Perry County School District Mission Statement

The Mission of the Perry County School System is to build a community of life-long learners by providing diverse educational opportunities.

Vision Statement

To empower all stakeholders to become actively engaged in every aspect of the school community.

FOREWORD

It is the responsibility of parents and students to familiarize themselves with this Student Handbook, which is approved by the School Board and which includes official district policies with which you should be acquainted.

The handbook has been prepared by the staff of the Perry County Schools as a guideline to procedures, policies, and practices governing the operation of our schools and the behavior of our students. Perry County administrators and instructional staff members believe that it will help both parents and students to be properly informed about matters, which concern all of us. Academic and extracurricular opportunities, routine day-to-day events and activities, disciplinary rules and consequences of misbehavior, accreditation requirements and special programs and services—all are part of this handbook, together with many other concerns which are clearly explained in the publication.

The School Board and the administration of the Perry County School District work closely together to establish sound and reasonable goals for our schools, to anticipate district needs, and to provide an environment conducive to learning. The primary purpose of providing this handbook is to help make your school experiences in this environment more satisfying, because it will tell you what you need to know and what you need to do in order to make this year both pleasant and successful.

A Welcome to Perry County Students

On behalf of the faculty and staff, we welcome you to Perry County Schools. We are honored and look forward to the opportunity to work with you. This handbook will help you to understand the laws established by the Mississippi State Legislature and policies of the Perry County Board of Education. School rules and regulations are written to enforce and implement these laws and policies. They will also help us to provide for you an orderly and safe school, and thereby enable our students to reach the highest level of academic achievement.

Parents and students should read this handbook carefully. Teachers will also discuss it with students during the first week of school. If you have questions, or need additional information, do not hesitate to talk with teachers, the counselor, or the principal. Have A Great Year!

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PERRY COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD

| Mr. Fredrick Jackson | Board Chairman |
|----------------------|----------------|
| Mr. Kevin Courtney | Vice Chairman |
| Ms. Evelyn Garner | Member |
| Ms. Sharon Lott | Member |
| Mr. Glennwood Mathis | Member |

SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION

Dr. Titus Hines

| | DIRECTORY OF SCHOOLS | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------|
| SCHOOL | ADDRESS | PHONE |
| Perry Central Middle School | P.O. Box 197 | 964-3226 |
| | New Augusta, MS 39462 | |
| South Perry Elementary | 9214 Beaumont/Brooklyn Road | 794-3393 |
| | Beaumont, MS 39423 | |
| Runnelstown | 9214 Hwy 42 | 544-2811 |
| | Petal, MS 39465 | |
| Perry Central High School | P.O. Box 139 | 964-3235 |
| , | New Augusta, MS 39462 | |
| Perry County Vo-Tech | P.O. Box 138 | 964-8282 |
| , | New Augusta, MS 39462 | |
| Perry County Alt. School | P.O. Box 139 | 964-3235 |
| | New Augusta, MS 39462 | |
| Perry County Schools | P. O. Box 137 | 964-3211 |
| reny county schools | New Augusta, MS 39462 | 964-8204 Fax |
| | New Augusta, Mis SSTOL | 504 0204 I dA |

| | PERRY COUNTY SCHOOLS | | |
|-------------------|---|--|--|
| | 2022-2023 | | |
| | SCHOOL CALENDAR | | |
| | | | |
| AUG. 1 | TEACHERS' FIRST DAY- DISTRICT STAFF DEVELOPMENT (PERRY CENTRAL) | | |
| AUG. 2 & 3 | STAFF DEVELOPMENT | | |
| AUG. 4 | STUDENTS' FIRST DAY | | |
| SEPT. 5 | HOLIDAY (LABOR DAY) | | |
| SEPT. 8 | PROGRESS REPORTS | | |
| OCT. 5, 6, & 7 | 9 WEEKS EXAMS | | |
| OCT. 10 | HOLIDAY (BAD WEATHER DAY IF NEEDED) | | |
| OCT. 11 & 12 | STAFF DEVELOPMENT (NO STUDENTS) | | |
| OCT. 13 | REPORT CARDS | | |
| NOV. 10 | PROGRESS REPORTS | | |
| NOV. 21-25 | THANKSGIVING HOLIDAYS | | |
| DEC. 14, 15, & 16 | 9 WEEKS EXAMS | | |
| DEC. 20 | 60% DAY | | |
| DEC. 21 - JAN. 3 | CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS | | |
| JAN. 4 | STAFF DEVELOPMENT (NO STUDENTS) | | |
| JAN. 5 | STUDENTS' RETURN AFTER HOLIDAYS | | |
| JAN. 12 | REPORT CARDS | | |
| JAN. 16 | HOLIDAY (MLK) (BAD WEATHER DAY IF NEEDED) | | |
| FEB. 9 | PROGRESS REPORTS | | |
| FEB. 20 | HOLIDAY (BAD WEATHER DAY IF NEEDED) | | |
| MAR. 8,9, & 10 | 9 WEEKS EXAMS | | |
| MAR. 13-17 | SPRING BREAK | | |
| MAR. 23 | REPORT CARDS | | |
| APR. 7 | HOLIDAY (GOOD FRIDAY) | | |
| APR. 10 | HOLIDAY (EASTER MONDAY) (BAD WEATHER DAY IF NEEDED) | | |
| APR. 27 | EMPLOYEE AWARDS BANQUET | | |
| APR. 27 | PROGRESS REPORTS | | |
| MAY 4 | VO-TECH AWARDS NIGHT 6:30 P.M. | | |
| MAY 9 | PERRY CENTRAL UNDERCLASSMEN AWARDS | | |
| MAY 16 | PERRY CENTRAL SENIOR NIGHT/AWARDS | | |
| MAY 17, 18, & 19 | 9 WEEKS EXAMS | | |
| MAY 23 | STUDENTS' LAST DAY 60% DAY | | |
| MAY 23 | GRADUATION PERRY CENTRAL GYM 7:00 P.M. | | |
| MAY 24 | STAFF DEVELOPMENT/ TEACHER'S LAST DAY | | |
| MAY 29 | HOLIDAY MEMORIAL DAY | | |
| JUNE 1 | REPORT CARDS | | |
| | | | |

BOARD APPROVED

WE BELIEVE

- Everyone can learn.
- Each individual is accountable and responsible for the quality of education in his/her community.
- Everyone can be successful.
- Parental/Guardian involvement is essential.
- High expectations promote high achievement.
- Quality education is essential.
- Differences are strengths, not weaknesses.
- Education is a cooperative effort between the school and community.
- Families play a major role in education.
- All people should have an opportunity to learn.
- The total well-being of the individual must be a part of the educational process.
- Vocational-Technical education is an important, essential component of our school system's total educational process.

BOUNDARIES

We will not initiate any new programs of service that:

- Are not consistent with our beliefs
- Do not contribute to our mission
- Are not accompanied by adequate staff development

Our behavior will be consistent with our beliefs and mission. We will not exclude anyone from participating in the accomplishment of our mission.

ANNUAL REPORT TO ALL PARENTS

The Federal Environment Protection Agency (EPA) required that on an annual basis each school district notify every parent and employee of the status of any asbestos in the school. This report will serve as the annual notification by the Perry County School District.

The Perry County Schools completed the required re-inspection report. There was no major change in the report. A copy of this report is on file in the school administration office and is available to the public for review.

VISITORS

Parents are encouraged to visit the school. Visiting your child's school is one way of showing your child that you are interested in his/her success in school. It is very important that we know the people who are in the building, therefore: **EVERY VISITOR MUST CHECK IN AT THE ADMINISTRATOR'S OFFICE UPON ENTERING THE SCHOOL CAMPUS**. Visitors must be approved by administration and must surrender **vehicle keys** to the office personnel before being given a **visitor badge** to wear while on campus. Anyone who fails to comply with this policy is subject to being reported to the local law enforcement authorities. This is a very important in order to maintain a safe and secure environment for our students.

PERRY COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT POLICE DEPARTMENT

A Perry County School District Police or other law enforcement will be on patrol on the campus during the school hours. Periodically through the school year unannounced searchers involving a narcotics certified canine will be conducted.

CONTACTING PARENTS

It is the responsibility of the parent or guardian to provide accurate and current telephone numbers so that school personnel can reach a responsible adult at all times. The school must be informed of any changes in telephone numbers and addresses. When a responsible adult cannot be reached after good faith efforts by school personnel, Perry County Social Services and/or the Perry County Sheriff's Department will be contacted.

PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES

The purpose of parent-teacher conferences is to foster communication between the school and parents relative to the student's development. In the event a parent desires to meet with his/her child's teacher(s), the following procedure should be followed:

- 1. Parents should contact the office at the school for an appointment that is convenient to the parent and the teacher and does not disturb the instructional day.
- 2. Parents should state the nature and purpose of the conference at the time the appointment is made. This will insure that the teacher has appropriate information needed to answer parent concerns.
- 3. Parent-teacher conferences are confidential and should address the individual needs of the students. Conferences with groups of parents with individual teachers do not provide the proper forum for addressing individual needs of students.
- 4. ALL PARENTS AND VISITORS MUST REPORT TO THE OFFICE FOR A VISITOR'S PASS IMMEDIATELY UPON ENTERING THE CAMPUS.

Any parent, guardian or custodian of a compulsory school-age child who shall fail to attend a conference to which such parent, guardian or custodian has been summoned shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction, shall be fined not to exceed two hundred fifty dollars (\$250.00).

ADMISSIONS

- In accordance with the laws of the state of Mississippi, in order to be admitted to Kindergarten, students must be 5 years of age on or before September 1 of the current school year. First grade students must be (6) six years of age on or before September 1 of the current school year. Certificates of Immunization (vaccination) are required upon entering school. (Immunization requirements are subject to change.)
- 2. A certified birth certificate must be presented upon admission. The birth certificate must be from the Bureau of Vital Statistics or from the State Department for students born overseas. No other birth certificate, hospital records, baptismal records, telephone calls, etc., will be accepted. The principal or his/her designee must verify the birth certificate.
- 3. Students must present an up-to-date immunization record.

- 4. If a student is transferring into the Perry County School District from a school accredited agency, an official transcript, mailed directly from the office of the previously attended school, will be required. A report card or transfer paper from the previous school attended may be used for temporary class placement.
- 5. Students transferring into the Perry County School District from a non-accredited school must be given appropriate placement tests by school officials in order to determine grade and/or subject placement.

VERIFICATION OF RESIDENCE REQUIREMENTS

As a result of the Residency Verification Procedure adopted as a policy of the Mississippi Board of Education on April 20, 1990, each parent or legal guardian or other adult with whom a student lives must provide to the school administration the following documents at the beginning of each school year:

- 1. A copy of <u>two</u> of the following items of verification of residence. No post office box address will be acceptable. These items must reflect a street address or designated road address. <u>All</u> <u>documents must be for present residence only; documents for rental or other commercial property will not be acceptable</u>.
 - a. Filed Homestead Exemption Application Form
 - b. Mortgage documents or property deed
 - c. Apartment or home lease agreement
 - d. Utility bills (water, electricity, or gas)
 - e. Valid Driver's License
 - f. Vehicle registration
 - g. Voter precinct identification
 - h. Affidavit of residence and/or personal visit by designated school official at district/administrator option
- 2. Any other documentation that in the determination of the Perry County School Board will objectively and unequivocally establish that the parent or guardian resides in the school district.
 - If you are the legal guardian of the student, you must also provide a copy of the court order appointing you as the guardian. If a petition for guardianship has been filed and the decree is pending, you must provide a certified copy of the filed petition for guardianship. Note: Any legal guardianship formed for the purpose of establishing residency for school district purposes shall not be recognized by the board. (Legal reference: Mississippi Code Ann. Section 37-15-31, 1989 Supplement.)
 - Note: Only parents or legal guardians may grant permission for school activities and sign legal documents such as Individual Education Plans, etc.
- 3. If you fail to provide the necessary documentation, your children will not be allowed to attend school in the Perry County School District. No temporary enrollment will be processed.
- 4. <u>If the Perry County School District receives a complaint regarding the residence of a student, the district is required to take action to further verify residence, including but not limited to follow-up visits to the residents address by school officials.</u>
- 5. Any false information or illegal residence may result in a student not being permitted to remain in attendance.

ENROLLMENT (TRANSFERS)

Pupils transferring from out-of-state or another school district within the state should present the following upon registration:

- a. Proper withdrawal documentation from previous school
- b. Guardianship papers if applicable
- c. Mississippi immunization certificate
- d. Two proofs of residence
- e. Former school discipline and attendance report
- f. Free/reduced lunch form
- g. Alternative Program Packet if applicable
- h. Parent/guardian presence
- i. Special education information if applicable

A request through the school office for complete transcript of prior credits or grades shall be made upon registration of the pupil. The final grades and credits of the pupil shall be incomplete until the transcript is received. Any student who is on probation from, expelled from, or not properly cleared from his/her former school will not be allowed to enroll in Perry County School District, unless otherwise approved by the Perry County School Board. It is the responsibility of the student's parents to notify the school if the student is suspended or expelled from the school from which the student is transferring.

Perry County School District will not require written consent of parents or eligible students in order to transfer records. Student's educational records will be forwarded to a school and/or other educational institution.

WITHDRAWALS

In grades 6-8, if a student withdraws during the school year and moves out of the district, the student will receive grades in progress to be presented to his/her new school. The school to which the student is transferring will have the option of accepting the grades in progress as the student's final grade. No examination will be given ahead of time. School officials must be notified one school day prior to the withdrawal of any student. A parent must come to the principal's office and officially withdraw the student. All books and fines must be cleared before official withdrawal is completed and the academic record is cleared.

TRANSFERS, CHANGES OF ADDRESSES

- 1. The principal will release Perry County School District education reports or records when an official written request is received from the school district to which the student is transferred.
- 2. A parent or legal guardian has the right to review his/her child's school records.
- 3. A student leaving Perry County School District may obtain the following: a report card and/or a record of the student's work to date for the current term and a book card. Reports may be held if the student has any indebtedness to the school (lunchroom, workbooks, library, textbooks, damages, etc.).
- 4. Any student who moves during the school year must record the change of address with the main office. Any changes of telephone number must be corrected in the same manner.
- 5. In order to be able to contact or locate parents or guardians in a timely manner, it is the responsibility of the parent/guardian to be sure that addresses and telephone numbers on student registration forms are accurate and up-to-date.

IN-SCHOOL TRANSFERS

The principal or his/her designated representative shall make the final determination regarding in school transfers.

INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAM GRADES

 A
 ----- 90-100

 B
 ----- 80-89

 C
 ----- 70-79

 D
 ----- 65-69

 F
 ------ 64 and BELOW

Daily grades will account for ¼ of the grade, tests will count ½ of the grade, and nine weeks tests will count ¼ of the total grade. Teachers should insure that each student has a minimum of nine grades per nine weeks excluding the exam.

| | COURSE OF STUDY | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------|
| 6 th Grade | 7 th Grade | 8 th Grade |
| ++Language Arts | ++Language Arts | ++Language Arts |
| ++Math | ++Math | **++Math |
| Science | Science | ++Science |
| Computer Science | ICT I | **ICT II |
| | History | **MS Studies/World Geography |
| ***•• | | |

**Classes receive high school credit

++Classes have end of year state assessment

REPORT CARDS—ACADEMIC CREDIT

The Perry County School District will be responsible for issuing report cards, progress reports, and other necessary reports only to the custodial parent, defined as the parent with whom the student resides during the school year. All legal documentation of custodial rights must be on file in the office.

Report cards will be issued following the end of each nine-week term. Grades will be recorded for academic work. Grades will be awarded on the basis of student performance.

- **A.** The Perry County Schools will accept transfer students and award credit for grades earned during the school year if the student is enrolled in the Perry County School District for at least twenty (20) school days. A student enrolled in a Perry County School District for less than twenty (20) school days will receive an incomplete grade, except for those students transferring into Perry County School District whose grades in progress at a previous school are sent to the principal's office. Grades in progress will be averaged with grades received while in attendance in Perry County School District.
- **B.** Students with excessive absences who do not pass administrative review will not receive credit for courses failed in which excessive absences occurred.
- **C.** Examinations will not be administered prior to the regularly scheduled time.

- **D.** In order for students to receive term, semester, or yearly grades, all course or grade level requirements must be met.
- **E.** Parents should be aware of dates when report cards will be issued. Parents should expect students to have their report cards on dates as noted in the calendar.

PROGRESS REPORTS

At mid-term during each nine-week term, the teacher or team will inform the parents of work that is unsatisfactory or below standard for the student. This is done by way of a progress report. In addition, if a student is later identified as a possible or probable failure, the parent will be informed through a second progress report at least one week prior to term test. Students in all schools will sign receipts for the progress reports and it will be their responsibility to discuss the report with their parents.

AWARDING OF ACADEMIC CREDIT

Academic credit for courses taken by students in the Perry County School District shall be awarded upon successful completion of courses.

The following guidelines must be adhered to:

- a. If a student has a yearly average of 65 or above, he/she can pass the course.
- b. A student will not be eligible to receive yearly average if either semester is failed due to excessive absences, subject to administrative review, if granted.

Students transferring into Perry County School District from a non-accredited school must be given an achievement test and/or special subject test to determine grade and/or subject placement.

EXEMPTION

Students in grades 6th-8th grade can be exempt from the final examination at the end of the school year. To be exempt, a student must have maintained at least a 90 average in a class/subject during each of the preceding three nine weeks and also have a 90 average in the fourth nine weeks in that class/subject. In addition to the grade average required, the student cannot accumulate more than five (5) absences during the year in that class/subject for any reason except school sponsored activities. The principal, at his/her discretion, can give consideration for bereavement. Students may not be exempt from any exams until all fines (library, cafeteria or textbooks) have been paid and all books returned.

During testing and review periods attendance will still be counted.

Any student who meets the above exemption requirements shall automatically lose his/her right to exemption in all classes if the student reaches Step 4 or above on the District Discipline Ladder during the school year. If a student receives three (3) or more Office Disciplinary Referrals from an individual teacher to the principal, that student shall automatically lose any right to exemption in that teacher's class.

PERRY COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT RETENTION POLICY

Gradess 6-8

1. Students who fail any <u>one</u> of the following subjects may be retained: Math, Reading, Language, Science, Computer Science, ICT I, ICT II or Social Studies.

2. Retention can also be based on student's scores on the following: STAR Reading and STAR Math. **Students may be promoted if:**

Students who have an average of 60 or above may attend extended school. <u>Students who fail more than</u> <u>two classes will not be allowed eligible for extended school</u>. Extended school year may influence, but will not guarantee promotion. Extended school will be at the expense of the student and parent.

MAKE-UP WORK

Students who miss work due to absences are responsible for contacting teachers for make-up work. It is not the responsibility of the teacher to make arrangements with the student for make-up work. When a student is absent for any reason they should upon their return ask for missed assignments and arrange with the teachers a time line to complete missed assignments. This should occur within tow (2) days of their return Students will be give the number of days missed plus one (1) to complete assignments. Students who miss due to an out-of-school suspension will be allowed to make up his or her missed assignments, but that work must be made up within the same number of days that the student was suspended. For example, if a student out-of-school for three (3) days, upon his or her return, the student has three (3) days within which to complete his or her missed work. The requirement that the make-up work be completed within the same number of days the student missed due to out-of-school suspension does not relieve the student from the requirement that he or she complete the regular assignments given to his or her class in the time allotted as well.

HONORS AND AWARDS

Superior performance in both academic and non-academic areas for students in Perry County School District shall be recognized. To accomplish this, the following honors and awards will be given to deserving students:

- 1. Honor rolls are published at the end of each nine weeks. Honor rolls will be designated as all A's Honor Roll and A's and B's Honor Roll.
- 2. Scholastic Awards will be awarded each year to students in grades 6-8.
- 3. Student of the Year and Month, must have good class attendance, must show conscientiousness in class work, have all assignments completed, and must display overall good citizenship toward teachers and fellow students.
- 4. Attendance awards will be given based on the following:

Perfect Attendance No absences, no tardies, and no checkouts **Attendance Recognition Award** – No more than 2 absences

PERFECT ATTENDANCE

Perfect Attendance shall be defined and observed as no absences, no tardiness to school and no early dismissals from school. Exceptions shall be school bus tardiness or school sponsored field/activity trips.

ATHLETIC POLICY

To be eligible <u>ONLY</u> for middle school activities, a student must have passed all five courses (that meet the equivalent of 250 minutes per week and meet MDE requirements) and have a C average for the preceding semester. The year-end average for the spring semester will be used to compute averages for the fall semester. Students must be on track to be promoted to be eligible.

To be eligible for high school activities, the middle school student must have passed the four core courses (Language Arts, Math, Science, History) with a C average for the preceding semester. The year-end average for the spring semester will be used to compute averages for the fall semester. Students must be on track to be promoted to be eligible.

Summer school or extended school year grades will replace the grade for a failed course in the spring semester.

EXTRA CURRICULAR ELIGIBILITY

All students participating in athletics will be required to have on file written parent consent, proof of insurance, liability waiver, and medical screening by a licensed physician.

The Mississippi High School Activities Association governs academic rules for students participating in activities. Students must meet all requirements by MHSAA. In order to be eligible for try-outs or for election(s), the student must meet all requirements established under the policies specifically related to each activity's area.

- A. To be eligible for participation in athletics, eligibility will be determined at the end of each nine weeks. Students must have an accumulative average of 70 in all core subjects and those required by law. Students can not have any grade below 65. For Jr. High you will average the following subjects at the end of each nine weeks:
 - a. 7th Grade: English, Math, Science, Social Studies, and ICTI
 - b. 8th Grade: English, Math, Science, Social Studies, and ICT2
- B. A student who fails to meet the requirements at progress report time will be placed on WARNING for the remainder of the nine weeks. Participation may continue during the warning period. If by the end of the nine weeks the requirements have not been met, the student would be ineligible. Students may become eligible if they meet requirements at the next progress report.
- C. An accrual of 5 or more office referrals may result in a student being disqualified from any or all extracurricular activities for the remainder of the year.
- D. Athletes are required to remain in school all day on the day of a scheduled activity.
- E. For special education students, the IEP committee will meet the week report cards are issued to make a determination as to the satisfactory progress of the students according to their IEP. If the committee determines the students are not making satisfactory progress, they will be ineligible to participate the next nine weeks.
- F. At the end of the year, the students' yearly average will be used to calculate the overall average and the student cannot be failing the subjects listed in Paragraph A.
- G. The administration recommends that once a student begins a sport, they should remain until the end of the season. The administration supports finishing what you begin.

REQUIREMENTS FOR CHEERLEADER TRYOUTS ELIGIBILTIY FOR CONTINUATION AS A CHEERLEADER

Students who reside in the Perry County School District are eligible to try out for or participate as cheerleader if they meet the requirements of this policy, and tuition students are eligible if they meet requirements of the MHSAA. Cheerleaders must meet the same requirements as outlined in "Athletics" to be eligible for tryouts, and all requirements must be maintained to be eligible for continuation as a cheerleader. A parent or legal guardian and the prospective cheerleader must sign the "Cheerleader Qualification and Responsibilities" form before the tryouts. Any student meeting the qualifications will be given the opportunity of signing up with the cheerleading sponsors to have the privilege of trying out before the selection committee.

To be eligible for cheerleading, the student must:

- Accurately complete an application for cheerleading signed by a parent or guardian and return the application by the deadline.
- Be able to pay for all necessary items.
- Follow cheerleading rules and regulations provided with the application.
- Be ruled as eligible under Mississippi High School Activities Association and Perry County Activity requirements.
- Be able to participate in all cheerleading functions and practices.

JUNIOR BETA CLUB

The National Junior Beta Club is a scholarship and leadership club for students in grades 6-8. Its purposes are to (1) encourage effort, (2) reward merit, (3) to promote those actions and qualities which make for good citizenship in the school community and (4) encourage and assist students to continue to excel in their education.

To be eligible to become a member of the Junior Beta Club, a student must:

- Be promoted to their current grade.
- Must have a 90 or better average for each academic course, for the final average in the previous grades and have satisfactory conduct.
- In order to remain a member of the BETA Club, a student must maintain a 90 average in each subject and have satisfactory conduct.

STUDENT COUNCIL

Each grade will elect ten student council members. A student must be enrolled in the Perry County School District one semester prior to elections. To qualify for nomination and to remain on the Student Council the student must meet the following criteria:

| To run: | Behavior: | No office referrals from the previous semester |
|------------|-----------|--|
| | Grades: | No grade below a C for the previous semester in any class |
| To remain: | Behavior: | No office referrals for behavioral infractions |
| | | Any referral will result in immediately removal |
| | Grades: | No grade below a C average in any class on report card |
| | | Any grade below C average will result in immediately removal |

ATTENDANCE (GRADES 6-8)

- 1. The Perry County School District supports the philosophy that the instructional program is the most vital part of formal education. Experience has shown that a high quality of work is virtually impossible with irregular attendance; therefore, students are expected to attend school at all times when school is in session.
- 2. A student shall be excused six (6) absences during the school year with a parental note. Every absence after six (6) shall warrant documentation from a doctor or an approval by the principal due to extenuating circumstances. An absence shall be unexcused without proper documentation.
- 3. In case of unreported absences, the parent should contact the principal's office, or the student should bring a note to the principal's office by the next day from his/her parent/guardian or doctor on the day the student returns to school. The note should state the specific reason for absence. Notes or doctor's excuses received more than five days after the absence will not be accepted.
- 4. A student shall not be absent for more than ten (10) days during a semester and twenty (20) days during a year and receive credit without administrative review.
- 5. A student with excessive absences as defined in #4 above may request administrative review of his/her absences only if every absence can be properly documented <u>(including the first ten (10)</u> <u>absences in semester or twenty (20) in year-long classes as specified in #4 above</u>). Acceptable documentation will be for doctor or dentist's appointment and other just reasons or extenuating circumstances. Administrative review, if granted, will be made at the end of the year.
- 6. Students under the age of seventeen (17) are required to attend school on a regular basis due to the Mississippi Compulsory Attendance Law. Irregular attendance reports of these students will be referred to the Perry County Attendance Officer for action by the Youth Court.
- 7. Irregular attendance will be monitored by teachers and the principal's office.
- 8. Perry County School District does not recognize or condone "skip days". All parents of students who are absent during a skip day will be contacted, and skip-day related absences will be in violation of School Board policy on attendance.
- 9. In order to be counted present, a student must be in attendance for 63% of the class time.
- 10. Parents will be periodically notified of absences of their child during each semester.
- 11. Students are expected to be in school all 180 days for academic growth and success are based upon regular attendance. If a compulsory school-age child who was expected by a school principal or his/her designee to enroll has not enrolled within fifteen (15) calendar days after the first day of the school year, or when a compulsory school-age child has accumulated five (5) unlawful/unexcused absences during the school year of the school in which he/she is enrolled, the principal of that school or his/her designee shall immediately report such absences to the school attendance officer of the Youth Court within two (2) school days or five (5) calendar days whichever is less.
- 12. Students' absences resulting from officially approved school business will not be counted; however, accreditation standards must be adhered to in regard to student activities.
- 13. Attendance recognition awards will be given at the end of the year will be based on the following:

TARDY TO CLASS

Students are allowed time to pass from one class to the next class and should not be tardy except in cases of emergency. If an emergency should arise, the student should get an admittance slip from the teacher who knows about the emergency. In the event the student needs more than the regular time, he/she should report to class first and obtain permission from the teacher. Every student is expected to be in class on time every day, every period. Tardy to class will be documented and turned into the office. In School Suspension time will be issued for a fourth and subsequent tardy to class within the same term.

TARDY TO SCHOOL

School attendance on a daily basis is critical to a child's academic success. Arrival at school on time and staying the entire school day is crucial to the learning process, especially at the middle school level. Since students are engaged in learning activities the entire school day, parents are strongly encouraged to refrain from bringing a child late to school and from checking a student out of school.

Students are required to be at school when the tardy bell rings. <u>Any student arriving at school after the</u> tardy bell MUST be escorted to the school office by a parent/guardian to obtain permission to enter class.

The following are the only ways a tardy can be excused:

- 1. If a student is late for school because of a doctor or dentist appointment, the student must provide the attendance clerk with a doctor's excuse when the student is signed in to school.
- 2. Students who are riding a school bus that arrives late to school will not be counted as tardy.

All other tardies will be counted as unexcused.

In School Suspension time will be issued for a fourth and every other tardy to school within the same term.

STUDENT CHECK-OUT

In order to provide for the best welfare of each student and the school, the following check-out policy has been adopted. When a student becomes ill or an emergency arises during the regular school day, which may warrant early dismissal, the student must report to the principal's office. Before the student will be allowed to leave the school, the student's parent or legal guardian must be contacted by telephone or the parent, legal guardian, or person authorized by the legal guardian must come to the school to sign the student out. The attendance clerk and/or the school administration will reserve the option to release a student from school if the student's parents cannot be contacted.

A student may be released for a doctor's appointment, dental appointment, or other just reason when the parent, legal guardian, or person authorized by the parent comes to the school and signs the student out or sends a note to the office stating the reason for check-out. This note must include the check-out time and telephone number where the parent can be contacted and should be on file no later than 8:15 a.m. on the day of check-out. If note cannot be verified, the school reserves the right to refuse release of the student.

It is asked that no calls be made to the school office after 2:00 p.m. concerning checking out or picking up your child from school. Please make arrangements before 2:00 p.m. or <u>send a note to your child's</u>

<u>teacher</u> if your child needs to be picked up. Checkouts after 2:00 p.m. will be for emergencies only. Students need to be picked up in the designated pick up areas unless there is an emergency.

During bad weather conditions, lock-down and other emergency situations, parents may check their child out from school after signing a check out document acknowledging the risk of taking such actions in the situation.

EXCUSED ABSENCES

Under Mississippi law (37-13-91), in order for an absence to be determined as EXCUSED, satisfactory evidence of the excuse must be provided by the student, including a note form the parent or a physician. The following eight categories constitute EXCUSED ABSENCES:

- 1. An absence resulting from illness or injury of the student which prevents the student from being physically able to attend school
- 2. An absence resulting from the death or serious injury of a member of the immediate family (parents/guardians, grandparents, siblings)
- 3. An absence resulting from medical or dental reasons
- 4. An absence resulting from a student's attendance at a proceedings of a court
- 5. An absence due to a required religious observance or event
- 6. An absence resulting from a authorized school activity
- 7. An absence that requires a student to be isolated for health purposes
- 8. An absence whereby the principal determines that conditions warrant that the absence be excused, which includes pre-approval of the absence by the principal.

STUDENT CONDUCT

Although student conduct in the Perry County School District is considered in most cases to be exemplary and situations have not arisen to cause undue concern for students' welfare and safety, the Perry County School District are required to establish policies and procedures that detail expectations of students and outline consequences of student misbehavior. The publication of these policies and procedures in the student handbooks will help assure that there is a clear understanding among students and parents concerning matters covered in the handbook under Student Conduct.

The provisions of these policies shall apply to all students during all of the period of time that they are under and subject to the jurisdiction of the Board of Education, in the sole and absolute discretion of the principal of the attendance center wherein such offense is committed and the Superintendent of Education of the Perry County School District shall be suspended for a period to be determined by the school administrator and may be expelled in the sole and absolute discretion of the Board of Education of this school district. Appropriate referrals will be made to juvenile authorities as required under state law.

DISCIPLINE

The objective of discipline within our school may be considered as follows:

- 1. To establish and maintain favorable conditions free from distraction and misbehavior.
- 2. To establish and maintain respect for authority within the school.
- 3. To develop attitudes, habits, and skills required for self-discipline and good citizenship.

Discipline Plans: parental responsibility for conference appearances, fines and damages

- 1. A copy of the school district's student handbook distributed to each student enrolled in the district and the parents, guardian or custodian of such student shall sign a statement verifying that they have been given notice of the discipline policies. The school board shall have its official discipline plan legally audited on an annual basis to insure that its policies and procedures are currently in compliance with applicable statutes, case law and state and federal constitutional provisions.
- 2. All discipline plans of school districts shall include, but not limited to the following:
 - a. A parent, guardian or custodian of a compulsory school-age child enrolled in a public school district shall be responsible financially for his or her minor child's destructive acts against school property or persons
 - b. A parent, guardian or custodian of a compulsory school-age child enrolled in a public school district may be requested to appear at school by an appropriate school official for conference regarding acts of the child specified in a paragraph (a) of this subsection, or for any other discipline conference regarding the acts of the child.
 - c. Any parent, guardian or custodian of a compulsory school-age child enrolled in a school district who refuses or willfully fails to attend such discipline conference specified in paragraph (b) of this section may be summoned by proper notification by the superintendent of schools and be required to attend such discipline conference; and
 - d. A parent, guardian or custodian of a compulsory school-age child enrolled in a public school district shall be responsible for any criminal fines brought against such student for unlawful activity as defined in Section 37-11-29 occurring on school grounds.
- 3. Any public school district shall be entitled to recover damages in an amount not to exceed twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000.00), plus necessary court cost, from the parents of any minor under the age of eighteen (18) years and over the age of six (6) years, who maliciously and willfully damages or destroys property belonging to such school district.

However, this section shall not apply to parents whose parental control of such child has been removed by court order or decree. The action authorized in this section shall be in addition to all other actions which the school district is entitled to maintain and nothing in this section shall preclude recovery in a greater amount from the minor or from person, including the parents, for damages to which such minor or other person would otherwise be liable.

We recognize that for learning to take place we must maintain conditions conducive to learning. This implies a classroom and school environment that is orderly. Respect for authority is a value to be stressed, but should come, at least partly, as a result of leadership and not forced tribute.

All students are to conduct themselves appropriately at all school-sponsored activities. Failure to do so will result in the student losing his/her privilege to attend such functions.

The responsibility for a student's behavior rests with the parents or legal guardians and the individual student. The principal has the authority to administer any disciplinary action approved by the Perry County School Board necessary to ensure the safety and well-being of all students. This administration will take

whatever steps necessary to enforce the policies of the Perry County School District to include, if necessary, the involvement of the appropriate law enforcement or juvenile authorities.

The discipline philosophy of the Perry County School District supports teachers' right to teach and the students' right to learn. Behavior which stops the teacher from instructing and/or any student form learning will not be tolerated. We recognize that effective discipline requires the shared responsibility of parents, students and school personnel.

Parents are notified of suspension by telephone and/or by letter. If a parent is not contacted by phone, a letter with the information is given to the student. On occasion a student is suspended immediately, if it is considered in his/her best interest or the general welfare of the other students and/or school personnel. The discipline of each student will be determined on an individual basis. This will include the administration looking at the severity, repetitiveness, environment in which the behavior occurs, and any other information that help the administration make a satisfactory decision. If, for any reason, a parent does not want the student paddled, the administration and each teacher is to be notified in writing immediately after the student is enrolled. This procedure is to be followed each school year.

Teacher will provide students and/or parents with a list of rules and consequences which will be used in their classrooms. When a student chooses to break the rules, consequences will be consistently applied. When a student is referred to the office, disciplinary action will be taken according to the following prescribed steps and consequences. Depending on the seriousness of the offenses and previous disciplinary record, a student may enter the ladder at a level higher that step 1 and/or may be referred to appropriate youth authorities.

DISCIPLINE GENERAL INFORMATION AND GUIDELINES

The basic objective of discipline within the school may be described as fourfold:

- 1. To establish conditions under which no student will be permitted to prevent any teacher from teaching or any student from learning.
- 2. To establish and maintain study conditions conducive to learning.
- 3. To develop, on the part of each student, the habits and skills that make him/her self-directive and to help him/her realize that he/she is responsible for his/her own behavior.
- 4. To guide students in learning how to make better behavioral choices based on decision-making skills that enable them to become self-disciplined.
- ** *Keys to Successful Learning* will apply:
 - 1. Students can and will do what is asked, the first time they are asked, by any adult in the school.
 - 2. Students can and will respect all people.
 - 3. Students can and will do good deeds and say good things.
 - 4. Students can and will ask permission to speak or to leave their seats.
 - 5. Students can and will be prepared for class and do their best at all times.
 - 6. Students can and will walk quietly from place to place, in a straight line.
 - 7. Students can and will tell the truth at all times.

Conferences, reprimands, parent care, corporal punishment, suspension or expulsion may follow student failure to conform to accepted standards of behavior in school.

BEHAVIOR ON/OFF CAMPUS

House Bill 776, effective July 1, 2000, gives the local school board the authority to expel a student or to change placement to an alternative school or a home-bound program for misconduct:

- In the school
- On the road to and from school
- At any school related activity or event
- Or on property other than school property or other than at a school related event
- Any item that is brought to school that could be a distraction to the educational environment will be confiscated and returned to the student at the end of the day. Students repeatedly bringing objects could be subject to more disciplinary actions and will include longer confiscation time.

Authority exists when the superintendent or principal determines that such misconduct renders the student's presence in the classroom a disruption to the educational environment or a detriment to the best interest and welfare of other students or teachers of such a class as a whole. Legal Reference: 37-7-301. Students can be held accountable for breaking school rules on property adjacent to the school campus. This applies to before and after school as well as during school hours

STUDENT TRANSPORTATION INFORMATION GUIDE

Parents and students should understand that Mississippi law refers to riding a school bus as an "entitlement", which means that public school districts are not required to provide transportation for any student who does not meet behavioral expectations.

INTERFERENCE WITH SCHOOL BUSES

It is unlawful for any individual other than a member of the public school administration or faculty or a law enforcement official to interfere in any way with the operation of a school bus. State law prohibits unauthorized boarding of school buses or interference with passenger boarding or leaving under penalties of fine and/or imprisonment.

STUDENT BEHAVIOR ON BUS

Parents and students should understand that riding the school bus is an extension of the school day, and the bus is considered a classroom on wheels. The following behaviors are expected of each student who rides a school bus in the Perry County School District. Failure to meet these expectations could result in the student's removal from bus transportation.

The following are the basic expectations that will allow a student to continue riding the bus:

- Sit where the driver assigns you, facing the front at all times, with your bottom on the seat, feet in front of you, remaining seated while the bus is in motion.
- Keep your objects, hands, elbows, feet, legs, etc. to yourself, following the "hands-off" policy.
- Talk or speak to others in a respectable manner with an "inside" voice. Shouting, yelling, raising your voice or vulgar language will be unacceptable.
- Keep food and drinks in your bags at all times while on the bus.

- Refrain from making obscene gestures, horse-playing and throwing objects on the bus or out the window.
- Keep toys, games, spray colognes, hair sprays, deodorant, etc. at home or in your bags.
- Other behaviors that the bus driver feels to be unacceptable will be addressed with the student, and the student is expected to obey the driver when told to correct or discontinue a specific behavior.
- All school rules and policies will be expected to followed while on or near the bus
- Each driver will post rules and expectations posted on their bus.
- Administration reserves the right to modify or add any expectations deemed necessary to make sure each students behavior is conducive to safe riding environment

Continuous violations of any of the above behavioral expectations will be subject to the bus discipline ladder process as described below. (Special education laws will be applied as needed.)

The following misbehaviors on the school bus are subject to the same discipline as described in this school handbook, as well as subject to removal from the bus:

- Fighting between students on the bus or at the bus stop
- Possession, transfer, or use of a weapon on the bus or at the bus stop
- Possession, transfer, or use of a firearm on the bus or at the bus stop
- Possession, transfer, or use of illegal substance on the bus or at the bus stop
- Any other action that might occur on the bus or at the bus stop that is considered severe by the school administration

CONSEQUENCES FOR FAILURE TO FOLLOW BUS SAFETY RULES

Students will be disciplined for disorderly conduct on the bus. The bus driver will give to the principal a written report of the misbehavior. Reports will be investigated and offenders will be subject to the following consequences:

- 1. First offense: Reprimand, corporal punishment, parent care or loss of transportation privilege for 1 to 3 days.
- 2. Second offense: corporal punishment, parent care or loss of transportation privilege for 3 to 5 days.
- 3. Third offense: corporal punishment or loss of transportation privilege for 5 to 9 days.
- 4. Fourth Offense: loss of transportation privilege for 9 days. Could also result in student being removed from the bus for the remainder of the school year.
- 5. Infractions involving spitting out the window, throwing articles out of the window or on the bus, smoking, striking matches, using lighters or other dangerous behavior will result in an immediate suspension from the school and the bus to be determined by the principal.
- 6. Assault on the bus driver or school personnel will result in an immediate suspension from the school and a recommendation for expulsion the remainder of the school year. A report will also be submitted to the local police department or Perry County Sheriff's Office.

The principal may, at his/her discretion, use more severe punishment than listed above if the situation warrants. When a student is suspended from the bus the parent/guardian must arrange for transportation to and from school. Regular school attendance is expected. A copy of the report will be sent home to the parent/guardian

BEHAVIORS THAT WILL BE REFERRED TO THE PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE

This list of infractions is not all inclusive. School personnel reserve the right to refer students for disciplinary action for other behaviors which disrupts the educational environment or other campus activities.

| Disrespect | 1-6 |
|---|-----|
| Defiance and/or Continued Defiance | 1-6 |
| Classroom or Campus Disturbance | 1-4 |
| Profanity or vulgarity, including gestures | 1-4 |
| Harassing/intimidation/threatening other students, faculty or staff | 2-6 |
| Instigating/participating in verbal or push/shove confrontation | 2-6 |
| Possession/distribution/sharing of obscene literature | 1-6 |
| Leaving classroom without permission | 1-4 |
| Leaving school without permission or failure to report to class | 1-4 |
| Acts that is detrimental to decency, decorum, or order | 1-4 |
| Forge/deceive/misrepresent the truth/lying | 1-4 |
| Improper use of the internet or network | 1-4 |
| Hazing (physical or mental) | 2-5 |
| Unauthorized use/sale/possession/transfer of non/prescription drug | 3-5 |
| Possession/use/transfer of tobacco or paraphernalia | 3-5 |
| Public display of affection | 1-3 |
| Vandalism | 1-3 |
| Possession/distribution/transfer/use of fireworks | 2-5 |
| Physical violence on student/personnel | 3-6 |
| Instigate/participate in fight | 2-6 |
| Use/sale/transfer/possession of alcohol/drug/narcotics/illegal drugs or paraphernalia | 6 |
| Use/attempted use/possession/transfer of dangerous object/weapon | 5-6 |
| Steals/appropriates/converts to own use property of another (restitution required) | 2-6 |
| Defacing/destruction of school property (restitution required) | 2-6 |
| Sexual misconduct/sexual battery/sexual harassment | 2-6 |
| Violation of hands off policy | 1-6 |
| Trespassing | 1-6 |
| Assault | 5-6 |
| Bomb threat | 5-6 |
| Possession/use/attempted use/transfer of firearm | 6 |
| Excessive tardiness | 1-6 |
| Other misbehavior as designated by administration | 1-6 |

SCHOOL DISCIPLINE LADDER

STEP 1 Reprimand, corporal punishment, parent care or loss of privilege (including participation in athletics or other extracurricular activities).

STEP 2 Corporal punishment, one to three days In School Suspension, one day Out Of School Suspension, or loss or privilege (including participation in athletics or other extracurricular activities). Removal from ladder if not referred for 15 school days.

STEP 3 One to three days In School Suspension, one to three days Out Of School Suspension. Removal from ladder if not referred for 30 school days.

STEP 4 Three to five days In School Suspension, three to five days Out of School Suspension. Removal form ladder if not referred for 45 school days.

STEP 5 Five to nine days Out of School Suspension. Move to Step 4 if not referred for 45 school days.

STEP 6 Nine day Out of School Suspension. Possible recommendation for alternative placement or expulsion from school.

Incentive is provided for the student to improve behavior through provisions of a probationary period that allows a student to be removed from the discipline ladder by good conduct.

The administration reserves the right to assign students to "pride projects" on the school grounds or in any of the buildings. The projects would involve litter control, special cleaning details or other appropriate consequences for students who abuse the school grounds, buildings or facilities. The "pride projects" may be in addition to or in lieu of the consequences available on the discipline ladder, at the discretion of the administration. A copy of the report will be sent home to the parent/guardian.

DUE PROCESS

Students are afforded due process. Information is distributed to the students regarding school rules and student conduct in the student handbook.

When a disciplinary action results in a disciplinary reassignment, suspension or expulsion, due Process of law involves three procedures:

Prior Notification – The student and /or legal guardian is informed of the disciplinary action which is being considered.

Specification of Charges - The student and /or legal guardian is made aware of the misconduct for which the student is being accused.

Opportunity to Respond - The student and /or legal guardian is allowed to present his view of the accusations and of the disciplinary action to be taken.

An appeal may be made to a principal, in writing, if the procedure or a decision is questioned. A principal's decision may be appealed in writing, to the superintendent of schools.

CORPORAL PUNISHMENT

Corporal Punishment is an option in the disciplinary program of the Perry County School District. The district has established procedures under which a parent/legal guardian will indicate whether he/she gives permission for his/her child to receive corporal punishment as appropriate under the assertive discipline plan outlined in the student handbook and in accordance with district policy. Alternative disciplinary actions will be required for students whose parents/legal guardians have declined in writing Corporal Punishment Permission.

Disciplinary action in lieu of or in addition to corporal punishment may include parent care, suspension from school, referral to social services, or other appropriate disciplinary measures, including requirement that the parent or legal guardian attend classes with the child.

Corporal punishment may be administered by school principals, teachers in charge, and certified teachers. Corporal punishment shall be administered by a teacher to a student in the presence of another Perry County School District employee.

Corporal punishment shall be administered in the principal's office or a designated area. A maximum of (3) three licks may be administered. All discipline 6-8 will be at the discretion of the principal, subject to review by the Superintendent of Education.

SUSPENSION

Suspension (both in-school suspension and out-of-school suspension) is a forfeiture of participation in regular scheduled school activities for the time designated during suspension. Graded work missed during the time of suspension may be made up at a time designated by school officials. Students may be assigned to in-school, alternative school placement, or out-of-school suspension.

In all cases, parents must have a conference with the designated school administrator before the child will be allowed to return to classes. In-school suspension requires that a student complete all assignments during the period of suspension. Additional time in ISS may be given for failure to complete assignments in the ISS program. A student who disrupts the ISS program will be referred to the appropriate administrator and the student will complete the assigned suspension in the District's Alternative School or out-of-school; he/she will not be allowed to return to regular classes until suspension is completed in its entirety.

EXPULSION

Expulsion is the total exclusion of the student from participation in or attendance at any school District related activity. A student who has been expelled from the Perry County Schools must apply in writing to the Board of Education for possible re-admission.

Repeated patterns of misbehavior may require counseling and parental involvement and assistance to the extent that the parent may be requested to come to school and attend classes with the student in order to identify and correct such behavioral patterns.

All disruptions/discipline problems and consequences shall be applicable to all students during all periods of time they are under and subject to the jurisdiction of the Board of Education of this school district and/or while under the supervision and direction of any teacher, principal, or other authority of this school district.

FIGHTING/INCITING CONFLICT

Students who are involved in assaults, who engage in fighting or who are responsible in any way for fighting while under the jurisdiction of the school will be subject to arrest, removal and/or expulsion from school in accordance with state statutes. This includes <u>fighting while on bus</u>, at bus stops, or at any activity/event sponsored by the Perry County School District.

SEVERE DISCIPLINE OFFENSE

- 1. **Firearm possession (GUN FREE SCHOOL ACT** Senate Bill 33.49) possession of any firearm, including pistols, rifles, shotguns, BB guns, pellet guns, air pistol/rifles, etc.
 - A. First offense-expulsion for minimum of one school year. Offender will be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law. The State Department of Education, Office of Community and Outreach Services, requires that any student who brings a firearm to school be expelled or placed in an alternative program.
- 2. **Weapon possessions** (other than firearms)-defined as any object that in the opinion of the school official is capable of inflicting bodily injury. (Example: metal picks, metal combs, knife, chemicals, and mace.)
 - **A.** First offense-confiscation, three day suspension with parent conference on returning to school.
 - **B.** Second offense-confiscation, parent conference, and nine-day suspension with possible recommendation for Alternative placement.
 - **C.** Third offense- confiscation and possible referral to Discipline Committee that can result in a referral to the Perry County Board of Education for expulsion for the remainder of the school year or other punishment deemed appropriate.

3. Drug Possession/Alcohol Possession/Drug Alcohol Use

- **A.** First offense-immediate nine day (9) suspension with possible recommendation for expulsion. Local law enforcement will be notified.
- **B.** Second offense-mandatory expulsion for one school year.
- 4. **Fighting** an altercation between two or more students where both individuals strike and/or attempt to strike each other with the intent to do bodily harm.
 - A. First offense-three-day mandatory out of school suspension and parent conference
 - B. Second offense-five-day mandatory out of school suspension and parent conference
 - C. Third offense-ten-day mandatory out of school suspension, and possible Alternative referral or expulsion.

5. Tobacco use and/or possession

- A. First offense- three-day suspension and parent conference
- **B.** Second offense-five-day mandatory suspension and parent conference
- $\textbf{C. Third offense-} nine-day \ out \ of \ school \ suspension \ and \ parent \ conference$
- **D.** Fourth offense- parent conference, Alternative referral and expulsion

STUDENT APPEARANCE

Students are expected to present a clean, neat and will-groomed appearance at school. It is the responsibility of the parents and/or guardians to see that their child is properly attired for school. The administration or designee reserves the right to make the final decision concerning the appropriateness of clothing at school. Parents should be aware of potential drastic changes in weather and should see that their child is dressed accordingly.

DRESS CODE

The Dress Code for Perry County School students is the result of a joint effort by parents, teachers, and administrators to provide guidelines which will govern the choice of appropriate school dress by our students.

- 1. The student must present a neat, well-groomed appearance.
- 2. Students will be required to wear clothing as the garments were intended to be worn (example: no low-riding pants) and in such a manner that will not cause undue attention or disruption of instructional activities.
- 3. No hats, caps, bandannas, sunglasses, or other inappropriate headwear will be worn on the school grounds at any time except during adverse weather. If worn during adverse weather, caps or head protection should be stored in locker or backpack upon arrival at school. Hoods of any kind are not to be worn in the buildings.
- 4. Appropriate footwear will be worn at all times. Gym or tennis shoes should be worn during physical education class. (No house shoes, wheelie shoes or flip flops allowed at any time.)
- 5. Students will not be permitted to wear clothing which exposes the midriff.
- 6. Clothing with inappropriate patches or emblems or profane, vulgar or abusive images or language or portrays violence will not be worn. Clothing, accessories, or manner of grooming which, by virtue of its color, arrangement, trademark, symbol, or any other attribute which indicates or implies membership or affiliation with gangs or gang activity or association will not be permitted. Symbols that might be considered racially offensive will not be worn. In addition, clothing displaying symbols or advertising or promoting the use of alcoholic beverages, tobacco, or drugs will not be worn at school.
- 7. No picks, combs or curlers in hair. Disruptive hair styles or color is not permitted.
- 8. Students whose dress, appearance or lack of dress is disruptive will not be permitted to remain in school.
- 9. Appropriate undergarments shall be worn by all students. Students that wear see through shirts must wear proper undershirts so that no underwear or midriff is visible.
- 10. Clothing that is considered indecent or extremely sloppy will not be allowed. If pants or shorts have belt loops then a belt should be worn.
- 11. A neat, well-trimmed mustache or goatee is permitted.
- 12. The fit and length of skirts, shorts and dresses must not distract from the learning environment and must not be shorter than 4 inches above the top of the knee cap.
- 13. Pants or shorts that are torn, cut-up or frayed will not be allowed if more than 4 inches above the top of the knee cap.
- 14. Bicycle pants/shorts, gym shorts, pajama pants, jogger pants or yoga pants will not be allowed.
- 15. Leggings, jeggings, tights, or anything resembling these items may be worn only if an appropriate covering meets the 4 inch above the knee qualification.
- 16. Clothing which includes Greek organizations or social clubs will not be allowed.
- 17. No tank tops, muscle shirts, sleeveless undershirts, or anything resembling these items will be worn without T-shirts or other clothing that provides adequate cover.

- 18. Only visible piercing allowed is girl's earrings.
- 19. Braces and retainers are acceptable. (No "grillz").
- 20. No trench coats or full length coat.

In all instances, school administrators or designee, considering the style or manner in which the clothing is worn or how it fits, will determine the appropriateness of school dress

HABITUALLY DISTRUPTIVE STUDENTS

- 1. The term "disruptive behavior" means conduct of a student that is so unruly, disruptive or abusive that it seriously interferes with teacher's or administrator's ability to communicate with the students in a classroom, or with the operation of a school or school-related activity, and which is not covered by other law related to violence or possession of weapons or controlled substances on school property, school vehicles or at school-related activities. Such behaviors include but are not limited to ; foul, profane, obscene, threatening, defiant or abusive language or action toward teachers or other school employees; defiance, ridicule or verbal attack of a teacher; and/or willful, deliberate and overt acts of disobedience of the directions of a teacher. The teacher has the right to remove any student from class. The administration shall determine whether a child meets the definition of "disruptive" or "habitually disruptive".
- 2. The term "habitually disruptive" refers to such actions of a student which cause disruption in a classroom on school property or vehicles or at a school-related activity more than two (2) occasions during a school year, and to disruptive behavior that was initiated, willful and overt on the part of the student and which required the attention of school personnel to deal with the disruption. However, no student shall be considered to be "habitually disruptive" before the development and implementation of a behavior modification plan for the student in accordance with the code of student conduct and discipline plans of the school district.
- 3. Any student who is thirteen (13) years of age or older for whom a behavior modification plan is developed by the school principal, reporting teacher and student's parent/legal guardian and that student does not comply with the plan shall be deemed "habitually disruptive" and subject to expulsion on the occurrence of the third act of disruptive behavior during a school year. After the second act of disruptive behavior by a student who is younger than thirteen (13) years of age, a functional behavior assessment shall be conducted. A principal or central office administrator may request that a functional behavior assessment be conducted for a child who is thirteen (13) years of age or older prior to an expulsion.

IN SCHOOL SUSPENSION (ISS)

At the discretion of the principal and as a last alternative to out of school suspension (OSS), a student may be placed in in-school suspension (ISS), a program designated to keep students working productively at school while being restricted under disciplinary measures. During the time in the ISS program, a student will be totally separated from the normal school setting. Re-entry into the regular school program is based on person al performance and meeting the specific requirements of the ISS program. Pride projects will be assigned to each student for character building purposes.

INTERROGATIONS

School administrators and teacher have the right to interrogate students regarding their conduct and/or the conduct of others. In regards to students' alleged actions, except where alleged actions would constitute a criminal offense, right against self-incrimination does not exist.

SEARCHES

Students in the district have the right to privacy and security against arbitrary invasion of their personal property by school officials. However, the school must maintain an atmosphere conducive to the pursuit of its educational goals, including a limited right to search students' personal belongings when it is in the interest of the overall welfare of other students or is necessary to preserve the good order and discipline of the school. Searches may be conducted with reasonable cause by not less than two members of the professional staff. Any student who commits an unlawful act on school grounds, at school-sponsored activity or a school related activity, is subject to having charges filed against him/her by the school district with the proper law enforcement officials.

HARASSMENT/BULLYING

The faculty and staff are committed to a safe educational environment for all students, employees, volunteers and patrons, free from harassment, intimidation or bullying. "Harassment, intimidating or bullying" means any intentional written, verbal or physical act, when the act:

- Physically harms a student of damages the student's property; or
- Has the effect of substantially interfering with a student's education; or
- Is severe, persistent, or pervasive that it creates an intimidating or threatening educational environment; or
- Has the effect of substantially disrupting the orderly operation of the school.

Harassment, intimidation or bullying can take many forms including: slurs, rumors, jokes, innuendos, demeaning comments, drawing cartoons, pranks, gestures, physical attacks, threats, or other written (including text messaging and other forms of electronic communications), oral or physical actions. "Intentional acts" refers to the individual's choice to engage in the act rather that the ultimate impact of the action(s).

Counseling, corrective discipline, and/or referral to law enforcement will be used to change the behavior of the perpetrator and remediate the impact on the victim. This includes appropriate interventions(s), restorations of a positive climate, and support for victims and others impacted by the violation. False reports or retaliation for harassment, intimidation or bullying also constitutes violations of this policy.

Any student who feels that he/she has been a target of harassment of bullying or any parent who feels his/her child has been a target of harassment or bullying in school, on school property, or while participating in a school sanctioned activity should report the incident promptly, orally, or in writing, to a school staff member, preferably the principal. All complaints will be investigated by the principal or his/her designee. Depending on the nature of the offense, disciplinary action ranging from counseling to suspension or expulsion may be taken consistent with school discipline policies. An allegation of harassment of bullying and the results of the investigation shall be kept confidential to the extent

reasonably possible under the investigation process. Witnesses and those interviewed shall be informed of the confidential nature of the issues and the investigation, and shall be informed that it will be a violation of this policy to disclose the allegation of the nature of the investigation to others and will be subject to disciplinary actions.

School officials recognize the right of every student to take reasonable actions as may necessary to defend himself or herself from an attack by another student who has evidenced bullying or harassment behaviors. The school defines "reasonable action" as promptly reporting the behavior to a teacher, principal, counselor, or other school employee when subjected to bullying or other harassing behavior.

PREVENTION OF SCHOOL VIOLENCE

SECTION I. Section 97-37-17, Mississippi Code of 1972, is amended as follows:

- 1. The following definitions apply to this section:
 - A. Educational property shall mean any public or private school building or bus, public or private school campus, grounds, recreational area, athletic field, or other property owned, used or operated by any local school board, school college or university board of trustees, or directors for the administration of any public or private educational institution or during a school related activity; provided however, the term "educational property" shall not include sixteenth section school land or lieu land on which is not located a school building, school campus, recreational area or athletic field.
 - **B. Student** shall mean a person enrolled in a public or private school, college or university, or a person who has been suspended or expelled within the last five (5) years from a public or private school, college or university, whether the person is an adult or a minor.
 - **C. Switchblade knife** shall mean a knife containing a blade or blades, which open automatically by release of a spring or similar contrivance.
 - **D.** Weapon shall mean any device enumerated in subsection (2) or (4) of this section.
- 2. It shall be a felony for any person to possess or carry, whether openly or concealed any gun, rifle, pistol, or other firearm of any kind, or any dynamite cartridge, bomb, grenade, mine or powerful explosive on educational property. However, this sub-section does not apply to BB gun, air rifle, or air pistol. Any person violating this sub-section shall be guilty of a felony and, upon conviction thereof, shall be fined more than five thousand dollars (\$5,000.00), or committed to the custody of the State Department of Corrections for not more than three (3) years, or both.
- 3. It shall be a felony for any person to cause, encourage or aid a minor who is less than eighteen (18) years old to possess or carry, whether openly or concealed, any gun, rifle, pistol, or other firearm of any kind, or any dynamite cartridge, bomb, grenade, mine, or powerful explosive on educational property. However, this sub-section does not apply to BB gun, air rifle, or air pistol. Any person violating this sub-section shall be guilty of a felony and, upon conviction thereof, shall be fined not more than five thousand dollars (\$5,000.00), or be imprisoned not exceeding six (6) months, or both.
- 4. It shall be a misdemeanor for any person to cause, encourage or aid a minor who is less than eighteen (18) years old to possess or carry, whether openly or concealed, any BB gun, air rifle, air pistol, Bowie knife, dirk, dagger, slingshot, leaded cane, switchblade knife, blackjack, metallic knuckles, razors and razor blades (except solely for personal shaving), and any sharp-pointed or edged instrument except instructional supplies, unaltered nail files and clips and tools used solely for preparation of food, instruction and maintenance of education property. Any person violating this sub-section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction thereof, shall be fined not more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00), or be imprisoned not exceeding six (6) months, or both.
- It shall be a misdemeanor for any person to cause, encourage or aid a minor who is less than eighteen (18) years old to possess or carry, whether openly or concealed, any BB gun, air rifle, air pistol, Bowie

knife, dirk, dagger, slingshot, leaded cane, switchblade knife, blackjack, metallic knuckles, razors and razor blades (except solely for personal shaving), and any sharp-pointed or edged instrument except instructional supplies, unaltered nail files and clips and tools used solely for preparation of food, instruction and maintenance of education property. Any person violating this sub-section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction thereof, shall be fined not more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00), or be imprisoned not exceeding six (6) months, or both.

- 6. It shall not be a violation of this section for any person to possess or carry, whether openly or concealed any gun, rifle, pistol or other firearm of any kind on educational property if:
 - A. The person is not a student attending school on the education property;
 - B. The firearm is within a motor vehicle; and
 - **C**. The person does not brandish, exhibit or display the firearm in any careless angry or threatening manner.
- 7. This section shall not apply to:

A. A weapon used solely for educational or school-sanctioned ceremonial purposes, or used in a school-approved program conducted under the supervision of an adult whose supervision has been approved by the school authority;

B. Armed forces personnel of the United States, officers and soldiers of the militia and National Guard, law enforcement personnel, any police employed by an educational institution, State Militia or Emergency Management Corps and any guard or patrolman in a state or municipal institution, when acting in the discharge of their official duties;

C. Home schools as defined in the compulsory school attendance law, Section 37-13-91, Mississippi Code of 1972;

D. Competitors while participating in organized shooting events;

E. Any person as authorized in Section 97-37-7 while in the performance of his official duties; or

F. Any mail carrier while in the performance of his official duties; or

G. Any weapon not prescribed by Section 97-37-1 which is in motor vehicle under the control of a parent, guardian or custodian, as defined in Section 43-21-105, which is used to bring or pick up a student at a school building, school property or school function.

8. All schools shall post in public view a copy of the provisions of this section.

GANG ACTIVITY OR ASSOCIATION

Gangs which initiate, advocate, or promote activities which threaten the safety or well-being of persons or property on school grounds or which disrupt the school environment are harmful to the educational process. The use of hand signals, graffiti, or the presence of any apparel, jewelry, accessory, or manner of grooming which, by virtue of its color, arrangements, trademark, symbol, or any other attribute, which indicates or implies membership or affiliation with such group, presents a clear and present danger and is prohibited. This is contrary to the school environment and educational objectives and creates an atmosphere where unlawful acts of violations or violations of school regulations may occur.

The Perry County School District shall enforce the above rule and attempt to ensure that any student wearing, carrying, or displaying gang paraphernalia or exhibiting behavior or gestures which symbolize gang membership and/or participating in activities which intimidate or affect the attendance of another student shall be subject to disciplinary action.

OTHER PROHIBITED ORGANIZATIONS/SECRET ORGANIZATIONS

No student shall actively participate or wear other indications of membership in an organization which advocates violence or hatred toward any group of students or other individuals, or an organization which either intends to or does disrupt the educational process through its purpose or actions.

State law specifically prohibits the existence of any sorority, fraternity, or secret society as part of any school in Mississippi. The Perry County School District expressly prohibits use of Perry County School District as part of the name of any of these groups, raising funds in the name of Perry County School District, conducting any part of the initiation at Perry County School District (including wearing of unusual dress, signs, and directions or instructions given to initiates by member), and the use of any school facility grounds or buildings for the purpose of meeting or holding any type of program or exhibition.

The above regulations are not inclusive; other conduct in connection with these groups is forbidden at or in the schools. Students who violate the position of the Perry County School District in this matter will be subject to suspension, with a parental conference required before student reinstatement.

CAFETERIA

- * Breakfast and lunches are served each day in all Perry County School District. Prices for breakfast and lunches will be subject to change during the school year.
- * Free and reduced price breakfasts and lunches are available for those who apply and qualify.
- * Milk may be purchased by any student in the cafeteria
- * In compliance with the Federal (USDA) guidelines, commercially prepared competitive food and drink items will not be distributed or sold one hour prior to or during the lunch period and will not be taken into the cafeteria during lunch.
- * No credit will be extended for breakfast or lunches.
- * The system used in identifying student meal status will be the number system. The concept of the number system requires all students to be assigned a certain coded number for the school year enabling each student to eat breakfast and lunch in the school cafeteria.
- * Students may pay in advance daily at a place and at times designated by the principal for this purpose. Students may also pay in advance on a weekly, biweekly, and monthly basis, but the period may not exceed one month. Advance payments will not be accepted on the serving line.

| | Breakfast | Lunch |
|------------|-----------|--------|
| Full Price | \$1.25 | \$2.75 |
| Reduced | \$0.30 | \$0.40 |
| Free | Free | Free |
| Adult | \$2.00 | \$3.50 |

USDA Federal Management Circular 796.1 (RV.2) list bad debts as non-allowable expenditures of federal funds, therefore losses on meals charged and /or NSF checks cannot be paid out of Child Nutrition funds. To assure compliance with Federal Management Circular 796.1 (RV.2) annually a transaction should be made for uncollectible charges or insufficient fund checks by general funds to record reimbursement for all said bad debt.

USDA Federal regulations state that all meal payments are to be made at point of service. The State Agency's position is that Child Nutrition Program funds cannot be used for program purposes to resolve bad debt as noted by USCA, FNS Instruction 796.1 (RV.2).

- 1. All full paying and reduced priced students in grades K-8 will be allowed to charge reimbursable lunch meals not to exceed \$40.00 and 9-12 will not be allowed to charge at all.
- 2. Charges notices will be sent home two (2) times a month with students in an effort to notify the parent of outstanding charges from the moment a student receives his/her first charge.
- 3. Once a charge limit is exceeded, parents will be informed by mail form Child Nutrition administrative staff to send a meal from home until charges are paid down below the allowable limit.
- 4. No extra food or items (chips, ice cream, water, etc.) sales will be allowed to be charged to a student's account unless they already have funds in the account.
- 5. Report Cards for any student with charges may be withheld and require that par3ents pay all outstanding charges before report cards are released.
- 6. Principals will be given a charge report at the end of each month with the names of students who have outstanding charges.
- 7. Students who owe meal charges will not be allowed to purchase extra food sale items until all charges are paid in full.
- 8. Students who are withdrawn in the middle of a school year must pay all outstanding charges. School staff should obtain outstanding charge amount information from the Child Nutrition Office before final withdrawal is conducted. If student is release with a negative balance the owed amount will be taken out of the Principal School budget to cover cost.
- 9. All students who reach or exceed allowable charge limit may not be allowed to participate in any school activities (field trips, incentives, field day, etc.) until the balance is paid or arrangements are made with the school principal or child nutrition director.
- 10. All students that owe will not be allowed to take their semester exams or be exempt from their nine weeks or semester test.

*Instruction staff will share in the responsibility of collection of monies for sales of meals.

COURTESIES IN THE AUDITORIUM/GYM/ASSEMBLIES

Special assemblies in the auditorium, gym or on campus will be called from time to time. The following rules of good manners should be kept:

- Enter the auditorium/gym quietly and remain quiet during the entire program.
- Give the speaker/entertainer visual attention.
- Refrain from making comments that disturb others.
- Applaud in a cultured and refined manner when something is enjoyable.
- Never boo or whistle, regardless of an opinion.
- Be seated in an assigned place.
- Raise the auditorium seats when leaving for others' convenience.
- Refrain from entering or leaving during musical presentations.
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CELL PHONE POLICY

Cell phone/electronic devices have been proven to be a distraction to the educational environment thus it is suggested that students leave these personal items at home. At their own risk, students that bring their cell phones/electronic devices to school must be responsible to keep their device on silent or vibrate at all times so as not to distract from the instructional time during the school day. If a device is confiscated the following consequences will be taken. Perry County School District or its school personnel will not be responsible for any damaged, missing or stolen devices and accessories (headphones, charges, etc...). A student may check the device in at the office and be picked up at the end of the day.

First Offense: If a student has a cell phone on school property and it is taken up during the school day, the phone can be picked up by a parent and the parent will be given a copy of the cell phone policy and asked to sign a form of acknowledgement.

Second Offense: If a student has a cell phone confiscated as second time on campus, it will remain in the office for one calendar month.

Third Offense: Further offenses will result in the student being disciplined according to the discipline ladder and the phone will be returned at the end of the school year.

NOTE: If it is determined that a cell phone was used in a drug transaction, promoting a disturbance, texting answers, or any illegal/immoral activity, the student will be suspended and the phone will be returned on the last school day of the school year.

DAILY ANNOUNCMENTS

Announcements will be made daily for the benefit of the school as a whole. Students, teachers or organizations desiring to have announcements made should write them in the form desired and turn them in to the principal's office. Announcements should be as brief as possible.

The principal must approve all announcements before they are made to the student body. All announcements should be turned in to the office before 7:45 each day.

FUNDRAISING

Fundraisers should be kept to a minimum in the school. Each club, class or organization may have only one fundraising per semester. No fundraising will be allowed for the purchase of instructional supplies or equipment. Fundraising project request forms must be submitted to the principal and possible the school board for approval.

All money collected in these activities will be receipted and deposited in that organization's account and is not to be expended on any project other than school-sponsored programs or activities. No purchases are to be made through the Student Activity Fund without the approval of the principal.

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RESTROOMS

Restrooms should be kept as clean as possible. Students are to use the restroom for the purpose for which they were built. Students are not to loiter in the restrooms. Students may use the restrooms between classes, roughly every 50-100 minutes. If a special problem exists, even temporarily, contact the office, or in an emergency, send a note. Special permission can be arranged.

SCHOOL PROPERTY: CARE OF

All buildings and whatever they contain in the way of equipment are provided at great expense by the taxpayers of the Perry County School District. Pupils should pride themselves in doing everything possible to take care of school property and should encourage others to do so.

All paper and waste should be placed in the containers arranged for this purpose. Paper should not be thrown on the campus or floors. Any student causing damage to school property either intentionally or through neglect on his/her part will be liable for such damage.

APPEARANCE OF BUILDING AND CAMPUS

Taking pride in one's surrounding is good training in citizenship. The school buildings and the campus can be kept attractive with cooperation of students and all school personnel. Trash and empty paper cups should be deposited in containers. Restrooms should be kept clean.

FIELD TRIPS

As part of the educational service of the school, students may be taken on field trips. Such trips are made only with permission of the parent. When such trips are being planned, permission slips will be sent home to be signed by the parent. All field trips must be approved by the district administration and must be supervised by regular classroom teachers. Teachers serving as supervisors shall submit all forms (field trip requests, school business leave requests, and requisitions) at the same time, and all requests must be approved at least two weeks prior to the field trip. No field trips will be approved for the weeks of term tests or state tests.

Students who have accumulated two disciplinary referrals per semester, who have been suspended, or owe fines in the library, cafeteria or textbooks, will not be permitted to go on field trips.

GIFTS

Gifts to teachers by pupils and gifts to pupils by teachers are discouraged. However, if such is done, it shall be completely voluntary and on an individual basis. There shall be no flowers, balloons, nor gifts sent to the school for students. These items will not be allowed on school buses.

TEXTBOOKS

Textbooks are supplied by the school at no cost to the student on a loan basis. Since these books remain the property of the school district, defacement or abuse of books will result in the assessment of a damage fee. The amount charged will be determined according to the damage.

TELEPHONE

No student is to be out of class at any time to use the telephone. Students may use the office telephone before school and after school. Phone calls to parents in case of emergency will be made by office personnel, nurse, teacher or administrator. All telephone messages will be held in the office and distributed at the end of the day unless there is an immediate emergency.

FINES

Parents and legal guardians are responsible for the cost of lunchroom fees, activity fees, library books and textbooks. If a textbook is lost or not returned by a student who withdrawals or drops out of school, the parent or legal guardian shall be required to compensate the district for the fair market value of the textbook. In addition to paper, pencils, and composition books, parents will be responsible for the purchase of workbooks, weekly publications, art supplies, and other materials as needed. All fees and fines must be cleared through the office prior to the completion of the school year. Student's report cards may be held and promotion or credit will not be given to the student.

PARTIES

Parties are permitted at Christmas and Valentine's Day only.

INTERVENTION PROCESS

MDE shall require an instructional model designed to meet the needs of every student. The model shall consist of three tiers of instruction. The Three-Tiered Intervention as described below is a regular education function.

Tier I. Quality classroom instruction based on Common Core State Standards (Data documentation of interventions for a minimum of six weeks)

Tier II. Focused supplemental instruction (Data documentation of interventions for a minimum of six weeks)

Tier III. Intensive interventions specifically designed to meet the individual needs of the student.

(Six-week minimum documented interventions, not to exceed eighteen weeks maximum per subject area) Teachers shall use progress-monitoring information to (a) determine if students are making adequate progress, (b) identify students as soon as they begin to fall behind, and (c) modify instruction early enough to ensure each and every student gains essential skills. Monitoring of student progress is an ongoing process that may be measured through informal classroom assessment, benchmark assessment instruments, and large-scale assessments.

If strategies at Tiers I & II are unsuccessful, students must be referred to the Teacher Support Team (TST). The TST is the problem-solving unit responsible for interventions developed at Tier III. Each school must have a Teacher Support Team (TST) implemented in accordance with the process developed by the Mississippi Department of Education. The chairperson of the TST shall be the school principal as the school's instructional leader. The core members of the Teacher Support Team shall not be comprised of members of the school's Special Education staff. Special Education staff may serve in an advisory capacity only.

Interventions shall be:

- ✓ designed to address the deficit areas;
- ✓ research based;
- \vee implemented as designed by the TST;
- v supported by data regarding the effectiveness of interventions.

In addition to failing to make adequate progress following Tiers I & II, students will be referred to the Teacher Support Team for interventions as specified in the guidelines developed by MDE if any of the following events occur.

- A. Grades 1-3: A student has failed one (1) grade;
- **B.** Grades 4-12: A student has failed two (2) grades, OR
- **C.** A student failed either of the preceding two grades and has been suspended or expelled for more than twenty (20) days in the current school year.

Referrals to the Teacher Support Team must be made within the first twenty (20) school days of a school year if the student failed the preceding year resulting in a referral as stated above.

SEXUAL HARRASSMENT – EMPLOYEES AND STUDENTS

PART I

In accordance with Title VII of the 1964 civil Rights Act, as amended in 1972, Section 703, no employee in the Perry County School District shall be subject to sexual harassment. Furthermore, students in academic institutions are protected from sexual harassment by the Title IX of the Education Amendment of 1972, and shall not be subjected to sexual harassment by their peers or employees.

It is the intent of the school board to maintain an environment free from sexual harassment of any kind. Therefore, unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, retaliation against persons involved in sexual harassment complaints and investigations, and other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature amounting to or constituting harassment are prohibited.

PART II

Unwelcome sexual advances, request for sexual favors, and other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature constitute sexual harassment when certain criteria are met.

CRITERIA

- I. Submission to such conduct is made either implicitly or explicitly, a term or condition of employment, the assignment of grades, or promotion, or used to deprive the student of access to the educational opportunities and benefits provided by the school district.
- II. Submission to or rejection of such conduct by an individual is used as the basis for employment or academic and other educational decisions affecting such individual.
- III. Such conduct has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with the individual's work performance or creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive working environment. With regards to students, the criteria are when such conduct has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with the student's educational performance or creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive learning/teaching environment.

Criteria I and II are examples of quid pro quo or conditional sexual harassment. The third criteria is an example of hostile work or learning/teaching environment.

PART III

Complaints of violation of this policy should be immediately reported to an administrator, teacher, counselor, or the Title IX coordinator/district counsel without fear of reprisal. If your supervisor or administrator is the person you believe has engaged in sexual harassment, report it to the Superintendent or the Title IX coordinator/district counsel. No administrator, manager, or supervisor has the authority to condition the terms and conditions of employment, such as raises, assignments, or promotion, on the receipt or denial of sexual favors. Likewise, no administrator, teacher, or other school official has the authority to condition grades or promotions, or other academic decision on the receipt or denial of sexual favors. Therefore, should violation prove to be legitimate, the offending employee shall be subject to disciplinary action, including involuntary termination of employment. Students who engage in sexual harassment of other students shall be subject to disciplinary action, including suspension and expulsion.

PART IV

The school district will not in any way retaliate against an individual who makes a complaint of sexual harassment or against any participant in the investigation nor will it permit an supervisor, administrator, principal, or employee to do so. Retaliation is a serious violation of the sexual harassment policy and should be reported immediately. A person who engages in retaliatory conduct against another individual for reporting sexual harassment will be subject disciplinary action up to and including termination.

PART V

Relationships between individuals who occupy different levels of authority are banned.

If there are relationships between individuals who occupy equal levels of authority, then those individuals will exhibit professional conduct in the workplace.

Legal Reference: Title VII Civil Rights Act 1964, as amended in 1972, Section 703.2000

FAMILY EDUCATIONAL RIGHTS AND PRIVACY ACT OF 1974

- 1. Parent(s) or eligible student may request, in writing to principal an appointment inspect and review contents of the student's educational records. Appointments must be granted with forty-five (45) days of request.
- 2. Parent(s) or eligible student may request, in writing to the principal that a school correct records believed to be inaccurate or misleading. If the school refuses to change the records, the parent(s) or eligible student may request, in writing to the principal, a formal hearing. After the hearing, if the school still refuses the correction, the parent(s) or eligible student has the right to put a note in the record explaining his or her concerns.
- 3. Parent(s) or eligible student may review the student's record on request. Copies of a student's permanent record may be obtained for a fee of \$2.00. All other materials in the student's cumulative folder may be copied for 50 cents per page.
- 4. Educational records may not be released to a third party without the written consent of parent(s) or the eligible student. The following exceptions are legal:
 - a. School employees
 - b. Other schools to which the student is transferring
 - c. State or federal officials for audit purposes or for reporting information required by the state statute.
 - d. Educational agencies for developing, validating, and administering predictive tests or studies if such information will not permit identification of individual students.
 - e. Appropriate persons who need information to protect health and safety of student.
 - f. Parents of a student over eighteen (18) who is still dependent.

- 5. A record of individuals requesting access to the educational record of each student will be maintained at each school campus. The record will contain the signature, the date, and the reasons for needing access and will be available for parents' review upon request.
- 6. Student records are at the following locations:

| TYPE OF RECORD | LOCATION | CUSTODIAN |
|----------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Cumulative | Principal's Office | School Principal |
| School Record | | |
| Psychological Record | Special Service Director's | Coordinator of Special Education |
| Special Education | Office | |

FIRST AID

The school attempts to provide an environment in which the child will be safe from accidents. If a minor accident occurs, first aid will be administered. No care beyond first aid, defined as the immediate, temporary care given in case of accidents or sudden illness, will be given. Home telephone numbers, business telephone numbers, and emergency telephone numbers **must be furnished to the school**.

IMMUNIZATION AND VACCINATIONS

It is unlawful for any child to attend school without first being vaccinated with at least one dose of diphtheria, whooping cough, tetanus, red measles, rubella, and polio vaccine and completing the entire series within ninety days. Every student in Kindergarten-12th grade must present a certificate of immunization compliance from his/her doctor or from the health department. This certificate of compliance must be presented in order to attend school.

In order to secure this certificate of compliance, it will be necessary for the student to go to the Perry County Health Department or the office of his/her family physician, taking with him/her all official shot records. <u>Before a child can register, the CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE</u> or copy must be presented. The validation of this certificate will become a permanent part of the student's records and will be valid through grade 12. The following vaccines are required:

- 5 doses of DTaP, unless the 4th dose is given on or after the 4th Birthday
- 4 doses of Polio, unless the 3rd does is given on or after the 4th Birthday
- 3 doses of Hepatitis B
- 2 doses of MMR
- 2 doses of the Varicella-containing vaccine or a history of typical varicella

REMEMBER: No student may register or attend school until the school has received this certificate of compliance

If the doctor signs the certificate indicating that other doses are necessary, the student will be given (90) ninety days to complete the required immunization; if they are not completed at the end of (90) ninety days, the child by law must be suspended until compliance is achieved.

HEAD LICE

Identified infected students will be sent home immediately with a letter and information sheet.

INSURANCE

School insurance is available at the beginning of each school year at a nominal cost to the student. Several plans are available at the option of the parent and student. All students participating in athletics are required to have proof of insurance. Failure to provide proof of insurance or failure to sign the waiver form will require the removal of the student from the program or activity. The school district, by law, cannot assume any responsibility for costs in connection with student accident or injury. Parents are encouraged to have or purchase student insurance.

COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

Any and/or all problems or conditions deemed to be medical in nature will be subject to evaluation by the school nurse and/or designated personnel of Perry County Schools and may require a doctor's excuse for return to school.

Returning to School-The student may be readmitted after treatment providing there are no visible lice. Proof of treatment is also required upon the child returning to school. Proof of treatment includes the box and the store receipt.

After the third occasion of a student having head lice, a "no-nit policy" will be in effect. Any student who has had lice on four occasions will be required to be free of all nits before being readmitted to school.

House Bill 154 passed in the 1997 Legislative Session:

"If a student in any public elementary or secondary school has had head lice on three (3) consecutive occasions during one (1) year while attending school, or if the parent of the student has been notified by school officials that the student has had head lice on (3) consecutive occasions in one (1) school year, as determined by the school nurse, public health nurse or a physician, the principal or administrator shall notify the county health department of the recurring problem of head lice with that student."

Treatment of Head Lice – Prescribed or over-the-counter anti-lice treatments are considered appropriate. Back comb hair with a fine-tooth comb to remove all the nits.

ADMINISTERING MEDICINES TO STUDENTS-REGULATIONS

School personnel will not administer prescription medicine to a student without the authorization of a physician and the signature of the parents/guardians on the indemnity agreement/permission form associated with this policy. The parents/guardians are responsible for obtaining a statement from the physician authorizing school personnel to administer the medicine. The statement should include:

- Student's name
- Diagnosis
- Physician's signature
- Date
- Name of medicine
- Administration of medicine
- Time/s to administer the medicine
- Method of administration
- Date to discontinue or review

Parents will be required to have on file for each child a Parent Authorization and Indemnity Agreement/Medications Release Form. This form must be completed in the school office. Only

prescription medication will be administered by the Perry County School District. No over the counter medications will be administered.

- The parent/guardian should bring the medications to the school. Never send medications to the school by the student.
- No medications will be sent home with a student
- All medications will have to be in original containers.
- Form A will have to be completed in the school office.
- If the medication is ordered twice a day or three times a day, it should be administered by the parent at home, unless a doctor orders otherwise.

EMERGENCY OPERATIONS

Parents should listen to the local radio or television stations for announcements from the superintendent's office. Schools are sometimes faced with emergencies, which require the total cooperation of staff members and students. The Perry County School District has made detailed plans for operating the school under such emergency conditions as fire, tornado, flood, severe weather, explosions, and other disasters.

Fire drills and other disaster preparedness measures are a regular part of each school's program. Students are expected to learn the procedures to be followed under emergency conditions and to cooperate fully with the supervising teacher.

Detailed instructions for emergency operations are outlined for all students at their respective schools.

*The Perry County School District will also contact parents using an automated phone system. Please make sure that you have current phone numbers submitted to your child's school

EMERGENCY DRILLS/PROCEDURES

Fire Drills: The first fire drill should be held during the first two weeks of school. All staff and students should be notified about the first drill. Each teacher shall appoint for each class the following:

- 1. A leader to lead class in single file from the building to the outside area designated by the teacher
- 2. A person to close windows
- 3. A person to turn off heat or air conditioner

This person shall be last in line. The person designated to close the window becomes the leader in case the entrance is blocked and will lead the students to the next nearest exit.

Duties of Student during the Drill:

- 1. Students should refrain from talking after the alarm is sounded.
- 2. All students are to leave the room immediately, leaving books and materials and follow their leader to the designated place until told to return to the building.

Duties of Teacher during the Drill:

- 1. Teacher should be the last to leave the room, taking the grade book and register and closing the door, making sure the door does not lock.
- 2. When the group gets to the designated teacher, the teacher will call roll and send a messenger to report to a designated teacher that all students are in place.

Severe Weather Drill:

1. Teacher and students are informed of signal and procedures.

- 2. Signal designated by each school.
- 3. Procedures:
 - a. Immediately on signal proceed into hallway.
 - b. Teacher checks to see that room is clear and takes grade book to account for all students.
 - c. All students are to sit on floor facing wall and hands covering head.
 - d. No talking or horseplay.
 - e. Teachers quickly check students then participate in drill.
 - f. Return to classes when all clear is announced by administration.

Ice, Snow, or Extremely Cold Weather: A decision on the closing of school in case of the above conditions will be made by the superintendent in cooperation with other responsible parties and information about same will be released through the Perry County School District automated phone system and other local media.

Man-made Emergencies and Procedures: The Perry County School District recognizes that all emergencies are not caused by severe weather conditions. Examples: Atomic attack, aircraft failure, sabotage, human error, gas explosion, riots, etc.

Teachers will be responsible for children under their supervision in the event a man-made emergency occurs on or near school property. Teachers will follow instructions given to them by the school principal or other school official assuming responsibility. School officials will draw on knowledge and assistance from local civil defense and law officials in dealing with these emergencies.

REGULATIONS

Instructional Focus

Use of the Network, equipment, and access to the Internet must be in support of the educational objectives of the District. Use of is limited to the purpose(s) authorized by the District.

System Resources

1. Perry County School District does not represent or warrant that the functions of the Network systems will meet any specific requirements or that will be error free or uninterrupted; nor shall the District be liable for any direct or indirect, incidental, or consequential damages (including lost data and information) sustained or incurred in connection with the use, operation or inability to use the Network system. **2.** Any action by a user that is determined by the District to improperly resist or inhibit other users from accessing and using the Network is strictly prohibited. **3.** The District shall not be responsible for unauthorized financial obligations incurred by users resulting from the use of the District Network. Any obligation charged to the District shall be assessed to the user making such charge. **4.** Users will not attempt to circumvent user authentication or security of any host, network, or account on the Network or the Internet. **5.** Users will not use the Network in a manner that encumbers disk space, processors, bandwidth, or other system resources as to interfere with normal use of services on the Network or other systems or networks. ("denial of services" attack) **6.** Transmission of any material in violation of any federal or state law or regulation is prohibited. Use of commercial activities is prohibited unless prior written consist from the District has been granted.

CIPA/COPPA COMPLIANCE

- 1. Individually identifiable information about a child such as the child's full name, home address, email address, telephone number, or other information that may allow individuals to identify or contact a child will not be made available via the District or school web sites.
- 2. User shall not access, transmit, retransmit, submit, publish, display or print any defamatory, abusive, profane, sexually-oriented, threatening, racially offensive, illegal written or visual depictions of obscene material, child pornography and other materials considered harmful or inappropriate.
- 3. Users shall not access, transmit, or retransmit material that is threatening, disruptive, or that could be construed as harassment or disparagement of others based on their race, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, age, disability, religion or political beliefs.
- 4. Users shall not access, transmit, submit, publish, display, or print copyrighted materials (Including plagiarized materials), threatening, harassing, or obscene material, pornographic, or material protected by trade secret, and/or any other material that may be inappropriate for minors.
- 5. Users shall not access, transmit, or retransmit any material that promotes violence or the destruction of persons or property be devices including, but not limited to, the use of firearms, explosives, fireworks, smoke bombs, incendiary devices, or other similar materials.
- 6. Any transmission or reception of material that is libelous, slanderous, gang related, or incites students and/or staff so as to create a clear and present danger of a) the commission of unlawful acts on school premises b) the violation of law and/or administrative regulations, or c) the substantial disruption of the orderly operation of the district of any school in the District is prohibited.

Personal Safety

- 1. The District will not disclose, disseminate, or divulge personal or private information about students or employees such as, but not limited to, last names, social security numbers, telephone numbers, addresses, etc.
- 2. Under no conditions should a user provide his/her password to another person or use another person's password.
- 3. Access to student information is limited to authorized parties and will only be permitted in support of district educational goals and objectives. Parties granted access will fall under the auspices and regulations of this policy and may be required to complete and sign an Oath of Confidentiality.
- 4. Users will immediately report to District officials any attempt of others to engage in unauthorized activities, inappropriate communication, or prohibited use of the Internet and District resources.
- 5. Users agree to immediately notify school District officials of any attempt by others to engage in appropriate conversations or personal contact.

Copyright Infringement

Each user agrees to use the Network in accordance with all copyright laws. Copyrighted material may not be placed on the Internet/Network without the author's or copyright owner's permission. Users may download copyrighted material for their own use only in accordance with copyright laws.

Monitoring

Files stored on District servers, computers, electronic mail and other resources of the Network are not private and are subject to inspection and/or monitoring by District officials. Network administrators reserve the right to monitor any and all activity on the Network.

Disclaimer

Parents and/or guardians must be aware that direct supervision of student computer use may not always be possible. The District is not responsible for material or information accessed on the Internet by users and shall not be responsible for the impact or effect of the information on the user. The District specifically disclaims any responsibility for the accuracy or quality of information obtained via the Internet.

Process for Restricting Internet Access

If a parent/guardian does not wish a student to have access to the Internet, the parent/guardian shall send a letter to that effect to the school principal. Likewise, employees who do not wish to have Internet access should submit a letter stating such to their supervisor. Copies of all letters shall be forwarded to the Technology Coordinator.

Sanctions

- 1. Use of the Network and its resources is a privilege, not a right. Violations of the regulations of this policy may result in the denial, revocation, suspension and/or termination of the user's privileges and/or disciplinary action.
- 2. Vandalism may result in cancellation of privileges and/or disciplinary actions. Vandalism includes any malicious attempt to access, damage, delete, infect, destroy or alter data files, folders, or directories.
- 3. PCSD will fully corporate with local, state, and/or federal officials in any investigation related to illegal activities conducted through use of the District Network, the Internet or any of its resources.

Each member of the school community will be provided a copy of this policy. As this policy is a legal and binding document, use of the network and District computer resources constitutes agreement by each user to comply with the terms set forth in this policy.

ACCEPTABLE USE POLICY CONSENT FORM FOR USERS

The Perry County School District (the "District") is pleased to offer to its students, faculty and staff, access to the Internet and the District's wide area network in accordance with the terms and conditions of this policy.

PCSD's Network and Internet access are provided through a complex association of government agencies and regional networks. Access to the Internet and to the Network provides users with a vast array of educational resources. The Districts' goal in providing a service is to promote educational excellence and student achievement in our school through increased access to resources, information and global communication.

Reliable operation of the Network is depended upon the proper conduct of its users. To this end, Congress passed two laws to assist districts in providing a safe and secure environment for its users –the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA) and The Children's On-Line Privacy Protection Act (COPPA). In compliance with CIPA and COPPA, the Perry County School District will implement technology protection measures to restrict, filter or block access to inappropriate material, particularly visual, depictions of obscene material, child pornography, and materials considered harmful to minors. Use of filtering will also help the District (1) provide for the safety and security of minors when using electronic mail, chat rooms, and other forms of telecommunications; (2) monitor online activities; (3) deter unauthorized access, including hacking and other unlawful online activities; (4) prohibit unauthorized disclosure, use of dissemination of personal information regarding minors; and (5) restrict access to harmful material by minors.

Users must practice ethical conduct and comply with policies and regulations while using the Network. The regulations adopted prohibit users from accessing harmful matter on the Internet that may be obscene or pornographic and address consequences for misuses of the system. Any user violating the policies and regulations will be subject to disciplinary action and/or loss of privileges. Law enforcement shall be notified when appropriate.

Basic guidelines are provided in School Board Policy so that users are aware of the responsibilities they are about to assume. If a user violates any of these, provisions, his/her use will be terminated and future access may be denied. Disciplinary action may also result. Disciplinary action for users shall be in accordance with existing policies and may include suspension, expulsion, and/or termination of employment. If possible criminal activity is discovered, the proper authorities will be notified and an investigation may ensue.

PERRY COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT INTERNET SAFETY POLICY

Introduction

It is the policy of Perry County School District to: (a) prevent user access over its computer network to, or transmission of, inappropriate material via Internet, electronic mail, or other forms of direct electronic communications; (b) prevent unauthorized access and other unlawful online activity; (c) prevent unauthorized online disclosure, use, or dissemination of personal identification information of minors; and (d) comply with the Children's Internet Protection Act [Pub. L. No. 106-554 and 47 USC 254(h)].

Definitions

Key terms are as defined in the Children's Internet Protection Act.

Access to Inappropriate Material

To the extent practical, technology protection measures (or "Internet filters") shall be used to block or filter Internet, or other forms of electronic communications, access to inappropriate information.

Specifically, as required by the Children's Internet Protection Act, blocking shall be applied to visual depictions of material deemed obscene or child pornography, or to any material deemed harmful to minors.

Subject to staff supervision, technology protection measures may be disabled for adults or, in the case of minors, minimized only for bona fide research or other lawful purposes.

Inappropriate Network Usage

To the extent practical, steps shall be taken to promote the safety and security of users of the Perry County School District online computer network when using electronic mail, chat rooms, instant messaging, and other forms of direct electronic communications.

Specifically, as required by the Children's Internet Protection Act, prevention of inappropriate network usage includes: (a) unauthorized access, including so-called 'hacking,' and other unlawful activities; and (b) unauthorized disclosure, use, and dissemination of personal identification information regarding minors.

Education, Supervision and Monitoring

It shall be the responsibility of all members of the Perry County School District staff to educate, supervise and monitor appropriate usage of the online computer network and access to the Internet in accordance with this policy, the Children's Internet Protection Act, the Neighborhood Children's Internet Protection Act, and the Protecting Children in the 21st Century Act. Procedures for the disabling or otherwise modifying any technology protection measures shall be the responsibility of The Technology Director or designated representatives.

The Perry County School District or designated representatives will provide age-appropriate training for students who use the Perry County School District Internet facilities. The training provided will be designed to promote Perry County School District's commitment to:

- I. The standards and acceptable use of Internet services as set forth in the Perry County School District Internet Acceptable Use Policy;
- II. Student safety with regard to:
 - a. safety on the Internet;
 - b. appropriate behavior while on online, on social networking Web sites, and in chat rooms; and
 - c. cyber bullying awareness and response.
- III. Compliance with the E-rate requirements of the Children's Internet Protection Act ("CIPA").

Following receipt of this training, the student will acknowledge that he/she received the training, understood it, and will follow the provisions of the District's acceptable use policies.

Any violations of the Internet Safety Policy will be handled according to student discipline ladder.

Adoption

This Internet Safety Policy was adopted by the Board of the Perry County School District at a public meeting, following normal public notice, on May 7, 2012.

ASBESTOS

Asbestos containing material (ACM) located in Perry County Schools is isolated, and there is no danger of contamination to any student/faculty or maintenance personnel.

Notice of Title I Parents-Right to Know as required by NCLB

To the Parents or Guardians of students attending Beaumont Elementary, Runnelstown Elementary, Perry Central Middle School, or Perry Central High School:

As a parent or guardian of a student attending a Title I school in Perry County School District, you have the right to request information regarding professional qualifications of your child's classroom teacher(s) or paraprofessional.

You are entitled to request the following professional information:

- Whether your child's teacher(s) holds a state license for the grade level and subject areas in which they provide instruction.
- Whether your child's teacher(s) is teaching under a provisional status
- The baccalaureate degree major of the teacher and any other graduate certification or degree held by the teacher, the field of discipline of certification held
- Whether your child is provided services by paraprofessionals and their qualifications.

Your request for information must be in writing and submitted to the school that your child attends. A separate written request is required for each student.

PROCEDURE PLACEMENT TO ACHIEVEMENT CENTER

(PERRY COUNTY ALTERNATIVE SCHOOL)

The district will form a local committee consisting of principals, counselors, teachers, any referring agency representative, Achievement Center personal, and the student's parents/legal guardian. This committee will accept referrals form school personnel, parents, and local agencies.

All referrals must be accompanied by completed referral (TST). Upon the receipt of the referral packet, the local screening committee will meet and determine eligibility. The referring school will be notified of the committee's recommendation.

Special Education referrals will meet additional criteria set forth by federal and state regulations.

The local screening committee will determine the length of time the student will be assigned into the Achievement Center program and will develop an Individual Instruction Plan for the student. The IIP will address the student's attendance, academics, and behavior. The IIP will specify the student's anticipated entry date into the program and anticipated exit date.

The IIPs of all students in the program are to be reviewed by the local screening committee prior to those students being reassigned to the home campus or continuing in the program beyond their projected exit date.

Parental permission is sought at the time of placement.

CORRECTIVE ACTION: The Perry County Achievement Center is housed in a manufactured classroom building. The building had a new roof installed less than two years ago. New carpet has been installed. A new central air conditioning and heating unit has been installed. Our building has a restroom for our male students and a restroom for our female students. The students have a water cooler in the classroom. We have desktops that are four feet wide. We have a covered walkway, ramp, and porch. Our students have new technology hardware that was installed this year. The interior of the building is painted annually.

The Perry County Achievement Center is a smaller non-traditional classroom meeting the needs of individual students. The curriculum for the Perry County Achievement Center is the core curriculum. The Achievement Center has teachers certified in Math, Science, English, Social Studies, K-6 Elementary, SPED and Counseling. The teachers of the Achievement Center utilize available resources, textbooks, and technology including computers, internet, and Plato (web based instructional software) to meet the goals of the individual students IIPs.

GENERAL INFORMATION ESPECIALLY PRESENTED FOR PARENTS

 Some students lead their parents to believe they are attending school for the day but fail to report. Parents are urged to call the school, 601-964-3226, if there are any questions concerning their child's attendance. Effort is made to contact parents to inform them is their child is absent from school.

- 2. If a student is "sent to the office" with a written report of misbehavior from the teacher, the teacher's version is accepted unless requested investigation reveals extremely unusual circumstances.
- 3. The responsibility for enrolling a student and being aware of his/her daily attendance or failure to attend rest with the student and his/her parents.
- 4. Because of crowded conditions and heavy teacher loads, students are not allowed to bring "visitors".
- 5. Students may use the restrooms between classes. If a special problem exists, even temporarily, contact the office, or in emergency, send a note. Special permission can be arranged. This represents one of the most abused student requests.
- 6. Parental conferences are welcomed and where special problems exist, are urged. Call the office to set up a conference with your child's teacher.
- 7. A parent note does not automatically excuse a student for absence or tardiness. The reason for the absence or tardy is the determining factor. There are NO official "cut" or "skip" days.
- 8. Parents are notified of disciplinary action by telephone or Discipline Report. A Discipline Report is given to the student to take home and give to his/her parent. The parent is asked to sign the Discipline Report and return it to the school office.
- 9. Students will be dismissed early for doctor visits and emergencies only. In all instances, parents or their designated representatives (must indicate in writing) will be required to come into the school to check out a student. Obviously, this may at some time be difficult, but the regulation is an attempt to provide the greatest protection possible for the student. There will be no early dismissals after 2:00 p.m. without prior approval of the principal.
- 10. If for any reason, a parent does not want the student paddled, the administration is to be notified in writing immediately after the student's enrollment. This procedure is to be followed each school year.
- 11. Students may only use the office telephone before school and after school. During school, phone calls to parents in case of illness or emergency will be made by office personnel, nurse, teacher or administrator.
- 12. Please discourage your child from wearing expensive jewelry or bringing to school any valuables not necessary; such as money, toys, etc. If your child brings to school any valuables for legitimate reasons such as "show and tell", he/she should deposit them item with his/her teacher or in the principal's office until needed.
- 13. Students should not film other students, faculty or staff on school grounds, at school activities or post videos or pictures of other student, faculty or staff on the internet without administrative approval.
- 14. Fees may be waived for students who qualify for the free lunch program pursuant to the USDA annual free lunch income eligibility guidelines. The waiver of fees applies to classroom materials and classroom supplies. Fees for extra-curricular activities such as band, show choir, athletics, etc. are not covered. To request a fee waiver, each parent or guardian must complete the Fee Waiver Certification Form within one week of enrollment for a financial hardship (free or reduced) waiver of fees. The information provided in compliance with the financial hardship law (§ 37-7-335 MS Code) shall be kept in the strictest confidence and shall be used solely for the purpose of determining the student's eligibility for the waiver of fees by the school district.
- 15. Students are not allowed to receive flowers or balloon deliveries at school.

This book is a general guide for the benefit of students and parents. It does not attempt to answer all questions that might arise during the school year. Students are welcomed and encouraged to seek advice and information form teachers and principal.

The purpose of this handbook is to inform students and parents/guardians of the policies and procedures of the school. Students and parents/guardians will be able to avoid confusion and misunderstanding by being familiar with the contents of this handbook.

Cell Phone/Electronic Devices: I have read the cell phone/electronic device policy and understand it is my responsibility to insure my student's cooperation with the policy.

Pictures and Videos: Pictures and Videos of students will only be used for the use of the school. Students' pictures or videos may be placed on school website or Facebook page and sent to local newspapers for publishing.

Medication Policy: I have read the medication policy and understand it is my responsibility to obtain the proper and necessary paperwork before my child can receive medication at school.

Network Responsibility: As the parent or guardian of this student, I have read the Terms and Condition for use of the PCSD network services. I understand that these privileges are designed for educational purposes. I will not hold PCSD responsible for material acquired or problems related to the use of the material required on the network.

I hereby give my permission for my child to utilize the PCSD network services information that will be obtained by the teacher and certify that the information contained on this is correct. Further, I accept full responsibility for supervision if and when my child's use is not in a school setting.