messages would be personal items sent to you such as recipes, quotes, pictures, stories, jokes, songs, and etc. These messages take up time and space and are not useful for the purpose and objectives of the Webster County School District.
3. Limit messages such as festive greetings or other non-work related items by electronic mail, particularly to several people.

4. Do not participate in chain or pyramid messages or similar schemes.
5. Do not represent yourself as another person.
6. Do not use electronic mail to send or forward material that could be construed as confidential, political, obscene, threatening, offensive, discriminatory, or libelous.

Publications

Acceptable Uses

1. Make sure any web design is appropriate to the educational, administrative, or research objectives of the Webster County School District.
2. Any use of the Webster County School District name and/or school site names, likeness, pictures, graphics must have prior approval of the system administrator or building administrator.
3. Any use of staff or student likeness, pictures, graphics, art, prose, or poetry must have written permission before usage. Staff members must give their written signature permission while a student must give his/her written signature in addition to the parents' written signatures before publication use.
4. The system administrator and/or building administrator will make the final determination whether any web item(s), which identify the Webster County School District, are appropriate for web publication before that publication occurs.
5. All web publications will abide by the *Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)* for the dissemination of student information.

Unacceptable Uses

1. Do not publish personal information concerning staff or students. The only phone numbers, addresses, and/or locations allowed are those of the school site available to the public.
2. Staff and/or students are prohibited from publishing a website using the Webster County School District name and/or school site names, likeness, pictures, graphics without prior approval of the system administrator or building administrator.
3. Webster County School District recognizes the concept of "Free Speech", however, staff and/or students are prohibited from publishing any work that that may be discriminatory, offensive, racists, threatening to district, school, staff, or other students. The final decision as to whether any work meets these criteria will be determined by system administrator and/or building administrator.
4. Right to "Freedom of Speech" will NOT allow staff and/or students to publish offensive materials through any Webster County School District electronic media. The final decision as to whether any work meets these criteria will be determined by the system administrator and/or building administrator.

Cyberbullying

A safe and positive environment in school is necessary for students to learn and achieve high academic standards. Bullying/cyber bullying by an individual in the district directed toward another school district student or school staff member is conduct that disrupts both a student's ability to learn and a school's ability to educate its pupils in a safe environment. Therefore, it shall be the policy of the Webster County School District to maintain an educational environment in which bullying and cyber bullying in any form are not tolerated.

Definitions

1. Bullying shall mean unwelcome verbal, written or physical conduct directed at a student or

staff member that has the effect of:

- Physically, emotionally or mentally harming a student or staff member;
- Damaging, extorting or taking personal property;
- Placing a student or staff member in reasonable fear of physical, emotional or mental harm; or
- Creating an intimidating or hostile environment that substantially interferes with educational opportunities.

2. Cyber bullying includes, but is not limited to, the following misuses of technology: harassing, teasing, intimidating, threatening, or terrorizing another student or staff member by way of any technological tool, such as sending or posting inappropriate or derogatory email messages, instant messages, text messages, digital pictures or images, or website posting (including blogs) which has the effect of:

- Physically, emotionally or mentally harming a student or staff member;
- Placing a student or staff member in reasonable fear of physical, emotional or mental harm;
- Placing a student or staff member in reasonable fear of damage to or loss of personal property; or
- Creating an intimidating or hostile environment that substantially interferes with educational opportunities.

Reporting Procedure and Investigation

1. A student or school staff member shall report a complaint of bullying or cyberbullying, orally or in writing, to the principal or designee. If a parent initiates the complaint, the appropriate individual will follow-up with the student.

2. The principal or designee will gather the information to determine if the alleged bullying or cyberbullying conduct occurred. The building principal is encouraged to contact the Technology Department for assistance in the investigation. In the event the alleged bullying or cyberbullying did not occur during the school day or on school property, the administration has no responsibility to investigate the allegation.

3. After the information has been gathered, the building principal will determine the need for further investigation or the appropriate intervention, which may result in administrative discipline consistent with the Student Code of Conduct and Board Policy to ensure that the conduct ceases.

Disclaimer

1. The Webster County School District cannot be held accountable for the information that is retrieved via the Internet, network, or e-mail.

2. Pursuant to the Electronic Communications Privacy Act of 1986 (18 USC 2510 et seq.), notice is hereby given that there are no facilities provided by this system for sending or receiving private or confidential electronic communications. System administrators have access to all mail and may monitor messages. Messages relating to or in support of illegal activities will be reported to the appropriate authorities.

3. The Webster County School District will not be responsible for any damages any user may suffer, including loss of data resulting from delays, non-deliveries, or service interruptions caused by user negligence, errors or omissions. Use of any information obtained is at the user's own risk.

4. The Webster County School District makes no warranties (expressed or implied) with respect to:

- The content of any advice or information received by a user, or any costs or charges incurred as a result of seeing or accepting any information.
- Any costs, liability, or damages caused by the way the user chooses to use his or her access to the Internet, network, or e-mail.

5. All staff and students of the Webster County School District shall be responsible for abiding

by the policies of this AUP. No signature is required to make this AUP binding on staff and students. The use of Webster County School District's electronic media denotes the user's agreement of responsibility. However, the Webster County School District shall make a concerted effort to inform staff and students of this AUP through such means as publications in student and staff handbooks, notices in all school offices, oral information from supervisors and/or teachers, and distribution of AUP copies.

6. Any staff or student who violates any of the AUP policies will be subject to disciplinary action, which may include but not limited to the loss of use privileges for the Internet, network, and/or equipment, loss of the e-mail account assignment, and/or any other disciplinary deemed appropriate by the Webster County School District authorities.

AGREEMENT

I HAVE READ THE WEBSTER COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT NETWORK AND INTERNET ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY (AUP) 2017-2018. I UNDERSTAND AND WILL ABIDE BY THE STATED APPROPRIATE USE POLICY. I FURTHER UNDERSTAND THAT IF I VIOLATE THIS POLICY IN ANY WAY, MY PRIVILEGES MAY BE REVOKED AS WELL AS SCHOOL DISCIPLINARY ACTION MAY BE TAKEN.

USER

NAME _____
PLEASE PRINT

USER

SIGNATURE _____
—

TODAY'S DATE: ____/____/____

EXPECTED YEAR OF GRADUATION (WCSD Students Only): _____

I, THE PARENT OR LEGAL GUARDIAN OF THE ABOVE IDENTIFIED STUDENT, AGREE AND UNDERSTAND THE ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY.

PARENT/GUARDIAN

SIGNATURE: _____

MEMO TO: PARENTS, TEACHERS, AND SCHOOL EMPLOYEES

SUBJECT: ASBESTOS SURVEILLANCE OF ALL SCHOOL BUILDINGS

As part of an annual notification, we are informing all persons of their option of reviewing the asbestos management plan, which would include documentation of any changes of asbestos containing materials in these schools.

To provide continuing management of the asbestos in our schools, all asbestos containing materials (ACM) are inspected every six months by an engineering firm from Jackson, Mississippi. Any changes in the ACM are being recorded in a surveillance report as part of the management plan.

The three year re-inspection of our school buildings has been performed as required. A copy of the re-inspection has been filed with the State Department of Education.

Copies of the surveillance and re-inspection reports, along with a copy of the management plan, are located in the principal's office at each school. In addition, copies of all management plans for the district are maintained in the office of the Superintendent of Education located at 95 Clark Avenue, Eupora, Mississippi. Any interested party should feel free to go to any of these locations to review these reports.

District: Webster County Schools

Section: I - Instructional Program

Policy Code: IDDH - Section 504 -- Americans With Disabilities Act -- Non Discrimination

SECTION 504 -- AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT -- NONDISCRIMINATION

The Webster County School District will not discriminate on the basis of disability in admission or access to, or treatment or employment in, its programs and activities to the extent provided by law.

The following person has been designated as the Section 504 /Americans with Disabilities Act Coordinator and will handle inquiries regarding the Webster County School District's nondiscrimination policies, the filing of grievances, and requests for copies of grievance procedures covering discrimination on the basis of disability.

Dixie Pogue, Special Education Director , District Coordinator
Name of Coordinator, Section 504/ADA

Webster County School District
95 Clark Avenue Eupora, MS 39744
Telephone:662-258-2854 Ext. 12 Fax: 662-258-8499

Corey Stidham, School Administrator, Coordinator
East Webster High School
195 Old Cumberland Road
Maben, MS 39750
662-263-5321

Elisa Brooks, School Administrator, Coordinator
East Webster Elementary School
230 South Street
Mathiston, MS 39752
662-263-8373

Lauren Smith, School Administrator, Coordinator
Eupora Elementary School
1 Naron Street
Eupora, MS 39744
662-258-6735

Jerritt Alford, School Administrator, Coordinator
Eupora High School
65 Clark Avenue
Eupora, MS 39744
662-258-4041

Office for Civil Rights
U. S. Office of Education
1999 Bryan Street, Suite 1620
Dallas, TX 75201

LEGAL REF.: Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973
CROSS REF.: Policies IB - Instructional Goals

Last Review Date: 06/19/2017
Review History:[1/1/1900][1/1/1901]

Adopted Date: 11/14/2016

Approved/Revised Date: 3/20/2017

District: Webster County School District

Section: I - Instructional Program

Policy Code: IDHDB - Section 504 Procedures (Students)

SECTION 504 PROCEDURES (STUDENTS)

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 prohibits discrimination against persons with a disability in any program receiving federal financial assistance. No discrimination against any person with a disability will knowingly be permitted in any of the programs and practices of the school system. To ensure the district's compliance with Section 504 as it applies to students with disabilities, the following procedures have been adopted.

1. If the district has reason to believe that a student has a disability that substantially limits a major life activity, the district shall conduct an evaluation of the student to determine whether the student, because of the disability, needs or is believed to need special education or related services. Regarding evaluation procedures, the WCSD will ensure that: (i) Tests and other evaluation materials have been validated for the specific purpose for which they are used and are administered by trained personnel in conformance with the instructions provided by their producer; (ii) Tests and other evaluation materials include those tailored to assess specific areas of educational need and not merely those which are designed to provide a single general intelligence quotient; (iii) Tests are selected and administered so as best to ensure that, when a test is administered to a student with impaired sensory, manual or speaking skills, the test results accurately reflect the student's aptitude or achievement level or whatever other factor the test purports to measure, rather than reflecting the student's impaired sensory, manual, or speaking skills (except where those skills are the factors that the test purports to measure). (iv) Students who have been provided special education and related services are periodically reevaluated. A reevaluation procedure consistent with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) is one means of meeting this requirement. The district shall convene a team of people, including persons knowledgeable about the child, the meaning of evaluation data, and the placement options. The team shall consider information from a variety of sources, including aptitude and achievement tests, teacher recommendations, physical condition, social or cultural background, and adaptive behavior. Regarding placement procedures, the WCSD will also ensure that information obtained from all such sources is documented and carefully considered (e.g., evaluation data). This meeting shall be convened within ten (10) days after the district becomes aware of the student's disability.

2. The team of people who are knowledgeable of the student's educational needs shall determine whether the student has a disability under Section 504 and whether that disability substantially limits a major life activity. If such a determination is made, the team must further determine (b) Appropriate Education. (1) For the purpose of this subpart, the provision of an appropriate education is the provision of regular or special education and related aids and services that (i) are designed to meet individual educational needs of disabled persons as adequately as the needs of non-disabled persons are met and (ii) are based upon adherence to procedures that satisfy the requirements of 34 C.F.R. 104.34, 104.35 and 104.36. If the student's parents disagree with the district's conclusion and recommendations, the parents shall be informed of their right to ask for an impartial hearing to decide the matter. Hearing requests shall be made in writing to the superintendent stating why the district's accommodations are not appropriate.

3. An impartial hearing shall be held within ten (10) days of receipt of the written request. The district shall obtain as a hearing officer an individual who is not an employee of the district and who is knowledgeable of Section 504. The parent and student may take part in the hearing and have an attorney represent them at their own expense. The district also may be represented by counsel.

4. Both parties (the parents and/or their representative and a representative of the district) shall be given the opportunity to present evidence. A tape recording of the hearing will be made by the district, a copy of which will be given to the parents.

5. The hearing officer shall make a decision within ten (10) days after the conclusion of the hearing. The decision shall be given in writing to the district's 504 coordinator and the parents.

6. If either party is aggrieved by the action of the Hearing Officer, an appeal may be taken to the board of trustees of the district at its next regularly scheduled meeting. The board, in its discretion, may allow a statement to be made by the parents and a representative of the district. The decision of the board shall be final.

7. The district shall publish its policy of nondiscrimination on the basis of disability and shall inform parents of their rights under Section 504, including the right to examine records relevant to their child, the right to an impartial hearing with representation by legal counsel at their expense, and the district's review procedure.

The Section 504 Coordinator for the district may be contacted at phone number __662-258-2854 Ext. 12_____.

LEGAL REF.: Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973

CROSS REF.: Policies IB - Instructional Goals IDDF - Special Education Programs JAA - Equal Educational Opportunities

Last Review Date: 06/19/2017 Review History:[1/1/1900][1/1/1901]

Procedural Safeguards Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973

Section 504 is a federal law designed to protect the rights of individuals with disabilities in programs and activities that receive Federal financial assistance from the U. S. Department of Education (ED). Section 504 provides: "No otherwise qualified individual with a disability in the United States shall, solely by reason of his/her disability, be excluded from the participation in,

be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving Federal assistance."

The Office for Civil Rights (OCR) enforces Section 504 in programs and activities that receive Federal financial assistance from ED. Recipients of the Federal financial assistance include public school districts, institutions of higher education, and other state and local education agencies. The regulations implementing Section 504 in the context of education institutions appear at 34 C. F. R. Part 104.

The Section 504 regulations require a school district to provide a "free appropriate public education" (FAPE) to each qualified student with a disability who is in the school district's jurisdiction, regardless of the nature or severity of the disability. Under Section 504, FAPE consists of the provision of regular or special education and related aids and services designed to meet the student's individual educational needs as adequately as the needs of non-disabled students were met.

It is the intent of the Webster County School District that parents of a student who may have a disability under Section 504 be informed of their rights. A person with a disability is defined as a person who has a physical or mental impairment which substantially limits one or more major life activities, excepting disabilities that are transitory (6- months duration or less) and minor. Major life activities include functions such as caring for one's self, performing manual tasks, walking, seeing, hearing, speaking, breathing, learning, and working.

You have the right to:

1. Have your child take part in, receive benefits from, public education programs without discrimination because of his/her disability.
2. Have the District advise you of your rights under federal law.
3. Receive notice with respect to identification, evaluation, or placement of your child.
4. Have your child receive a free, appropriate public education. This includes the right to be educated with non-disabled students to the maximum extent appropriate. It also includes the right to have the District make reasonable accommodations in the educational program and placement to allow your child an equal opportunity to participate in school and school - related activities.
5. Have your child educated in facilities and receive services comparable to those provided to students without disabilities.
6. Have your child receive special education and related services if he/she is found to be eligible under state or federal special education law or if he/she requires specialized services under Section 504.
7. Have evaluation, planning and placement decisions made based upon a variety of information sources and by persons who know your child, the evaluation data and placement/program activities offered by the District.
8. Examine all of your child's educational records and obtain copies of those records at a reasonable cost, unless the fee would effectively deny you access to the records. You also have the right to request an explanation and interpretation of your child's records. Should you disagree with the records maintained by 44 the district for your child because you believe them to be inaccurate, misleading or otherwise in violation of the privacy rights of your child, you may request that they be amended. If the District refuses your request, you have the right to a hearing.

9. Request a meeting with the 504 Compliance Officer to review any concern over the actions of the District with respect to the identification, evaluation, educational programs, or placement of your child. This meeting is not required by law, but frequently can resolve concerns.
10. Request a mediation and/or an impartial hearing related to any decision or action regarding your child's identification, evaluation, educational program or placement. You and your student may take part in the hearing before an impartial hearing office and have an attorney represent you. Under certain circumstances, you may be entitled to an award of reasonable attorney fees.
11. Appeal the decision of the hearing to a court of competent jurisdiction.

Adopted Date: 11/14/2016 Approved/Revised Date: 3/19/2018

District: Webster County Schools

Section: I-- Instructional Programs

Policy Code: IDDHA - Section 504 -- Americans With Disabilities Act
Procedures (Employees and School Visitors)

SECTION 504 -- AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES

Any person who believes that he/she or any class of individuals have been subjected to discrimination as prohibited by Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 or the Americans With Disabilities Act may file a complaint pursuant to the procedures set forth below, on his/her own behalf, or on behalf of another person or on behalf of handicapped persons as a class. All persons are encouraged to file grievances to resolve any disputes arising under these laws. Your filing a complaint will not subject you to any form of adverse action, reprimand, retaliation or otherwise negative treatment by school district personnel.

1. Within ten (10) days of when a complainant knew or should have known of discriminatory conduct, a complaint shall be given in writing to the Section 504/ADA Coordinator. The complaint shall describe specifically the time, place and nature of, and the participants in the alleged discriminatory acts. The Section 504/ADA Coordinator shall, within ten (10) days of receipt of the complaint, conduct or cause to be conducted a thorough investigation including questioning of all parties involved in the complaint. A written record shall be made of the statements by all parties involved. After the investigation is complete, the Section 504/ADA Coordinator shall meet with the complaining party and give a full report of the findings.
2. If the grievance or complaint is not satisfactorily resolved at Step 1, the complainant shall have ten (10) days to appeal the Step 1 findings to the Superintendent. The complainant shall present his complaint in writing, describing the reasons for his/her dissatisfaction with the results of Step 1. The Superintendent or his/her designee shall review all aspects of the complaint and complete an additional investigation if necessary. The Superintendent shall respond to the complainant in writing within ten (10) days of receipt of the written appeal.
3. If the complainant is not satisfied with the results of Step 2, the complaining party shall have fifteen (15) days from receipt of the Superintendent's decision to appeal the

complaint to the school board. The appeal shall be in writing, describing the reasons for complainant's dissatisfaction with the results of Steps 1 and 2. The complainant shall have the opportunity to present an oral statement to the board before the board makes its decision. The board's decision shall be rendered within fifteen (15) days after receipt of the appeal.

LEGAL REF.: Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973

CROSS REF.: Policies IB - Instructional Goals

WEBSTER COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT REFERRAL PROCEDURE FOR GIFTED STUDENTS

The Webster county school district will serve students who are identified as intellectually gifted. All 1st grade and all referred 2nd – 6th grade students will be screened to determine eligibility for referral. The student identification processes are separated into six steps for Intellectually Gifted for students in grades 2 – 6. The six steps are: referral, (LSC) review, parental permission for testing, assessment, assessment report and the eligibility determination by the LSC.

Referral

A student may be referred by a parent, teacher, counselor, administrator, peer, self or anyone else having reason to believe that the student might be intellectually gifted. The person initiating the referral shall sign the referral form and date it. District personnel shall collect the data required to satisfy the district's referral criteria. Once a referral form has been initiated, signed and dated, only the LSC or parents can stop the identification process.

LSC Review

Once the referral data has been gathered, the Local Survey Committee shall review all the data and make one of the following recommendations:

1. Student satisfied minimal criteria on at least three measures and should move on to the assessment stage, or
2. student has not satisfied minimal criteria on at least three measures, however, the LSC feels that additional data should be collected, or
3. student has not satisfied minimal criteria on at least three measures and the identification process should stop.

Potentially Disadvantaged Gifted

At this point district personnel shall make the decision as to the possibility that the student could possibly be eligible for consideration as disadvantaged gifted. If it is believed that the student might be disadvantaged, then the Potentially Disadvantaged Intellectually Gifted Checklist should be completed for possible use during the assessment process. The potentially disadvantaged gifted category makes provisions for certain factors that exist that may put the student at a disadvantage when inappropriate instruments are used during the assessment process.

Assessment

Once the LSC has determined that a student should move forward to the assessment phase, district personnel shall review all data available on the student before deciding which measures are most appropriate to be used during assessment. After reviewing the information available, district personnel shall collect measures from at least three of the categories of assessment measures. A student shall satisfy minimal state criteria on measures from at least three categories before moving forward in the process. District may elect to set the local minimal criteria higher than the criteria stated in regulations. Test scores from other agencies will be considered for original or re-tests for the gifted program.

Parental Permission for Testing

At this time, if parental permission for testing has not been obtained, district personnel shall obtain written parental permission for testing. Phase I Assessment Criteria

1. A full scale score at or above the 90th percentile on a normed group measure of intelligence.
2. A score at or above the superior range on a normed characteristics of giftedness checklist.

3. A score at or above the superior range on a normed measure of creativity
4. A score in the superior range on a normed measure of leadership.
5. A score at or above the 90th percentile on a normed measure of cognitive abilities.
6. A score at or above the 90th percentile on total language, total math, total reading, total science, total social studies or the composite on a normed achievement test.
7. Other measures as approved by the SBE on the district's Gifted Education Program Proposal.

A student who has satisfied the minimal acceptable criteria on any three of the above measures shall move forward to the individual test of intelligence.

Phase II Assessment Criteria

Once it has been determined that a student has satisfied minimal criteria on three measures from Phase I of assessment, the student shall move forward to the second phase of assessment, the individual test of intelligence. All individual tests of intelligence shall be administered by a licensed examiner. In no case will the examiner be related to the student being tested. The examiner shall review all available data on the student, whether or not it satisfies minimal identification criteria, and use that information to select the most appropriate test of intelligence. No more than one individual test of intelligence shall be administered to the student without an appropriate waiting period between administrations. The examiner shall provide a signed and dated report of the test administration to include testing conditions, scores on all subtests or subscales, and the strengths and weaknesses of the student. A student must score at or above the 91st percentile composite/full scale or the 91st percentile on approved subtests in order to satisfy eligibility criteria.

Potentially Twice-Exceptional Students

Students who already have an eligibility ruling under IDEA and are being assessed for an intellectually gifted eligibility, and who did not satisfy the minimal acceptable criteria on the individual test of intelligence shall have their results reviewed by the LSC and a licensed examiner. If the student scores at or above the 91st percentile on the nonverbal scale, or who in the opinion of the reviewing committee would benefit from participation in the intellectually gifted program, the student may be granted a provisional eligibility for the intellectually gifted program for a period of one year. At the end of that year, the student's teacher of the gifted shall meet with the review committee to discuss the student's performance in the program. If the student has demonstrated success in the program, the LSC shall change the eligibility status from provisional to regular eligibility. If the student has not been successful in the program, the provisional eligibility shall be revoked.

Potentially Disadvantaged Gifted Students

Students who have satisfied criteria on the Potentially Disadvantage Gifted Checklist who did not satisfy minimal acceptable criteria on an individual test of intelligence, but, who did not satisfy minimal acceptable criteria on an individual test of intelligence, but, did score at least the 85th percentile, may be administered one of the following additional measures to determine eligibility:

1. A test of cognitive abilities with a minimal score at the 90th percentile,
2. A group intelligence measure with a minimal score at the 90th percentile,
3. Place existing scores from the assessment stage into a matrix that the local district has had approved by the MDE.

Identification criteria, as approved by the SBE on the local district's Gifted Education Program Proposal must be satisfied for a student to be ruled eligible by the LSC for the intellectually gifted education program.

Assessment Report

District personnel shall write an Assessment Report, which must contain the following components:

1. Student's name,
2. Name of at least three measures from Assessment Phase I that were used to determine the need to administer an individual test of intelligence.
3. Results of each measure,
4. Names of individual who administered or completed each measure and the date administered or completed,
5. Test behaviors for any individually administered test(s),
6. Interpretation of the results of each individually administered test(s),
7. Name of the person who administered the individual test of intelligence and date test was administered,
8. Qualifications of the individual who administered the individual test of intelligence,
9. Results of the individual test of intelligence to include scores on all subtests and identified strengths and weaknesses,
10. Names of the person responsible for writing the Assessment Report, his/her signature and position, and
11. The date of the Assessment Report.

Eligibility Determination

Once the Assessment Report is finished, the LSC shall meet to review all data and determine if eligibility criteria have or has not been satisfied. The LSC shall rule that the student is or is not eligible for the intellectually gifted program.

Parental Notification District

Personnel shall notify in writing the parents of each student tested for the intellectually gifted program about the assessment results. District personnel shall offer to explain any of the results that parents have questions about. District personnel shall also notify parents in writing about their rights under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA).

If at any step of this process, a student fails to achieve eligibility, the local school shall report the findings to the parent/guardian and deny entrance into the intellectually gifted class. (See Attachment F)

Retesting of Students

Students who fail to achieve eligibility criteria and are again referred for the gifted program may be retested by the Webster County School District Psychometrist six months from the date of the original testing.

End of Year Assessment

The LSC shall meet at least annually and reassess each student's participation in the gifted program. The student should remain in the program as long as progress is being made. If the committee determines the student should exit the program due to lack of progress and/or participation being unsatisfactory, the student's parents must be notified and given an opportunity to discuss the decision with district personnel before the student is removed from the program. Documentation of this meeting must be maintained and must include the name of the student discussed, a list of committee members presented and the date of the meeting.

Removal by Parent

If a parent chooses to remove his/her child from the Gifted Program, the parent must sign a Request for Removal from Special Services Form. The child may be removed for the remainder of the semester or the remainder of the year. The child may not be reinstated until the beginning of the next semester or school year. Parents must sign a Request for Reinstatement of Special Services Form prior to reinstatement.

Gifted Grievance Procedures

Grievance procedures have been established to settle, equitably, at the lowest possible administrative level, differences and issues relating to the gifted program. The grievance procedure is as follows:

Level I (Informal Procedures)

1. The aggrieved person (student, parent, guardian or employee) must first discuss his or her grievance with the building level administrator with the objective of resolving the matter informally.
2. The aggrieved person and the building level administrator shall discuss the grievance with a view toward arriving at a mutually satisfactory resolution

Level II - Step One (Formal Procedures)

1. If as a result of the discussion between the aggrieved person and the building level administrator, the matter is not resolved to the satisfaction of the aggrieved person, the aggrieved person may, within five school days of the date of the meeting with the building level administrator, set forth his or her grievance in writing, directed to the building level administrator and shall specify the following:
 - a. The nature of the grievance;
 - b. The nature or extent of the injury, loss or inconvenience;
 - c. The remedy desired;
 - d. The results of previous discussions; and
 - e. Areas of dissatisfaction with decisions previously rendered.
2. The building level administrator will consult with the Director of Special Education and shall communicate in writing his or her decision to the aggrieved person within five school days of receipt of the written grievance.

Level II – Step Two (Formal Procedures)

1. If the aggrieved person is not satisfied with the disposition of his or her grievance at level II, Step One, he or she may, within 5 school days of receipt of the building level administrator's written decision, present his or her grievance to the Superintendent.
2. The Superintendent will review the written record and convene a hearing, no later than ten working days after the filing of the grievance, at which both the aggrieved person and the Gifted coordinator and the Director of Special Education may present testimony and documents relevant to the grievance.
3. Witnesses may be presented and cross examined. Detailed minutes of the hearing will be made and kept; a copy of the minutes will be available to each party.
4. Within ten working days of the hearing, the Superintendent will provide a written copy of his or her determination to both parties.

Level III – Step One (Formal Procedures)

1. In the event the aggrieved person is not satisfied with the disposition of his or her grievance at Level II, Step two, he or she may request a hearing before the Board of Education.
2. The request shall be in writing and include copies of the original complaint, the minutes of the hearing before the Superintendent and the written determination of the Superintendent.
3. The request for a hearing before the Board must be made within ten working days of the receipt of the decision by the Superintendent.
4. The request for a hearing before the Board shall be submitted to the Superintendent.
5. The Board shall convene a hearing within thirty calendar days of receipt of the request at which the parties may present additional testimony and argument.
6. The aggrieved person may be accompanied by an attorney at this hearing.
7. The aggrieved person shall be given a written decision by the Board within five working days of the Board's hearing.

Level III – Step Two (Formal Procedures)

1. In the event the aggrieved person is not satisfied with the disposition of the grievance by the Board he or she should contact the Mississippi Department of Education at mdek11.org – Office of Curriculum and Instruction or call 601-359-2586.

Last Review Date: 06/19/2017

PARENTS' RIGHT TO KNOW

Under the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), parents have the right to request information on:

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

Dixie Pogue

Director of Federal Programs and Curriculum

Homeless Liaison, McKinney-Vento Act

Foster Care Liaison & EL Coordinator

Webster County School District, 95 Clark Avenue, Eupora, Mississippi 39744 662-258-5921

School/Parent Compact

East Webster High School and the parents of the students participating in activities, services, and programs funded by Title I, Part A, agree that this compact outlines how the parents, the entire school staff, and the students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement and the means by which the school and parents will build and develop a partnership that will help children achieve the State's high standards. The School/Parent compact is in effect during the current school year.

School Responsibilities

East Webster High School will:

- Provide instruction to all students as prescribed by the laws of Mississippi, the regulations of the Mississippi Department of Education and policies of the **Webster County School District**. Remediation and enrichment will be provided to individual students as needed.
- Implement the Mississippi College and Career Ready Standards and other curriculum frameworks as prescribed by the Mississippi Department of Education and adopted by the **Webster County Board of Education**.
- Encourage parents to be involved in their child's learning through various opportunities offered at **East Webster High School**.
- Communicate with Parents regarding the academic progress of their child/children using various means of communication, i.e., telephone calls, e-mails, and/or written reports.
- Provide parents reasonable access to staff. Staff will be available for consultation with parents from before, during, and after school hours by appointment. Conferences during the instructional day will be scheduled in a manner not to interrupt instruction.
- Provide parents opportunities to participate in their child's school activities outside of the classroom, i.e., PTO activities, etc.

Parent Responsibilities

We, as parents, will support our children's learning in the following ways:

- Monitoring attendance.
- Making sure homework is completed.
- Participating, as appropriate, in decisions relating to my children's education.
- Promoting positive use of my child's extracurricular time.
- Staying informed about my child's education and communicating with the school promptly reading all notice from the school or the school district either received by my child or by mail and responding, as appropriate.
- Serving, to the extent possible, on policy advisory groups, such as being a part of the Title I, Part A advisory committee.
- Supporting district and school initiatives, which will enhance the educational opportunities for my child.

Parents play a vital role in the achievement and success of their child both in and out of school. Parents' positive role model as related to their child's education ensures the likelihood of the child's achievement and success.

Thank you for your interest and support of your child's school and education.

