

MISSION STATEMENT
STRIVING FOR ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE AND
DEPENDABLE AMERICAN CITIZENS

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Dear Parents:

This handbook has been prepared to provide you and your child with information regarding the activities and policies of Deer/Mt. Judea High Schools. We hope that you will find it a useful guide to a better understanding of the organization and operating policies of the school.

We recognize the positive influence that parents can have in helping a child form a healthy attitude toward learning and the school; therefore, we urge you to give your child the time and attention needed to assure that they retain interest in their school activities.

We look forward to working with you in a cooperative effort in the educational development of your child, and we also welcome any suggestion that you may have that can help to better serve his/her needs and educational advancement.

ACT 104 OF 1983 REQUIRES THAT PARENTS AND STUDENTS BE ADVISED OF THE RULES AND REGULATIONS BY WHICH A SCHOOL IS GOVERNED AND BE MADE AWARE OF THE BEHAVIOR THAT WILL CALL FOR DISCIPLINARY ACTION AND THE TYPES OF CORRECTIVE ACTIONS THAT MAY BE IMPOSED.

After receiving this manual the student and parent/guardian must sign the receipt page and return it to the Principal's office.

Table of Contents

SECTION 1

EDUCATIONAL PHILOSOPHY	8
EQUAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY & EMPLOYMENT	8
COMPUTER USE POLICY	9
ASBESTOS PUBLIC NOTICE	9

SECTION 2

ADMISSIONS	10
KINDERGARTEN OR FIRST YEAR STUDENT REQUIREMENTS	11
TRANSFER STUDENTS	12
HOMELESS CHILDREN	12
STUDENTS WHO ARE FOSTER CHILDREN	13
PLACEMENT OF MULTIPLE BIRTH SIBLINGS	14
RESIDENCE REQUIREMENTS	15
PRIVACY OF STUDENT RECORDS	15
PRIVACY OF STUDENT DIRECTORY	15
PARENTS RIGHT TO KNOW	19
SCHOOL CHOICE	19

SECTION 3

COMPULSORY ATTENDANCE	21
ABSENCES	22
ADDITIONAL ABSENCES	23
STRATEGIES TO IMPROVE ATTENDANCE	24

SECTION 4

GRADING & PLACEMENT	25
HONOR ROLL	26
PROMOTION/RETENTION/PLACEMENT	27
HOMEWORK	27
MAKE UP WORK	27
ALTERNATIVE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT	28
SMART CORE	28

SECTION 5

STUDENT DISCIPLINE	30
BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS/DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS	31
BULLYING	33
PROHIBITED CONDUCT	36
CONDUCT TO & FROM SCHOOL/TRANSPORTATION ELIGIBILITY	38
STUDENT ASSAULT OR BATTERY	40
DISRUPTION OF SCHOOL	40
WEAPONS	40
DRESS & GROOMING	41
DISCIPLINE OF HANDICAPPED STUDENTS	42
EXPULSION	42

SUSPENSION	44
UNACCEPTABLE ITEMS	45
POSSESSION & USE OF CELL PHONES	45
PUBLICATION & DISTRIBUTION OF LITERATURE	46
SEARCH & SEIZURE & INTERROGATIONS	47
VIDEO SURVEILLANCE	48
STUDENT SEXUAL HARASSMENT	49

SECTION 6

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE & PARASITES	50
STUDENT ILLNESS & ACCIDENT	51
STUDENT MEDICATIONS	51
PHYSICAL EXAMINATIONS OR SCREENINGS	53

SECTION 7

CONTACT WITH STUDENTS WHILE @ SCHOOL.....	53
STUDENT VISITORS.....	55

SECTION 8

BUS POLICY FOR INCLEMENT WEATHER.....	55
EMERGENCY DRILLS	55
FIRE MARSHALS.....	56
SCHOOL TRAGEDY/CRISIS/SUICIDE PLAN.....	57

SECTION 9

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES	60
FIELD TRIPS.....	60
STUDENT PARTICIPATION.....	60
INTRAMURAL/PEE WEE/OTHER	60
LIBRARY/ACCELERATED READER/CLASSROOM LIBRARY BOOKS	61
SCHOOL ORGANIZATIONS	61
FUNDRAISING	61

SECTION 10

TITLE I SCHOOL-PARENT-STUDENT COMPACT	61
GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE	62

SECTION 11

FORMS	64
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STUDENT HANDBOOK

It shall be the policy of the Deer/Mt. Judea school district that the most recently approved version of the Student Handbook be incorporated by reference into the policies of this district. In the event that there is a conflict between the student handbook and a general board policy or policies, the more recently adopted language will be considered binding and controlling on the matter provided the parent(s) of the student, or the student if 18 years of age or older have acknowledged receipt.

Mt. Judea Parent Involvement Summary

Parent Involvement means the participation of parents in regular, two-way, meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities.

- will provide programs, activities, and procedures for the involvement of parents and welcomes parents to help plan, offer ideas, and help make decisions about parental involvement activities.
- requires school-parent compacts and wants parents to be a partner in their child's education.
- will strive to provide information and school reports in the parent's preferred language.
- is committed to inviting parents to participate.
- encourages parents to communicate their satisfaction or dissatisfaction of the Parent Involvement plan by responding to surveys, contacting coordinator through phone, email, and/or person

Rainey Yeager, Parent Involvement Coordinator

Deer Parent Involvement Summary

The faculty of Deer School believes that Parental involvement means the participation of parents in regular, two-way, and meaningful communication involving student academic learning and other school activities. This includes ensuring that parents play an integral role in assisting their children's learning. We encourage parents or caretakers to become actively involved in their child's education and we believe they are full partners and when appropriate should become involved in the decision making and a part of any advisory committee's to work together. We accept the challenge of creating different opportunities strategically scheduled to allow the most parental participation. Two parent facilitators work together and then separate with their school representatives (parents and staff) in planning school activities and new ideas to improve from past years program. Parent Involvement surveys are given at the beginning of the year for the purpose of gathering new ideas. A program evaluation follows in the Spring to allow the parent involvement facilitators to reflect and make changes.

Joel Phillips, Parent Involvement Coordinator

**Deer/Mt. Judea Elementary Schools
Title I School-Parent-Student Compact**

Deer/Mt. Judea School believes that parental involvement is a key factor in the success of a child's educational experience, therefore, the Deer /Mt. Judea School District will:

1. Convene annually a public school wide meeting to which all parents of participating children will be invited to discuss the program and activities to be provided with Title 1 funds. Parents will be informed of their right to consult in the planning, development, and operation of the Title 1 program.
2. Report student progress every nine weeks in elementary and every nine weeks in high school.
3. Provide two semi-annual parent teacher conferences and individual conferences as the needs arise throughout the year.
4. Invite and encourage parents to be volunteers in or out of the classrooms and participate in school activities.

Deer /Mt. Judea School Staff, Parents, and Students make the following compact to share responsibilities for high student performance.

Deer /Mt. Judea School Staff Responsibilities:

1. To inform parents of the National Education Goals.
2. To instruct students with the State Content and Student Performance Standards.
3. To inform parents of State Education Agency (SEA) technical assistance.
4. To inform parents of State and Local assessments.
5. To inform parents of involvement requirements.
6. To inform parents of student progress.
7. To be available to work with parents as needed to improve their child's achievement.
8. To provide materials and training for parents as it becomes available and/or is requested to help improve their child's achievement.

Deer /Mt. Judea School Parents' Responsibilities:

1. To monitor their child's attendance.
2. To insure their child completes homework assignments.
3. To limit the amount of time my child watches television, spends on computer and plays video games.
4. To volunteer when possible in their child's classroom with extracurricular activities and school functions.
5. To encourage their child to read for pleasure and/or read to them.
6. To attend parent/teacher conferences.
7. To attend parent training when available.
8. To attend school informative meetings (such as Annual School wide Meeting and Open House).
9. To be involved in the planning and evaluation of our school's performance.

Deer/Mt. Judea School Student's Responsibilities:

1. To attend school regularly.
2. To bring all necessary materials to class such as completed homework assignments, books, paper, pencils, etc.
3. To stay on task in class and during homework time.
4. To complete homework assignments successfully.
5. To give parents all notices received by me from my school.
6. To limit time watching television, spent on computer and playing video games
7. To control behavior.
8. To read books for pleasure.

Title I Information

The No Child Left Behind Education Act requires all schools receiving Title I funds under Subpart A to notify parents of their right to know the professional qualifications of any teachers or paraprofessionals that provide services to their children. If you have any questions about the qualifications of any teacher or paraprofessional who works with your child, please call your high school administration office.

PUBLIC NOTICES

EDUCATIONAL PHILOSOPHY

The Deer/Mt Judea School District assumes the responsibility of providing students attending its schools a high quality education that challenges each student to achieve to their maximum potential. The District shall endeavor to create the environment within the schools necessary to attain this goal. The creation of the necessary climate shall be based on the following core beliefs:

1. The District's vision statement will be developed with input from students, parents, business leaders, and other community members.
2. All students can be successful learners.
3. Students learn at different rates and in different ways.
4. A primary goal shall be to give students the skills they need to be life-long learners.
5. The education of all citizens is basic to our community's well-being.
6. Student achievement is affected positively by the involvement of parents and the community in the schools.
7. The District is responsible for helping cultivate good citizenship skills in its students.
8. Students reflect the moral and ethical values of their environment.
9. All people have a right to a safe environment.
10. Each person is responsible for his/her own actions.

11. Innovation involves taking risks.
12. Schools are responsible for creating the conditions that promote success.
13. Each person is entitled to retain his/her dignity.
14. All people have the right to be treated with respect and the responsibility to treat others respectfully.
15. For teachers to succeed in cultivating high student achievement, they need to be given the materials, training, and environment necessary to produce such results.

EQUAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY

No student in the Deer/Mt Judea School District shall, on the grounds of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, or disability be excluded from participation in, or denied the benefits of or subjected to discrimination under any educational program or activity sponsored by the District.

SPECIAL EDUCATION

The district shall provide a free appropriate public education and necessary related services to all children with disabilities residing within the district, required under the Individuals With Disabilities Education Act ("IDEA"), Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans With Disabilities Act, and Arkansas Statutes.

It is the intent of the district to ensure that students who are disabled within the definition of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 are identified, evaluated and provided with appropriate educational services. Students may be disabled within the meaning of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act even though they do not require services pursuant to the IDEA.

STUDENTS WHO ARE FOSTER CHILDREN

The District will afford the same services and educational opportunities to foster children that are afforded other children and youth. The District shall work with the Department of Human Services ("DHS"), the ADE, and individuals involved with each foster child to ensure that he/she is able to maintain his/her continuity of educational services to the fullest extent that is practical and reasonable.

HOMELESS STUDENTS

The Deer/Mt. Judea School District will afford the same services and educational opportunities to homeless children as are afforded to non-homeless children. The Superintendent or his/her designee shall appoint an appropriate staff person to be the local educational liaison for homeless children and youth whose responsibilities shall include coordinating with the state educational liaison for homeless children and youth to ensure that

homeless children are not stigmatized or segregated on the basis of their status as homeless and such other duties as are prescribed by law and this policy.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYMENT

It shall be the policy of the Board of Education that the District shall not discriminate against any person on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or handicap in accordance with state and federal laws. The professional staff is directed to implement such procedures to ensure that this policy is fully enforced and documentation be maintained as evidence of compliance. (Arkansas Constitution, Article 2, sec. 3: Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972.)

INTERNET SAFETY AND ELECTRONIC DEVICE USE POLICY

Definition

For the purposes of this policy, “electronic device” means anything that can be used to transmit or capture images, sound, or data.

The District makes electronic device(s) and/or electronic device Internet access available to students, to permit students to perform research and to allow students to learn how to use electronic device technology. Use of district electronic devices is for educational and/or instructional purposes only. Student use of electronic device(s) shall only be as directed or assigned by staff or teachers; students are advised that they enjoy no expectation of privacy in any aspect of their electronic device use, including email, and that monitoring of student electronic device use is continuous.

No student will be granted Internet access until and unless an Internet and electronic device use agreement, signed by both the student and the parent or legal guardian (if the student is under the age of eighteen [18]) is on file. The current version of the Internet and electronic device use agreement is incorporated by reference into board policy and is considered part of the student handbook.

Technology Protection Measures

The District is dedicated to protecting students from materials on the Internet or world wide web that are inappropriate, obscene, or otherwise harmful to minors¹; therefore, it is the policy of the District to protect each electronic device with Internet filtering software² that is designed to prevent students from accessing such materials. For purposes of this policy, “harmful to minors” means any picture, image, graphic image file, or other visual depiction that:

(A) taken as a whole and with respect to minors, appeals to a prurient interest in nudity, sex, or excretion;

(B) depicts, describes, or represents, in a patently offensive way with respect to what is suitable for minors, an actual or simulated sexual act or sexual contact,

actual or simulated normal or perverted sexual acts, or a lewd exhibition of the genitals; and
(C) taken as a whole, lacks serious literary, artistic, political, or scientific value as to minors.

Internet Use and Safety

The District is dedicated to ensuring that students are capable of using the Internet in a safe and responsible manner. The District uses technology protection measures to aid in student safety and shall also educate students on appropriate online behavior and Internet use³ including, but not limited to:

- interacting with other individuals on social networking websites and in chat rooms;
- Cyberbullying awareness; and
- Cyberbullying response.

Misuse of Internet

The opportunity to use the District's technology to access the Internet is a privilege and not a right. Students who misuse electronic devices or Internet access in any way will face disciplinary action, as specified in the student handbook⁴ and/or Internet safety and electronic device use agreement. Misuse of the Internet includes:

- The disabling or bypassing of security procedures, compromising, attempting to compromise, or defeating the district's technology network security or Internet filtering software;
- The altering of data without authorization;
- Disclosing, using, or disseminating passwords, whether the passwords are the student's own or those of another student/faculty/community member, to other students;
- Divulging personally identifying information about himself/herself or anyone else either on the Internet or in an email unless it is a necessary and integral part of the student's academic endeavor. Personally identifying information includes full names, addresses, and phone numbers.
- Using electronic devices for any illegal activity, including electronic device hacking and copyright or intellectual property law violations;
- Using electronic devices to access or create sexually explicit or pornographic text or graphics;
- Using electronic devices to violate any other policy or is contrary to the Internet safety and electronic device use agreement.

PARENTS RIGHT TO KNOW

The No Child Left Behind Education Act requires all schools receiving Title I funds under Subpart A, to notify parents of their right to know the professional qualifications of any teachers or paraprofessional that provide services to their children. If you have any questions about the qualifications of any teacher or paraprofessional who works with your child, please contact your school's principal.

CLOSED CAMPUS

All schools in the District shall operate closed campuses. Students are required to stay on campus from their arrival until dismissal at the end of the regular school day unless given permission to leave the campus by a school official. Students must sign out in the office upon their departure.

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS/EQUAL ACCESS

Noncurriculum-related secondary school student organizations wishing to conduct meetings on school premises during noninstructional time shall not be denied equal access on the basis of the religious, political, philosophical, or other content of the speech at such meetings. Such meetings must meet the following criteria.

- 1) The meeting is to be voluntary and student initiated;
- 2) There is no sponsorship of the meeting by the school, the government, or its agents or employees;
- 3) The meeting must occur during noninstructional time;
- 4) Employees or agents of the school are present at religious meetings only in a nonparticipatory capacity;
- 5) The meeting does not materially and substantially interfere with the orderly conduct of educational activities within the school; and
- 6) Nonschool persons may not direct, conduct, control, or regularly attend activities of student groups.

All meetings held on school premises must be scheduled and approved by the principal. The school, its agents, and employees retain the authority to maintain order and discipline, to protect the well being of students and faculty, and to assure that attendance of students at meetings is voluntary.

Fraternalities, sororities, and secret societies are forbidden in the District's schools. Membership to student organizations shall not be by a vote of the organization's members, nor be restricted by the student's race, religion, sex, national origin, or other arbitrary criteria. Hazing, as defined by law, is forbidden in connection with initiation into, or affiliation with, any student organization, extracurricular activity or sport program.

CONTACT WITH STUDENTS WHILE AT SCHOOL

CONTACT BY PARENTS

Parents wishing to speak to their children during the school day shall register first with the office.

CONTACT BY NON-CUSTODIAL PARENTS

If there is any question concerning the legal custody of the student, the custodial parent shall present documentation to the principal or his/

her designee establishing the parent's custody of the student. It shall be the responsibility of the custodial parent to make any court ordered "no contact" or other restrictions regarding the non-custodial parent known to the principal by presenting a copy of a file-marked court order. Without such a court order on file, the school will release the child to either of his/her parents. Non-custodial parents who file with the principal a date-stamped copy of current court orders granting visitation may eat lunch, volunteer in their child's classroom, or otherwise have contact with their child during school hours and the prior approval of the school's principal. Such contact is subject to the limitations outlined in Policy 4.16, Policy 6.5, and any other policies that may apply.

Unless prior arrangements have been made with the school's principal, Arkansas law provides that the transfer of a child between his/her custodial parent and non-custodial parent, when both parents are present, shall not take place on the school's property on normal school days during normal hours of school operation.

CONTACT BY LAW ENFORCEMENT, SOCIAL SERVICES, OR BY COURT ORDER

State Law requires that Department of Human Services employees, local law enforcement, or agents of the Crimes Against Children Division of the Department of Arkansas State Police, may interview students without a court order for the purpose of investigating suspected child abuse. In instances where the interviewers deem it necessary, they may exercise a "72-hour hold" without first obtaining a court order. Other questioning of students by non-school personnel shall be granted only with a court order directing such questioning, with permission of the parents of a student (or the student if above eighteen [18] years of age), or in response to a subpoena or arrest warrant.

If the District makes a report to any law enforcement agency concerning student misconduct or if access to a student is granted to a law enforcement agency due to a court order, the principal or the principal's designee shall make a good faith effort to contact the student's parent, legal guardian, or other person having lawful control by court order, or person acting in loco parentis identified on student enrollment forms. The principal or the principal's designee shall not attempt to make such contact if presented documentation by the investigator that notification is prohibited because a parent, guardian, custodian, or person standing in loco parentis is named as an alleged offender of the suspected child maltreatment. This exception applies only to interview requests made by a law enforcement officer, an investigator of the Crimes Against Children Division of the Department of Arkansas State Police, or an investigator or employee of the Department of Human Services.

In instances other than those related to cases of suspected child abuse, principals must release a student to either a police officer who presents a subpoena for the student, or a warrant for arrest, or to an agent of state

social services or an agent of a court with jurisdiction over a child with a court order signed by a judge. Upon release of the student, the principal or designee shall give the student's parent, legal guardian, or other person having lawful control by court order, or person acting in loco parentis notice that the student has been taken into custody by law enforcement personnel or a state's social services agency. If the principal or designee is unable to reach the parent, he or she shall make a reasonable, good faith effort to get a message to the parent to call the principal or designee, and leave both a day and an after-hours telephone number.

HOME ACCESS CENTER (HAC)

This year you will access your student's school information over the Internet through a website called Home Access Center (HAC). Through Home Access Center, you can view a daily summary of your student's grades, attendance, assignments and schedule information. To access Home Access Center, go to the district website – deermtjudea.k12.ar.us . There is a link named Home Access Center on the district's main page. You will be prompted to enter a login ID and password which will be provided to you by the school. You will receive one login ID and password for each guardian provided on the student's enrollment information. If one guardian has more than one student enrolled they will receive one login ID that will access all student records. If you do not receive this information you may contact [Joel Phillips](mailto:japhillips@deer.k12.ar.us) at japhillips@deer.k12.ar.us or Rainey Yeager at ryeager@mtjudea.k12.ar.us

ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS

ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS

To enroll in a school in the District, the child must be a resident of the District as defined in District policy (4.1—RESIDENCE REQUIREMENTS), meet the criteria outlined in policy 4.40—HOMELESS STUDENTS or in policy 4.52—STUDENTS WHO ARE FOSTER CHILDREN, be accepted as a transfer student under the provisions of policy 4.4, or participate under a school choice option and submit the required paperwork as required by the choice option.

Students may enter kindergarten if they will attain the age of five (5) on or before August 1 of the year in which they are seeking initial enrollment. Any student who has been enrolled in a state-accredited or state-approved kindergarten program in another state for at least sixty (60) days, who will become five (5) years old during the year in which he/she is enrolled in kindergarten, and who meets the basic residency requirement for school attendance may be enrolled in kindergarten upon written request to the District.

Any child who will be six (6) years of age on or before October 1 of the school year of enrollment and who has not completed a state-accredited

kindergarten program shall be evaluated by the district and may be placed in the first grade if the results of the evaluation justify placement in the first grade and the child's parent or legal guardian agrees with placement in the first grade; otherwise the child shall be placed in kindergarten.

Any child may enter first grade in a District school if the child will attain the age of six (6) years during the school year in which the child is seeking enrollment and the child has successfully completed a kindergarten program in a public school in Arkansas.

Any child who has been enrolled in the first grade in a state-accredited or state-approved elementary school in another state for a period of at least sixty (60) days, who will become age six (6) years during the school year in which he/she is enrolled in grade one (1), and who meets the basic residency requirements for school attendance may be enrolled in the first grade.

Students who move into the District from an accredited school shall be assigned to the same grade as they were attending in their previous school (mid-year transfers) or as they would have been assigned in their previous school. Home-schooled students shall be evaluated by the District to determine their appropriate grade placement.

The district shall make no attempt to ascertain the immigration status, legal or illegal, of any student or his/her parent or legal guardian presenting for enrollment.

Prior to the child's admission to a District school:

- The parent, guardian, or other responsible person shall furnish the child's social security number, or if they request, the district will assign the child a nine (9) digit number designated by the department of education.
- The parent, guardian, or other responsible person shall provide the district with one (1) of the following documents indicating the child's age:
 - A birth certificate;
 - A statement by the local registrar or a county recorder certifying the child's date of birth;
 - An attested baptismal certificate;
 - A passport;
 - An affidavit of the date and place of birth by the child's parent or guardian;
 - United States military identification; or
 - Previous school records.
- The parent, guardian, or other responsible person shall indicate

on school registration forms whether the child has been expelled from school in any other school district or is a party to an expulsion proceeding. The Board of Education reserves the right, after a hearing before the Board, not to allow any person who has been expelled from another school district to enroll as a student until the time of the person's expulsion has expired.³

- The child shall be age appropriately immunized from poliomyelitis, diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, red (rubeola) measles, rubella, and other diseases as designated by the State Board of Health, or have an exemption issued by the Arkansas Department of Health. Proof of immunization shall be by a certificate of licensed physician or a public health department acknowledging the immunization. Exemptions are also possible on an annual basis for religious reasons from the Arkansas Department of Health.⁴ To continue such exemptions, they must be renewed at the beginning of each school year. A child enrolling in a district school and living in the household of a person on active military duty has 30 days to receive his/her initial required immunizations and 12 months to be up to date on the required immunizations for the student's age.

A student enrolled in the District who has an immunization exemption may be removed from school during an outbreak of the disease for which the student is not vaccinated at the discretion of the Arkansas Department of Health. The student may not return to the school until the outbreak has been resolved and the student's return to school is approved by the Arkansas Department of Health.

Uniformed Services Member's Children

For the purposes of this policy, "active duty members of the uniformed services" includes members of the National Guard and Reserve on active duty orders pursuant to 10 U.S.C. Section 1209 and 1211; "uniformed services"⁵ means the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard as well as the Commissioned Corps of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and Public Health Services; "veteran" means: a person who served in the uniformed services and who was discharged or released there from under conditions other than dishonorable.

This policy applies to children of: active duty members of the uniformed services; members or veterans of the uniformed services who are severely injured and medically discharged or retired for a period of one (1) year after medical discharge or retirement; and members of the uniformed services who die on active duty or as a result of injuries sustained on active duty for a period of one (1) year after death.

An eligible child as defined in this policy shall:

1. be allowed to continue his/her enrollment at the grade level commensurate with his/her grade level he/she was in at the time of transition from his/her previous school, regardless of age;
2. be eligible for enrollment in the next highest grade level, regardless of age if the student has satisfactorily completed the prerequisite grade level in his/her previous school;
3. enter the District's school on the validated level from his/her previous accredited school when transferring into the District after the start of the school year;
4. be enrolled in courses and programs the same as or similar to the ones the student was enrolled in his/her previous school to extent that space is available. This does not prohibit the District from performing subsequent evaluations to ensure appropriate placement and continued enrollment of the student in the courses/and/or programs;
5. be provided services comparable to those the student with disabilities received in his/her previous school based on his/her previous Individualized Education Program (IEP). This does not preclude the District school from performing subsequent evaluations to ensure appropriate placement of the student;
6. make reasonable accommodations and modifications to address the needs of an incoming student with disabilities, subject to an existing 504 or Title II Plan, necessary to provide the student with equal access to education. This does not preclude the District school from performing subsequent evaluations to ensure appropriate placement of the student;
7. be enrolled by an individual who has been given the special power of attorney for the student's guardianship. The individual shall have the power to take all other actions requiring parental participation and/or consent;
8. be eligible to continue attending District schools if he/she has been placed under the legal guardianship of a noncustodial parent living outside the district by a custodial parent on active military duty.

RESIDENCE REQUIREMENTS

Definitions:

"Reside" means to be physically present and to maintain a permanent place of abode for an average of no fewer than four (4) calendar days and nights per week for a primary purpose other than school attendance.

"Resident" means a student whose parents, legal guardians, persons having legal, lawful control of the student under order of a court, or persons standing in loco parentis reside in the school district.

"Residential address" means the physical location where the student's parents, legal guardians, persons having legal, lawful control of the student under order of a court, or persons standing in loco parentis reside. A

student may use the residential address of a legal guardian, person having legal, lawful control of the student under order of a court, or person standing in loco parentis only if the student resides at the same residential address and if the guardianship or other legal authority is not granted solely for educational needs or school attendance purposes.

The schools of the District shall be open and free through the completion of the secondary program to all persons between the ages of five (5) and twenty one (21) years whose parents, legal guardians, or other persons having lawful control of the person under an order of a court reside within the District¹ and to all persons between those ages who have been legally transferred to the District for educational purposes.

Any person eighteen (18) years of age or older may establish a residence separate and apart from his or her parents or guardians for school attendance purposes.

In order for a person under the age of eighteen (18) years to establish a residence for the purpose of attending the District's schools separate and apart from his or her parents, guardians, or other persons having lawful control of him or her under an order of a court, the person must actually reside in the District for a primary purpose other than that of school attendance. However, a student previously enrolled in the district who is placed under the legal guardianship of a noncustodial parent living outside the district by a custodial parent on active military duty may continue to attend district schools.² A foster child who was previously enrolled in a District school and who has had a change in placement to a residence outside the District, may continue to remain enrolled in his/her current school unless the presiding court rules otherwise.³

Under instances prescribed in A.C.A. § 6-18-203, a child or ward of an employee of the district or of the education coop to which the district belongs may enroll in the district even though the employee and his/her child or ward reside outside the district.⁴

STUDENT TRANSFERS

The Deer/Mt. Judea School District shall review and accept or reject requests for transfers, both into and out of the district, on a case by case basis at the July and December regularly scheduled board meetings.¹

The District may reject a nonresident's application for admission if its acceptance would necessitate the addition of staff or classrooms, exceed the capacity of a program, class, grade level, or school building, or cause the District to provide educational services not currently provided in the affected school.² The District shall reject applications that would cause it to be out of

compliance with applicable laws and regulations regarding desegregation.

Any student transferring from a school accredited by the Department of Education to a school in this district shall be placed into the same grade the student would have been in had the student remained at the former school.

Any student transferring from home school or a school that is not accredited by the Department of Education to a District school shall be evaluated by District staff to determine the student's appropriate grade placement.

The Board of Education reserves the right, after a hearing before the Board, not to allow any person who has been expelled from another district to enroll as a student until the time of the person's expulsion has expired.

Except as otherwise required or permitted by law, the responsibility for transportation of any nonresident student admitted to a school in this District shall be borne by the student or the student's parents. The District and the resident district may enter into a written agreement with the student or student's parents to provide transportation to or from the District, or both.

PLACEMENT OF MULTIPLE BIRTH SIBLINGS

The parent, guardian or other person having charge or custody of multiple birth siblings in grades pre-K through 6 may request that the multiple birth siblings be placed in either the same or separate classrooms. The request shall be in writing not later than the 14th calendar day prior to the first day of classes at the beginning of the academic year. The school shall honor the request unless it would require the school to add an additional class to the sibling's grade level. If one parent of multiple birth siblings requests a placement that differs from that of the other parent of the same multiple birth siblings, the school shall determine the appropriate placement of the siblings.

The school may change the classroom placement of one or more of the multiple birth siblings if:

- There have been a minimum of 30 instructional days since the start of the school year; and
 - After consulting with each classroom teacher in which the siblings were placed, the school determines the parent's classroom placement request is:
 - Detrimental to the educational achievement of one or more of the siblings;
 - Disruptive to the siblings' assigned classroom learning environment; or
 - Disruptive to the school's educational or disciplinary environment.

If a parent believes the school has not followed the requirements of this policy, the parent may appeal the multiple birth siblings' classroom placement to the Superintendent. The Superintendent's decision regarding the appeal shall be final.

ATTENDANCE

COMPULSORY ATTENDANCE REQUIREMENTS

Every parent, guardian, or other person having custody or charge of any child age five (5) through seventeen (17) years on or before August 1 of that year who resides, as defined by policy (4.1—RESIDENCE REQUIREMENTS), within the District shall enroll and send the child to a District school with the following exceptions.

1. The child is enrolled in private or parochial school.
2. The child is being home-schooled and the conditions of policy (4.6—HOME SCHOOLING) have been met.
3. The child will not be age six (6) on or before August 1 of that particular school year and the parent, guardian, or other person having custody or charge of the child elects not to have him/her attend kindergarten. A kindergarten waiver form prescribed by regulation of the Department of Education must be signed and on file with the District administrative office.
4. The child has received a high school diploma or its equivalent as determined by the State Board of Education.
5. The child is age sixteen (16) or above and is enrolled in a post-secondary vocational-technical institution, a community college, or a two-year or four-year institution of higher education.
6. The child is age sixteen (16) or seventeen (17) and has met the requirements to enroll in an adult education program as defined by A.C.A. § 6-18-201 (b).

ABSENCES

If any student's Individual Education Program (IEP) or 504 Plan conflicts with this policy, the requirements of the student's IEP or 504 Plan take precedence.

Education is more than the grades students receive in their courses. Important as that is, students' regular attendance at school is essential to their social and cultural development and helps prepare them to accept responsibilities they will face as an adult. Interactions with other students and participation in the instruction within the classroom enrich the learning environment and promote a continuity of instruction which results in higher student achievement.

Excused Absences

Excused absences are those where the student was on official school business or when the absence was due to one of the following reasons and

the student brings a written statement to the principal or designee upon his/her return to school from the parent or legal guardian stating such reason. A written statement presented for an absence having occurred more than five (5) school days prior to its presentation will **not** be accepted.

1. The student's illness or when attendance could jeopardize the health of other students. A maximum of eight (8) such days are allowed per semester unless the condition(s) causing such absences is of a chronic or recurring nature, is medically documented, and approved by the principal.
2. Death or serious illness in their immediate family;
3. Observance of recognized holidays observed by the student's faith;
4. Attendance at an appointment with a government agency;
5. Attendance at a medical appointment;
6. Exceptional circumstances with prior approval of the principal; or
7. Participation in an FFA, FHA, or 4-H sanctioned activity;
8. Participation in the election poll workers program for high school students.
9. Absences granted to allow a student to visit his/her parent or legal guardian who is a member of the military and been called to active duty, is on leave from active duty, or has returned from deployment to a combat zone or combat support posting. The number of additional excused absences shall be at the discretion of the superintendent or designee.

It is the Arkansas General Assembly's intention that students having excessive absences be given assistance in obtaining credit for their courses. Excessive absences may, however, be the basis for the denial of course credit, promotion, or graduation.

Unexcused Absences

Absences not defined above or not having an accompanying note from the parent or legal guardian, presented in the timeline required by this policy, shall be considered as unexcused absences. Students with eight (8) unexcused absences in a course in a semester shall not receive credit for that course. At the discretion of the principal after consultation with persons having knowledge of the circumstances of the unexcused absences, the student may be denied promotion or graduation. Excessive absences shall not be a reason for expulsion or dismissal of a student.

When a student has four (4) unexcused absences, his/her parents, guardians, or persons in loco parentis shall be notified. Notification shall be by telephone by the end of the school day in which such absence occurred or by regular mail with a return address sent no later than the following school day.

Whenever a student exceeds eight (8) unexcused absences in a semester, the District shall notify the prosecuting authority and the parent, guardian, or persons in loco parentis shall be subject to a civil penalty as prescribed by law.

At any time prior to when a student exceeds the number of unexcused absences permitted by this policy, the student, or his/her parent, guardian, or person in loco parentis may petition the school or district's administration for special arrangements to address the student's unexcused absences. If formal arrangements are granted, they shall be formalized into a written agreement which will include the conditions of the agreement and the consequences for failing to fulfill the agreement's requirements. The agreement shall be signed by the student, the student's parent, guardian, or person in loco parentis, and the school or district administrator or designee.⁶

Students who attend in-school suspension shall not be counted absent for those days.⁷

Days missed due to out-of-school suspension or expulsion shall be unexcused absences.⁷

The District shall notify the Department of Finance and Administration whenever a student fourteen (14) years of age or older is no longer in school. The Department of Finance and Administration is required to suspend the former student's operator's license unless he/she meets certain requirements specified in the statute.

Applicants for an instruction permit or for a driver's license by persons less than eighteen (18) years old on October 1 of any year are required to provide proof of a high school diploma or enrollment and regular attendance in an adult education program or a public, private, or parochial school prior to receiving an instruction permit. To be issued a driver's license, a student enrolled in school shall present proof of a "C" average for the previous semester or similar equivalent grading period for which grades are reported as part of the student's permanent record.

TARDIES

Promptness is an important character trait that District staff are encouraged to model and help develop in our schools' students. At the same time, promptness is the responsibility of each student. Students who are late to class show a disregard for both the teacher and their classmates which compromises potential student achievement.

- If a student checks in after the first bell, and before 9:00 am,
- or checks out after 2:15 pm, then the student will be marked tardy.

- Three tardies will be counted as ½ day absent.
- A student must be present for 3 full hours to be credited for ½ day.

GRADING & PLACEMENT

Students' grades shall reflect only the extent to which a student has achieved the expressed educational objectives of the course.

1	90-100	Advanced (A)	Advanced students demonstrate superior performance for the grade tested and are well prepared for the next grade.
2	80-89	Proficient (B)	Proficient students demonstrate solid academic performance for the grade tested and are well prepared for the next grade.
3	70-79	Basic (C)	Basic students demonstrate partial mastery of the knowledge and skills are fundamental for satisfactory work.
4	69 and below	Below Basic 69-60 (D) 59 - 0 (F)	Below basic students demonstrate little or no mastery of fundamental knowledge and skills

Four performance standards are:

ADVANCED: Advanced students demonstrate superior performance well beyond proficient grade level performance.

PROFICIENT: Proficient students demonstrate solid academic performance for the grade tested and are well prepared for the next grade.

BASIC: Basic students demonstrate partial mastery of the knowledge and skills that are fundamental for satisfactory work.

BELOW BASIC: Below basic students demonstrate little or no mastery of fundamental knowledge and skills.

In determining the student 9 week grade, the following criteria will be used in grades 4-6:

Homework 20% Test 80%

Parents will be notified of student's progress at the middle and at the end of each grading period.

Students enrolled in grades (K-6) falling into any of the areas listed below must participate in interventions to be eligible for promotion to the next grade.

- Performing Below Grade Level in any core subject
- Scoring Below the Proficient Level on the Benchmarks
- At Risk Students

Definition of "Performance below grade level" (Determined by Progress Reports)

KINDERGARTEN - Kindergarten students showing unsatisfactory progress

in any subject area.

GRADES 1-3 - Students in first grade through third grade scoring below 80% in any subject area and below the proficient level on the Benchmark: Other criteria used in determining participation in interventions includes, standardized test results, and absenteeism.

GRADES 4-6 - Students in fourth grade through sixth grade scoring below 80% in any subject area and below the proficient level on the Benchmark. Other criteria used in determining participation in intervention placement includes, standardized test results, and absenteeism.

Students may be retained in their present grade if their total absences exceed 16 days for the school year, or if their unexcused absences exceed 8 days for the school year.

Students falling into the above categories shall be referred to the placement committee to determine next year's grade placement.

Students with an IEP may be exempt based on an evaluation of the Individual Education Plan and a review of absences. Excessive absences will result in a denial of a student's IEP exemption.

The final grades of students who transfer in for part of a semester will be determined by blending the grades earned in the district with those earned outside the district. Each final grade will be the sum of the percentage of days in the grading period transferred from outside the district times the transferred grade from outside the district plus the percentage of days in the grading period while in the district times the grade earned in the district.

For example: The grading period had 40 days. A student transferred in with a grade of 83% earned in 10 days at the previous school. The student had a grade of 75% in our district's school earned in the remaining 30 days of the grading period. 10 days is 25% of 40 days while 30 days is 75% of 40 days. Thus the final grade would be $.25 (83) + .75 (75) = 75.5\%$.

HONOR ROLL

To be eligible for the Honor Roll a student must achieve A's and/or B's for the nine weeks grading period.

To be a member of the Principal's List a student must have A's in all subject areas each 9 week period.

Students who make the Principal's List (all A's) each nine weeks grading period will receive a reward. Those students who make the Principal's List for the year will be receive a recognition certificate.

PROMOTION/RETENTION/PLACEMENT FOR K-6 SCHOOLS

A disservice is done to students through social promotion and is prohibited

by state law. The District shall, at a minimum, evaluate each student annually in an effort to help each student who is not performing at grade level. Parents or guardians shall be kept informed concerning the progress of their student(s). Notice of a student's possible retention or required retaking of a course shall be included with the student's grades sent home to each parent/guardian or the student if 18 or older. Parent-teacher conferences are encouraged and may be held as necessary in an effort to improve a student's academic success.

Promotion or retention of students, or their required retaking of a course shall be primarily based on the following criteria. If there is doubt concerning the promotion or retention of a student or his/her required retaking of a course, a conference between the building principal, the student's teacher(s), counselor, a 504/special education representative (if applicable), and the student's parents shall be held before a final decision is made. The conference shall be held at a time and place that best accommodates those participating in the conference. The school shall document participation or non-participation in required conferences. If the conference attendees fail to agree concerning the student's placement or receipt of course credit, the final decision shall rest with the principal or the principal's designee.

Regardless of the student having earned passing grades, a student who falls under one of the following categories shall be considered for retention or shall not receive credit for the course associated with the assessment. The student:

- does not take the State mandated assessment for the student's grade level or course within the time frame specified by the State;
- takes the State mandated assessment but does not put forth a good faith effort on the assessment as determined by the assessment administrator/proctor.

The Superintendent or designee may wave this provision when the student's failure was due to exceptional or extraordinary circumstances.

Students who do not score proficient or above on their grade level Benchmark Exams shall be required to participate in an Academic Improvement Plan (AIP). Each AIP shall be developed by school personnel and the student's parents and shall be designed to assist the student in attaining the expected achievement level. The AIP shall also state the parent's role as well as the consequences for the student's failure to participate in the plan, which shall include the student's retention in their present grade.

All students must successfully pass all end-of-course (EOC) assessments they are required to take unless exempted by the student's individualized education program (IEP). To receive academic credit on his/her transcript in a course requiring a student to take a EOC assessment, the student must either receive a passing score on the initial assessment or

successfully participate in the remediation program identified in his/her Individualized Academic Improvement Plan (IAIP) which shall focus on the areas in which the student failed to meet the necessary passing score. Additionally, the lack of credit could jeopardize the student's grade promotion or classification.

To the extent required by the State Board of Education, students in grade eleven (11) and below who do not meet the required score on a college and career readiness measurement shall participate in the remediation activities prescribed in his/her IAIP which may include additional opportunities to retake the measurement.

Such remediation shall not require the student to pass a subsequent college and career readiness measurement in order to graduate from high school.⁵

Promotion/retention or graduation of students with an IEP shall be based on their successful attainment of the goals set forth in their IEP.

In addition to the possibility of retention or withholding of course credit, students who either refuse to sit for a State assessment or attempt to boycott a State assessment by failing to put forth a good faith effort on the assessment as determined by the assessment administrator/proctor, or whose parents do not send their student to school on the dates the assessments are originally administered or scheduled as make-up days shall not be permitted to participate in any non-curriculum related extracurricular activity, including school dances, prom, homecoming, senior events, and may be prevented from walking or participating in graduation exercises. The student shall remain ineligible to participate until the student takes the same or a following State mandated assessment, as applicable, or completes the required remediation for the assessment the student failed to put forth a good faith effort on. The Superintendent or designee may wave this paragraph's provisions when the student's failure was due to exceptional or extraordinary circumstances. Students falling under the provisions of this paragraph shall be permitted to attend curriculum related field trips occurring during the school day.

Benchmark/EOC/PARCC Success Days

This is a reward program to assist in motivating our students to score Proficient or Advanced on the Benchmark/EOC/PARCC assessments. If a student scores Proficient or Advanced on one of the exams, they receive one Success Day, where they can be absent and it counts as a school business absence.

The eligible students will be provided with a Success Day voucher in the Fall for each Success Day that they have earned. The student must ask for the day in writing at least a week in advance. The students are also responsible for making

up all work missed during their Success Day. The assessment coordinator will provide the forms to teacher/principal who will then sign off on the form to make sure a student qualifies and does so within the proper time frame.

MAKE-UP WORK

Students who miss school due to an absence shall be allowed to make up the work they missed during their absence. Students with absences shall have one day more than the day or days missed to complete the missed assignments. It is the responsibility of the parent/teacher/student to arrange for all make-up work with the teacher(s). As required/permitted by the student's Individual Education Program or 504 Plan.

Work may not be made up for credit for absences in excess of the number of allowable absences in a semester **unless** the absences are part of a signed agreement as permitted by ASB 4.7.

Out of school suspensions are special status absences and assigned work is required and due at the end of the suspension.

ALTERNATIVE LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS

The District shall provide an eligible alternative learning environment (ALE) for each eligible ALE student enrolled in a District school. The ALE shall be part of an intervention program designed to provide guidance, counseling, and academic support to students who are experiencing emotional, social, or academic problems. Placement of a student in an ALE shall not be punitive in nature.

The superintendent or designee shall appoint an Alternative Education Placement Team which shall have the responsibility of determining student placement in the ALE. A student may be enrolled in an ALE only on the referral of the Alternative Education Placement Team. The team's placement decision is final and may not be appealed.¹

The team is to be comprised of the following:

- a school counselor from the referring school;
- the ALE administrator and/or ALE teacher;
- the building principal or assistant principal from the referring school;
- a parent or legal guardian (if they choose to participate);
 - The District shall document its efforts to contact the student's parent or guardian to schedule a meeting or a phone call for a placement meeting at the parent or guardian's convenience, and maintain such documentation in the student's Student Action Plan (SAP).
- LEA special education/504 representative (if applicable);
- at least one (1) of the student's regular classroom teacher(s); and
- if the District so chooses, the student.

Students who are placed in the ALE shall exhibit at least two of the following characteristics a through l:

- a) Disruptive behavior;
- b) Dropping out from school;
- c) Personal or family problems or situations;
- d) Recurring absenteeism;

For the purposes of the ALE, personal or family problems or situations are conditions that negatively affect the student's academic and social progress. These may include, but are not limited to:

- e) Ongoing, persistent lack of attaining proficiency levels in literacy and mathematics
- f) Abuse: physical, mental, or sexual;
- g) Frequent relocation of residency;
- h) Homelessness;
- i) Inadequate emotional support;
- j) Mental/physical health problems;
- k) Pregnancy; or
- l) Single parenting.

No later than five (5) school days after a student begins alternative education interventions, the Alternative Education Placement Team shall develop a signed agreement between the ALE, the parent or legal guardian (if they choose to participate), and the student, outlining the responsibility of the ALE, parent or legal guardian, and the student to provide assurance that the plan for each student is successful.

No later than one (1) week after a student begins alternative education interventions, the Alternative Education Placement Team shall assess the student's current functioning abilities and all relevant social, emotional, academic, career, and behavioral information and develop an SAP outlining the intervention services to be provided to the student that is in compliance with the Arkansas Department of Education (ADE) Rules. The SAP may be revised from time to time by the ALE placement team and a positive behavior or transitional plan shall be developed and added to the SAP prior to a student's return to the regular educational environment.

The district's ALE program shall follow class size, staffing, curriculum, and expenditure requirements identified in the ADE Rules.

SMART CORE CURRICULUM AND GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS FOR THE CLASSES OF 2015, 2016, AND 2017

All students are required to participate in the Smart Core curriculum unless their parents or guardians, or the students if they are 18 years of age or older, sign a *Smart Core Waiver Form* to not participate. While Smart Core is the default option, both a *Smart Core Informed Consent Form* and a *Smart Core Waiver Form* will be sent home with students prior to their enrolling in seventh grade, or when a 7-12 grade student enrolls in the district for the first time and there is not a signed form in the student's permanent record. Parents must sign one of the forms and return it to the school so it can be placed in the students' permanent records. This policy is to be included in

student handbooks for grades 6-12 and both students and parents must sign an acknowledgement they have received the policy. Those students not participating in the Smart Core curriculum will be required to fulfill the Core curriculum or the requirements of their IEP (when applicable) to be eligible for graduation. Counseling by trained personnel shall be available to students and their parents or legal guardians prior to the time they are required to sign the consent forms.

While there are similarities between the two curriculums, following the Core curriculum may not qualify students for some scholarships and admission to certain colleges could be jeopardized. Students initially choosing the Core curriculum may subsequently change to the Smart Core curriculum **providing** they would be able to complete the required course of study by the end of their senior year. Students wishing to change their choice of curriculums must consult with their counselor to determine the feasibility of changing.

This policy, the Smart Core curriculum, and the courses necessary for graduation shall be reviewed by staff, students, and parents at least every other year³ to determine if changes need to be made to better serve the needs of the district's students. The superintendent, or his/her designee, shall select the composition of the review panel.

Sufficient information relating to Smart Core and the district's graduation requirements shall be communicated to parents and students to ensure their informed understanding of each. This may be accomplished through any or all of the following means.⁴

1. Inclusion in the student handbook of the Smart Core curriculum and graduation requirements;
2. Discussion of the Smart Core curriculum and graduation requirements at the school's annual public meeting, PTA meetings, or a meeting held specifically for the purpose of informing the public on this matter;
3. Discussions held by the school's counselors with students and their parents; and/or
4. Distribution of a newsletter(s) to parents or guardians of the district's students.

Administrators, or their designees, shall train newly hired employees, required to be licensed as a condition of their employment, regarding this policy. The district's annual professional development shall include the training required by this paragraph.⁵

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

The number of units students must earn to be eligible for high school graduation are to be earned from the categories listed below. A minimum of

22 units is required for graduation for a student participating in either the Smart Core or Core curriculum.

SMART CORE: Sixteen (16) units

English: four (4) units – 9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th

Oral Communications: one-half (1/2) unit

Mathematics: four (4) units (all students under Smart Core must take a mathematics course in grade 11 or 12 and complete Algebra II.)

- Algebra I or Algebra A & B* which may be taken in grades 7-8 or 8-9
- Geometry or Investigating Geometry or Geometry A & B* which may be taken in grades 8-9 or 9-10 *A two-year algebra equivalent or a two-year geometry equivalent may each be counted as two units of the four-unit requirement for the purpose of meeting the **graduation** requirement, but only serve as one unit each toward fulfilling the **Smart Core** requirement.
- Algebra II
- Beyond Algebra II: this can include Pre-Calculus, Calculus, AP Statistics, Algebra III, Advanced Topic and
- Modeling in Mathematics, Mathematical Applications and Algorithms, Linear Systems and Statistics, or any of several IB or Advanced Placement math courses
- (Comparable concurrent credit college courses may be substituted where applicable)

Natural Science: a total of three (3) units with lab experience chosen from

- One unit of Biology; and
- Two units chosen from the following three categories (there are acceptable options listed by the ADE for each)
 - Physical Science
 - Chemistry
 - Physics or Principles of Technology I & II or PIC Physics

Social Studies: three (3) units

- Civics one-half (1/2) unit
- World History - one unit
- American History - one unit

Physical Education: one-half (1/2) unit

Note: While one-half (1/2) unit is required for graduation, no more than one (1) unit may be applied toward fulfilling the necessary units to graduate.

Health and Safety: one-half (1/2) unit

Economics – one half (½) unit – dependent upon the licensure of the teacher teaching the course, this can count toward the required three (3) social studies credits or the six (6) required Career Focus elective credits.²

Fine Arts: one-half (1/2) unit

CAREER FOCUS: - Six (6) units – at least one foreign language or as mandated by the State Board of Education

All career focus unit requirements shall be established through guidance and counseling based on the student's contemplated work aspirations. Career focus courses shall conform to the curriculum policy of the district and reflect state curriculum frameworks through course sequencing and career course concentrations where appropriate.

CORE: Sixteen (16) units

English: four (4) units – 9, 10, 11, and 12

Oral Communications: one-half (1/2) unit

Mathematics: four (4) units

- Algebra or its equivalent* - 1 unit
- Geometry or its equivalent* - 1 unit
- All math units must build on the base of algebra and geometry knowledge and skills.
- (Comparable concurrent credit college courses may be substituted where applicable)

*A two-year algebra equivalent or a two-year geometry equivalent may each be counted as two units of the four (4) unit requirement.

Science: three (3) units

- at least one (1) unit of biology or its equivalent
- one (1) unit of a physical science

Social Studies: three (3) units

- Civics one-half (1/2) unit
- World history, one (1) unit
- American History, one (1) unit

Physical Education: one-half (1/2) unit

Note: While one-half (1/2) unit is required for graduation, no more than one (1) unit may be applied toward fulfilling the necessary units to graduate.

Health and Safety: one-half (1/2) unit

Economics – one half (½) unit – dependent upon the licensure of the teacher teaching the course, this can count toward the required three (3) social studies credits or the six (6) required Career Focus elective credits.

Fine Arts: one-half (1/2) unit

CAREER FOCUS: - Six (6) units – at least one foreign language or as mandated by the State Board of Education

All career focus unit requirements shall be established through guidance and counseling based on the student’s contemplated work aspirations. Career focus courses shall conform to the curriculum policy of the district and reflect state curriculum frameworks through course sequencing and career course concentrations where appropriate.

SMART CORE CURRICULUM AND GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS FOR THE CLASS OF 2018 AND THEREAFTER

All students are required to participate in the Smart Core curriculum unless their parents or guardians, or the students if they are 18 years of age or older, sign a Smart Core Waiver Form to not participate. While Smart Core is the default option, both a Smart Core Informed Consent Form and a Smart Core Waiver Form will be sent home with students prior to their enrolling in seventh grade, or when a 7-12 grade student enrolls in the district for the first time and there is not a signed form in the student’s permanent record. Parents must sign one of the forms and return it to the school so it can be placed in the students’ permanent records.¹ This policy is to be included in student handbooks for grades 6-12 and both students and parents must sign an acknowledgement they have received the policy. Those students not participating in the Smart Core curriculum will be required to fulfill the Core curriculum or the requirements of their IEP (when applicable) to be eligible for graduation. Counseling by trained personnel shall be available to students and their parents or legal guardians prior to the time they are required to sign the consent forms.

While there are similarities between the two curriculums, following the Core curriculum may not qualify students for some scholarships and admission to certain colleges could be jeopardized. Students initially choosing the Core curriculum may subsequently change to the Smart Core curriculum **providing** they would be able to complete the required course of study by the end of

their senior year.² Students wishing to change their choice of curriculums must consult with their counselor to determine the feasibility of changing.

This policy, the Smart Core curriculum, and the courses necessary for graduation shall be reviewed by staff, students, and parents at least every other year³ to determine if changes need to be made to better serve the needs of the district's students. The superintendent, or his/her designee, shall select the composition of the review panel.

Sufficient information relating to Smart Core and the district's graduation requirements shall be communicated to parents and students to ensure their informed understanding of each. This may be accomplished through any or all of the following means.⁴

5. Inclusion in the student handbook of the Smart Core curriculum and graduation requirements;
6. Discussion of the Smart Core curriculum and graduation requirements at the school's annual public meeting, PTA meetings, or a meeting held specifically for the purpose of informing the public on this matter;
7. Discussions held by the school's counselors with students and their parents; and/or
8. Distribution of a newsletter(s) to parents or guardians of the district's students.

Administrators, or their designees, shall train newly hired employees, required to be licensed as a condition of their employment, regarding this policy. The district's annual professional development shall include the training required by this paragraph.⁵

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

The number of units students must earn to be eligible for high school graduation is to be earned from the categories listed below. A minimum of 22 units is required for graduation for a student participating in either the Smart Core or Core curriculum. In addition to the 22 units required for graduation by the Arkansas

Department of Education, the district requires an additional ___ units to graduate for a total of ___ units. The additional required units may be taken from any electives offered by the district.⁶ There are some distinctions made between Smart Core units and Graduation units. Not all units earned toward graduation necessarily apply to Smart Core requirements.

Digital Learning Courses

The District shall offer one or more digital learning course(s) through one or more District approved provider(s) as either a primary or supplementary method of instruction. The courses may be in a blended learning, online-

based, or other technology-based format.²In addition to the other graduation requirements contained in this policy, students are required to take at least one (1) digital learning course for credit while in high school.

SMART CORE: Sixteen (16) units

English: four (4) units – 9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th

Oral Communications: one-half (1/2) unit

Mathematics: four (4) units (all students under Smart Core must take a mathematics course in grade 11 or 12 and complete Algebra II.)

1. Algebra I or Algebra A & B* which may be taken in grades 7-8 or 8-9
2. Geometry or Investigating Geometry or Geometry A & B* which may be taken in grades 8-9 or 9-10

*A two-year algebra equivalent or a two-year geometry equivalent may each be counted as two units of the four-unit requirement for the purpose of meeting the **graduation** requirement, but only serve as one unit each toward fulfilling the **Smart Core** requirement.

1. Algebra II
2. Beyond Algebra II: this can include Pre-Calculus, Calculus, AP Statistics, Algebra III, Advanced Topic and Modeling in Mathematics, Mathematical Applications and Algorithms, Linear Systems and Statistics, or any of several IB or Advanced Placement math courses

(Comparable concurrent credit college courses may be substituted where applicable).

Natural Science: a total of three (3) units with lab experience chosen from One unit of Biology; and

Two units chosen from the following three categories (there are acceptable options listed by the ADE for each)

- Physical Science
- Chemistry
- Physics or Principles of Technology I & II or PIC Physics

Social Studies: three (3) units

- Civics one-half (½) unit
- World History - one unit
- American History - one unit

Physical Education: one-half (1/2) unit

Note: While one-half (1/2) unit is required for graduation, no more than one (1) unit may be applied toward fulfilling the necessary units to graduate.

Health and Safety: one-half (1/2) unit

Economics – one half (½) unit – dependent upon the licensure of the teacher teaching the course, this can count toward the required three (3) social studies credits or the six (6) required Career Focus elective credits.⁸

Fine Arts: one-half (1/2) unit

CAREER FOCUS: - Six (6) units

All career focus unit requirements shall be established through guidance and counseling based on the student’s contemplated work aspirations. Career focus courses shall conform to the curriculum policy of the district and reflect state curriculum frameworks through course sequencing and career course concentrations where appropriate.

CORE: Sixteen (16) units

English: four (4) units – 9, 10, 11, and 12

Oral Communications: one-half (1/2) unit

Mathematics: four (4) units

- Algebra or its equivalent* - 1 unit
- Geometry or its equivalent* - 1 unit
- All math units must build on the base of algebra and geometry knowledge and skills.
- (Comparable concurrent credit college courses may be substituted where applicable)

*A two-year algebra equivalent or a two-year geometry equivalent may each be counted as two units of the four (4) unit requirement.

Science: three (3) units

- at least one (1) unit of biology or its equivalent
- one (1) unit of a physical science

Social Studies: three (3) units

- Civics one-half (1/2) unit
- World history, one (1) unit
- American History, one (1) unit

Physical Education: one-half (1/2) unit

Note: While one-half (1/2) unit is required for graduation, no more than one (1) unit may be applied toward fulfilling the necessary units to graduate.

Health and Safety: one-half (1/2) unit

Economics – one half (½) unit – dependent upon the licensure of the teacher teaching the course, this can count toward the required three (3) social studies

credits or the six (6) required Career Focus elective credits.⁸

Fine Arts: one-half (1/2) unit

CAREER FOCUS: - Six (6) units

All career focus unit requirements shall be established through guidance and counseling based on the student’s contemplated work aspirations. Career focus courses shall conform to the curriculum policy of the district and reflect state curriculum frameworks through course sequencing and career course concentrations where appropriate.

CONDUCT/DISCIPLINE

STUDENT DISCIPLINE

The Deer/Mt. Judea Board of Education has a responsibility to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the District’s students and employees. To help maintain a safe environment conducive to high student achievement, the Board establishes policies necessary to regulate student behavior to promote an orderly school environment that is respectful of the rights of others and ensures the uniform enforcement of student discipline. Students are responsible for their conduct that occurs: at any time on the school grounds; off school grounds at a school sponsored function, activity, or event; going to and from school or a school activity.

The District’s administrators may also take disciplinary action against a student for off-campus conduct occurring at any time that would have a detrimental impact on school discipline, the educational environment, or the welfare of the students and/or staff. A student who has committed a criminal act while off campus and whose presence on campus could cause a substantial disruption to school or endanger the welfare of other students or staff is subject to disciplinary action up to and including expulsion. Such acts could include, but are not limited to a felony or an act that would be considered a felony if committed by an adult, an assault or battery, drug law violations, or sexual misconduct of a serious nature. Any disciplinary action pursued by the District shall be in accordance with the student’s appropriate due process rights.

The District’s student discipline policies shall be distributed to each student during the first week of school each year and to new students upon their enrollment. Each student’s parent or legal guardian shall sign and return to the school an acknowledgement form documenting that they have received the policies.

It is required by law that the principal or the person in charge report to the police any incidents the person has personal knowledge of or has received

information leading to a reasonable belief that a person has committed or threatened to commit an act of violence or any crime involving a deadly weapon on school property or while under school supervision. If the person making the report is not the Superintendent, that person shall also inform the Superintendent of the incident. Additionally, the principal shall inform any school employee or other person who initially reported the incident that a report has been made to the appropriate law enforcement agency. The Superintendent or designee shall inform the Board of Directors of any such report made to law enforcement.

PROHIBITED CONDUCT

Students and staff require a safe and orderly learning environment that is conducive to high student achievement. Certain student behaviors are unacceptable in such an environment and are hereby prohibited by the Board. Prohibited behaviors include, but shall not be limited to the following.

1. Disrespect for school employees and failing to comply with their reasonable directions or otherwise demonstrating insubordination;
2. Disruptive behavior that interferes with orderly school operations;
3. Willfully and intentionally assaulting or threatening to assault or physically abusing any student or school employee;
4. Possession of any weapon that can reasonably be considered capable of causing bodily harm to another individual;
5. Possession or use of tobacco in any form on any property owned or leased by any public school;
6. Willfully or intentionally damaging, destroying, or stealing school property;
7. Possession of any paging device, beeper, or similar electronic communication devices on the school campus during normal school hours unless specifically exempted by the administration for health or other compelling reasons;
8. Possession, selling, distributing, or being under the influence of an alcoholic beverage, any illegal drug, unauthorized inhalants, or the inappropriate use or sharing of prescription or over the counter drugs, or other intoxicants, or anything represented to be a drug;
9. Sharing, diverting, transferring, applying to others (such as needles or lancets), or in any way misusing medication or any medical supplies in their possession;
10. Inappropriate public displays of affection;
11. Cheating, copying, or claiming another person's work to be his/her own;
12. Gambling;
13. Inappropriate student dress;
14. Use of vulgar, profane, or obscene language or gestures;
15. Truancy;

16. Excessive tardiness;
17. Engaging in behavior designed to taunt, degrade, or ridicule another person on the basis of race, ethnicity, national origin, sex, or disability;
18. Possess, view, distribute or electronically transmit sexually explicit or vulgar images or representations, whether electronically, on a data storage device, or in hard copy form;
19. Hazing, or aiding in the hazing of another student;
20. Gangs or gang-related activities, including belonging to secret societies of any kind, are forbidden on school property. Gang insignias, clothing, “throwing signs” or other gestures associated with gangs are prohibited;
21. Sexual harassment; and
22. Bullying.

All of the above prohibited behaviors are subject to the following minimum and maximum discipline procedures.

Minimum: Warning/Detention

Maximum: Recommended Expulsion

The Board directs each school in the District to develop implementation regulations for prohibited student conduct consistent with applicable Board policy, State and Federal laws, and judicial decisions.

BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS AND DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS

A general policy never fits all situations or circumstances and by necessity may vary to adapt to all incidents. The school district reserves the right to discipline behavior which is subversive to good order and discipline in the schools, even though such behavior is not specified in the written rules.

Students are expected to:

- A. Be prompt and prepared
- B. Respect authority
- C. Respect rights of others
- D. Respect property of others
- E. Display a concern for learning
- F. Display appropriate social skills
- G. Display appropriate character

NOTE: Detentions are recorded for each grading period; Confinements are recorded for each semester.

DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS

Detention/Confinements/Suspensions/Long Term Suspension

Level One: Detention (loss of recess)

- Teachers may give detentions or confinements for infractions.
- If the infraction is of a more serious offense, the student

will be referred to the principal's office.

- Two detentions per week for two consecutive weeks =
Level Two Disciplinary Action

Level Two: Confinement (loss of recess for one week)

Third detention per week = one week confinement and parent /
teacher conference required

Level Three: Second confinement a parent/principal conference
required before student returns to school

Level Four: After School Detention / Out of School Suspensions
up to 10 days and Parent conference required

Suspensions are very serious infractions:

Examples of infractions:

1. Third Confinement (per semester) = after school detention/out
of school suspension
2. Tobacco (possession or use)
3. Truancy (skipping school)
4. Profanity, verbal abuse, or obscene gestures directed toward any
school employee, student, or individual.
5. Refusal of discipline alternatives
6. Fighting, Hitting, Physical Harm
7. Any behavior disrupting the educational process

Level Five: Long-term Out Of -School Suspensions (Expulsions)

**Long term suspensions are reserved for the board's consideration of
handbook violations.**

Examples of infractions:

1. Multiple suspensions
- *2. Possession of weapons
3. Possession or use of alcohol and controlled substances.
- *4. Assault/abuse of any school employee, student, or any other
individual.
5. **Deliberate theft** or malicious vandalism of school, school
personnel, or student property.
6. For immorality, refractory conduct(resisting authority),
insubordination, infectious disease, habitual uncleanliness, or other
conduct that would tend to impair the discipline of the school or
harm the other pupils.
- *7. Commits/threatens to do physical harm to any student or
school employee
- *8. Statements, drawings, communicating possible physical harm
to any one or school property.
9. The district has the ability to impose discipline, up to and
including permanent expulsion, for actions which would tend to
impair the discipline of the school, regardless of the time and place
of such actions.

10. Communicating a false alarm (Class D Felony or Class A Misdemeanor) Act 567 of 2001.

11. Any behavior disrupting the educational process.

***Items 2, 4, 7 and 8 require an assessment and review process before a student's return to school will be considered.**

The following are alternatives (in no particular order, but not limited to) may be used at each of the discipline levels:

Confinement- with parent\student\teacher conference required

Out of school suspension

Out of school suspension, re-entry determined by acceptable analysis of an assessment

Parent will shadow student

Loss of class reward activities.

School Service

Loss of field trips

Paddling

After school detention

Loss of Extracurricular Activities

Expulsion

BULLYING

Respect for the dignity of others is a cornerstone of civil society. Bullying creates an atmosphere of fear and intimidation, robs a person of his/her dignity, detracts from the safe environment necessary to promote student learning, and will not be tolerated by the Board of Directors. Students who bully another person shall be held accountable for their actions whether they occur on school equipment or property; off school property at a school sponsored or approved function, activity, or event; going to or from school or a school activity in a school vehicle or school bus; or at designated school bus stops.

A school principal or his or her designee who receives a credible report or complaint of bullying shall promptly investigate the complaint or report and make a record of the investigation and any action taken as a result of the investigation.

Definitions:

Attribute means an actual or perceived personal characteristic including without limitation race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, socioeconomic status, academic status, disability, gender, gender identity, physical appearance, health condition, or sexual orientation;

Bullying means the intentional harassment, intimidation, humiliation, ridicule, defamation, or threat or incitement of violence by a student

against another student or public school employee by a written, verbal, electronic, or physical act that may address an attribute of the other student, public school employee, or person with whom the other student or public school employee is associated and that causes or creates actual or reasonably foreseeable:

- Physical harm to a public school employee or student or damage to the public school employee's or student's property;
- Substantial interference with a student's education or with a public school employee's role in education;
- A hostile educational environment for one (1) or more students or public school employees due to the severity, persistence, or pervasiveness of the act; or
- Substantial disruption of the orderly operation of the school or educational environment;

Electronic act means without limitation a communication or image transmitted by means of an electronic device, including without limitation a telephone, wireless phone or other wireless communications device, computer, or pager that results in the substantial disruption of the orderly operation of the school or educational environment.

Electronic acts of bullying are prohibited whether or not the electronic act originated on school property or with school equipment, if the electronic act is directed specifically at students or school personnel and maliciously intended for the purpose of disrupting school, and has a high likelihood of succeeding in that purpose;

Harassment means a pattern of unwelcome verbal or physical conduct relating to another person's constitutionally or statutorily protected status that causes, or reasonably should be expected to cause, substantial interference with the other's performance in the school environment; and

Substantial disruption means without limitation that any one or more of the following occur as a result of the bullying:

- Necessary cessation of instruction or educational activities;
- Inability of students or educational staff to focus on learning or function as an educational unit because of a hostile environment;
- Severe or repetitive disciplinary measures are needed in the classroom or during educational activities; or
- Exhibition of other behaviors by students or educational staff that substantially interfere with the learning environment.

Cyberbullying of School Employees is expressly prohibited and includes, but is not limited to:

- a. Building a fake profile or website of the employee;

- b. Posting or encouraging others to post on the Internet private, personal, or sexual information pertaining to a school employee;
- c. Posting an original or edited image of the school employee on the Internet;
- d. Accessing, altering, or erasing any computer network, computer data program, or computer software, including breaking into a password-protected account or stealing or otherwise accessing passwords of a school employee; making repeated, continuing, or sustained electronic communications, including electronic mail or transmission, to a school employee;
- e. Making, or causing to be made, and disseminating an unauthorized copy of data pertaining to a school employee in any form, including without limitation the printed or electronic form of computer data, computer programs, or computer software residing in, communicated by, or produced by a computer or computer network;
- f. Signing up a school employee for a pornographic Internet site; or
- g. Without authorization of the school employee, signing up a school employee for electronic mailing lists or to receive junk electronic messages and instant messages.

Examples of “Bullying” may also include but are not limited to a pattern of behavior involving one or more of the following:

- Sarcastic comments “compliments” about another student’s personal appearance or actual or perceived attributes,
- Pointed questions intended to embarrass or humiliate,
- Mocking, taunting or belittling,
- Non-verbal threats and/or intimidation such as “fronting” or “chesting” a person,
- Demeaning humor relating to a student’s race, gender, ethnicity or actual or perceived attributes,
- Blackmail, extortion, demands for protection money or other involuntary donations or loans,
- Blocking access to school property or facilities,
- Deliberate physical contact or injury to person or property,
- Stealing or hiding books or belongings,
- Threats of harm to student(s), possessions, or others,
- Sexual harassment, as governed by policy 4.27, is also a form of bullying, and/or
- Teasing or name-calling based on the belief or perception that an individual is not conforming to expected gender roles (Example: “Slut”) or conduct or is homosexual, regardless of whether the student self-identifies as homosexual (Examples: “You are so gay.” “Fag” “Queer”).

Students are encouraged to report behavior they consider to be bullying;

including a single action which if allowed to continue would constitute bullying, to their teacher or the building principal. The report may be made anonymously. Teachers and other school employees who have witnessed, or are reliably informed that, a student has been a victim of behavior they consider to be bullying, including a single action which if allowed to continue would constitute bullying, shall report the incident(s) to the principal. Parents or legal guardians may submit written reports of incidents they feel constitute bullying, or if allowed to continue would constitute bullying, to the principal. The principal shall be responsible for investigating the incident(s) to determine if disciplinary action is warranted.

The person or persons reporting behavior they consider to be bullying shall not be subject to retaliation or reprisal in any form.

Students found to be in violation of this policy shall be subject to disciplinary action up to and including expulsion. In determining the appropriate disciplinary action, consideration may be given to other violations of the student handbook which may have simultaneously occurred.¹

Notice of what constitutes bullying, the District's prohibition against bullying, and the consequences for students who bully shall be conspicuously posted in every classroom, cafeteria, restroom, gymnasium, auditorium, and school bus. Parents, students, school volunteers, and employees shall be given copies of the notice.

For the purposes of this discipline policy, the following listing of bullying behaviors have been adopted with the resulting progressive consequences, which will be administered by the Principal or his designee.

Types of Behavior:

Level 1

Pushing, shoving, spitting, kicking, hitting, gossiping, embarrassing, setting up to look foolish, spreading rumors, mocking, name calling, dirty looks, taunting, teasing about clothing or possessions, threatening to reveal personal information, graffiti, publicly challenging to do something, playing a dirty trick, defacing property or clothing, stealing, physical acts that are demeaning and humiliating, but not bodily harmful. Locking in a closed or confined space, Ethnic slurs, setting up someone to take the blame, publicly humiliating, excluding from the group, social rejection, teasing about appearance, results of intimidating phone calls or emails, taking possessions, extortion

Consequences

Minimum: Warning/Detention

Maximum: Recommended Expulsion

Level 2

Physical violence against another person, inflicting bodily harm,

maliciously excluding, manipulating social order to achieve rejection, spreading malicious rumors, threatening with total isolation from peer group, verbal threats of aggression against possessions or property, verbal threats of violence or inflicting bodily harm, threats of using coercion against another person, coercion, threatening with a weapon.

Consequences

Minimum: Warning/Detention

Maximum: Recommended Expulsion

Students are encouraged to report behavior they consider to be bullying; including a single action which if allowed to continue would constitute bullying, to their teacher or the building principal. The report may be made anonymously. Teachers and other school employees who have witnessed, or are reliably informed that, a student has been a victim of behavior they consider to be bullying, including a single action which if allowed to continue would constitute bullying, shall report the incident(s) to the principal. Parents or legal guardians may submit written reports of incidents they feel constitute bullying, or if allowed to continue would constitute bullying, to the principal. The principal shall be responsible for investigating the incident(s) to determine if disciplinary action is warranted.

The person or persons reporting behavior they consider to be bullying shall not be subject to retaliation or reprisal in any form.

Students found to be in violation of this policy shall be subject to disciplinary action up to and including expulsion. In determining the appropriate disciplinary action, consideration may be given to other violations of the student handbook which may have simultaneously occurred.

Notice of what constitutes bullying, the District's prohibition against bullying, and the consequences for students who bully shall be conspicuously posted in every classroom, cafeteria, restroom, gymnasium, auditorium, and school bus. Parents, students, school volunteers, and employees shall be given copies of the notice.

Copies of this policy shall be available upon request.

Notes: Different consequences are permitted depending on the age or grade of the bullying student.

Example: a student might be disciplined both for bullying and sexual harassment, in an appropriate situation, or bullying and assault.

CORPORAL PUNISHMENT

The Deer/Mt. Judea School Board authorizes the use of corporal punishment to be administered in accordance with this policy by the Superintendent or his/her designated staff members who are required to have a state-issued license as a condition of their employment.

Prior to the administration of corporal punishment, the student receiving the corporal punishment shall be given an explanation of the reasons for the punishment and be given an opportunity to refute the charges.

All corporal punishment shall be administered privately, i.e. out of the sight and hearing of other students, shall not be excessive, or administered with malice, and shall be administered in the presence of another school administrator or designee who shall be a licensed staff member employed by the District.

DISCIPLINE OF HANDICAPPED STUDENTS

The School Board recognizes the need for disciplinary action with regard to handicapped students. In all cases involving handicapped students, fair and appropriate action will be taken. The Board, therefore, directs that in disciplinary cases involving handicapped students (IEP/504) the school will follow the guidelines set in the Disabilities Under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), Public Law (PL) 94-142.

CONDUCT TO AND FROM SCHOOL AND TRANSPORTATION ELIGIBILITY

Students are subject to the same rules of conduct while traveling to and from school as they are while on school grounds. Appropriate disciplinary actions may be taken against commuting students who violate student code of conduct rules.

The preceding paragraph also applies to student conduct while on school buses. Students shall be instructed in safe riding practices. The driver of a school bus shall not operate the school bus until every passenger is seated. Disciplinary measures for problems related to bus behavior shall include suspension or expulsion from school, or suspending or terminating the student's bus transportation privileges. Transporting students to and from school who have lost their bus transportation privileges shall become the responsibility of the student's parent or legal guardian.

Students are eligible to receive district bus transportation if they meet the following requirements.

DISRUPTION OF SCHOOL

No student shall by the use of violence, force, noise, coercion, threat, intimidation, fear, passive resistance, or any other conduct, intentionally cause the disruption of any lawful mission, process, or function of the school, or engage in any such conduct for the purpose of causing disruption or obstruction of any lawful mission, process, or function. Nor shall any student encourage any other student to engage in such activities.

Disorderly activities by any student or group of students that adversely affect the school's orderly educational environment shall not be tolerated at any time on school grounds. Teachers may remove from class and send to the principal or principal's designee office a student whose behavior is so unruly, disruptive, or abusive that it seriously interferes with the teacher's

ability to teach the students, the class, or with the ability of the student's classmates to learn. Students who refuse to leave the classroom voluntarily will be escorted from the classroom by the school administration.

STUDENT ASSAULT OR BATTERY

A student shall not threaten, physically abuse, or attempt to physically abuse, or behave in such a way as to be perceived to threaten bodily harm to any other person (student, school employee, or school visitor). Any gestures, vulgar, abusive or insulting language, taunting, threatening, harassing, or intimidating remarks by a student toward another person that threatens their well-being is strictly forbidden. This includes, but is not limited to, fighting, racial, ethnic, religious, or sexual slurs.

Furthermore, it is unlawful, during regular school hours, and in a place where a public school employee is required to be in the course of his or her duties, for any person to address a public school employee using language which, in its common understanding, is calculated to: a) cause a breach of the peace; b) materially and substantially interfere with the operation of the school; c) arouse the person to whom it is addressed to anger, to the extent likely to cause imminent retaliation. Students guilty of such an offense may be subject to legal proceedings in addition to student disciplinary measures.

WEAPONS AND DANGEROUS INSTRUMENTS

No student shall possess a weapon, display what appears to be a weapon, or threaten to use a weapon while in school, on or about school property, before or after school, in attendance at school or any school sponsored activity, en route to or from school or any school sponsored activity, off the school grounds at any school bus stop, or at any school sponsored activity or event. Military personnel, such as ROTC cadets, acting in the course of their official duties are exempted.

TOBACCO AND TOBACCO PRODUCTS

Smoking or use of tobacco or products containing tobacco in any form (including, but not limited to, cigarettes, cigars, chewing tobacco, and snuff) in or on any real property owned or leased by a District school, including school buses owned or leased by the District, is prohibited. Students who violate this policy may be subject to legal proceedings in addition to student disciplinary measures.

DRUGS AND ALCOHOL

An orderly and safe school environment that is conducive to promoting student achievement requires a student population free from the deleterious effects of alcohol and drugs. Their use is illegal, disruptive to the educational environment, and diminishes the capacity of students to learn and function properly in our schools.

Therefore, no student in the Deer/Mt. Judea School District shall possess, attempt to possess, consume, use, distribute, sell, buy, attempt to sell, attempt to buy, give to any person, or be under the influence of any substance as defined in this policy, or what the student represents or believes to be any substance as defined in this policy. This policy applies to any student who; is on or about school property; is in attendance at school or any school sponsored activity; has left the school campus for any reason and returns to the campus; is en route to or from school or any school sponsored activity.

Prohibited substances shall include, but are not limited to, alcohol, or any alcoholic beverage, inhalants or any ingestible matter that alter a student's ability to act, think, or respond, LSD, or any other hallucinogen, marijuana, cocaine, heroin, or any other narcotic drug, PCP, amphetamines, steroids, "designer drugs," look-alike drugs, or any controlled substance.

Selling, distributing, or attempting to sell or distribute, or using over-the-counter or prescription drugs not in accordance with the recommended dosage is prohibited.

STUDENT DRESS AND GROOMING

The Deer/Mt. Judea Board of Education recognizes that dress can be a matter of personal taste and preference. At the same time, the District has a responsibility to promote an environment conducive to student learning. This requires limitations to student dress and grooming that could be disruptive to the educational process because they are immodest, disruptive, unsanitary, and unsafe, could cause property damage, or are offensive to common standards of decency.

Dress Guidelines and Appearance

1. Students are expected to come to school properly attired and well groomed.
2. Hair conditions must be met as follows: eyes showing; kept combed; and clean
3. Shorts and skirts must be no shorter than halfway point between the knee and mid thigh
4. No narrow strapped tank tops, tube tops, tops with spaghetti straps, and see through clothing.
5. Shirts and blouses must be buttoned to at least mid sternum unless an undershirt is worn under them. Shirts and blouses must meet pants and no middles showing at any time.
6. Profane, indecent or offensive language or scenes will not be permitted on garments.
7. Hats, caps, or other headgear will not be worn in any building. Students must leave their hats, cap, or other head gear in their classroom or on the coat hooks, until recess. Hats, caps, or other headgear must be worn in the traditional manner.

8. Any personal style or clothing that promotes violence, hate, sex, or other provocative themes, or that includes excessive visible body piercing or that distracts from the educational environment, or that poses a risk to the student or other students, will not be permitted.
9. No pajamas
10. No chains on clothing/ wallet
11. No cut-off jeans unless they're hemmed
12. No torn or ripped, no frayed, no torn clothing
13. No undergarments showing
14. No spandex clothing- No bicycle shorts
15. No toe shoes including flip flops on P.E. days

Students that are not dressed properly will not be permitted to attend classes and will be held in detention until the parents arrive with clothes or pick them up.

Appropriate action will be taken against a student who violates the dress policy. Disciplinary action may include but is not limited to: (1) being sent home to change (2) held in detention and counted absent until properly clothed (3) suspension, or (4) expulsion.

STUDENT SEXUAL HARASSMENT

The Deer/Mt. Judea School District is committed to having an academic environment in which all students are treated with respect and dignity. Student achievement is best attained in an atmosphere of equal educational opportunity that is free of discrimination. Sexual harassment is a form of discrimination that undermines the integrity of the educational environment and will not be tolerated.

Believing that prevention is the best policy, the District will periodically inform students and employees about the nature of sexual harassment, the procedures for registering a complaint, and the possible redress that is available. The information will stress that the district does not tolerate sexual harassment and that students can report inappropriate behavior of a sexual nature without fear of adverse consequences. The information will take into account and be appropriate to the age of the students.

It shall be a violation of this policy for any student to be subjected to, or to subject another person to, sexual harassment as defined in this policy. Any student found, after an investigation, to have engaged in sexual harassment will be subject to disciplinary action up to, and including, expulsion.

Sexual harassment refers to unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, or other personally offensive verbal, visual, or physical conduct of a sexual nature made by someone under any of the following conditions:

1. Submission to the conduct is made, either explicitly or implicitly, a term or condition of an individual's education;
2. Submission to, or rejection of, such conduct by an individual is used as the basis for academic decisions affecting that individual; and/or
3. Such conduct has the purpose or effect of substantially interfering with an individual's academic performance or creates an intimidating, hostile, or offensive academic environment.

The terms "intimidating," "hostile," and "offensive" include conduct of a sexual nature which has the effect of humiliation or embarrassment and is sufficiently severe, persistent, or pervasive that it limits the student's ability to participate in, or benefit from, an educational program or activity.

Actionable sexual harassment is generally established when an individual is exposed to a pattern of objectionable behaviors or when a single, serious act is committed. What is, or is not, sexual harassment will depend upon all of the surrounding circumstances. Depending upon such circumstances, examples of sexual harassment include, but are not limited to: unwelcome touching; crude jokes or pictures; discussions of sexual experiences; pressure for sexual activity; intimidation by words, actions, insults, or name calling; teasing related to sexual characteristics or the belief or perception that an individual is not conforming to expected gender roles or conduct or is homosexual, regardless of whether or not the student self-identifies as homosexual; and spreading rumors related to a person's alleged sexual activities.

Students who believe they have been subjected to sexual harassment, or parents of a student who believes their child has been subjected to sexual harassment, are encouraged to file a complaint by contacting a counselor, teacher, Title IX coordinator, or administrator who will assist them in the complaint process. Under no circumstances shall a student be required to first report allegations of sexual harassment to a school contact person if that person is the individual who is accused of the harassment.

To the extent possible, complaints will be treated in a confidential manner. Limited disclosure may be necessary in order to complete a thorough investigation. Students who file a complaint of sexual harassment will not be subject to retaliation or reprisal in any form.

Students who knowingly fabricate allegations of sexual harassment shall be subject to disciplinary action up to and including expulsion.

Individuals, who withhold information, purposely provide inaccurate facts, or otherwise hinder an investigation of sexual harassment shall be subject

to disciplinary action up to and including expulsion.

SUSPENSION FROM SCHOOL

Students not present at school cannot benefit from the educational opportunities the school environment affords. Administrators, therefore, shall strive to find ways to keep students in school as participants in the educational process. There are instances, however, when the needs of the other students or the interests of the orderly learning environment require the removal of a student from school. The Board authorizes school principals or their designees to suspend students for disciplinary reasons for a period of time not to exceed ten (10) school days, including the day upon which the suspension is imposed. The suspension may be in school or out of school. Students are responsible for their conduct that occurs: at any time on the school grounds; off school grounds at a school-sponsored function, activity, or event; going to and from school or a school activity. A student may be suspended for behavior including, but not limited to that which:

1. Is in violation of school policies, rules, or regulations;
2. Substantially interferes with the safe and orderly educational environment;
3. School administrators believe will result in the substantial interference with the safe and orderly educational environment; and/or
4. Is insubordinate, incorrigible, violent, or involves moral turpitude.

The school principal or designee shall proceed as follows in deciding whether or not to suspend a student.

1. the student shall be given written notice or advised orally of the charges against him/her;
2. if the student denies the charges, he/she shall be given an explanation of the evidence against him/her and be allowed to present his/her version of the facts;
3. if the principal finds the student guilty of the misconduct, he/she may be suspended.

When possible, notice of the suspension, its duration, and any stipulations for the student's readmittance to class will be given to the parent(s), legal guardian(s), or to the student if age 18 or older prior to the suspension. Such notice shall be handed to the parent(s), legal guardian(s), or to the student if age 18 or older or mailed to the last address reflected in the records of the school district.

Generally, notice and hearing should precede the student's removal from school, but if prior notice and hearing are not feasible, as where the student's presence endangers persons or property or threatens disruption of the academic process, thus justifying immediate removal from school, the

necessary notice and hearing should follow as soon as practicable.

It is the parents' or legal guardians' responsibility to provide current contact information to the district which the school shall use to immediately notify the parent or legal guardian upon the suspension of a student. The notification shall be by one of the following means, listed in order of priority:

- A primary call number
- The contact may be by voice, voice mail, or text message
- An email address
- A regular first class letter to the last known mailing address

The district shall keep a log of contacts attempted and made to the parent or legal guardian.

During the period of their suspension, students serving out-of-school suspensions not be permitted on campus except to attend a student/parent/administrator conference.

During the period of their suspension, students serving in-school suspension shall not attend any school-sponsored activities during the imposed suspension nor shall the student participate in any school-sponsored activities.

Suspensions initiated by the principal or his/her designee may be appealed to the Superintendent, but not to the Board.

Suspensions initiated by the Superintendent may be appealed to the Board.

EXPULSION

The Board of Education may expel a student for a period longer than ten (10) school days for violation of the District's written discipline policies. The Superintendent may make a recommendation of expulsion to the Board of Education for student conduct deemed to be of such gravity that suspension would be inappropriate, or where the student's continued attendance at school would disrupt the orderly learning environment or would pose an unreasonable danger to the welfare of other students or staff.

The Superintendent or his/her designee shall give written notice to the parents or legal guardians (mailed to the address reflected on the District's records) that he/she will recommend to the Board of Education that the student be expelled for the specified length of time and state the reasons for the recommendation to expel. The notice shall give the date, hour, and place where the Board of Education will consider and dispose of the recommendation.

The hearing shall be conducted not later than ten (10) school days following

the date of the notice, except that representatives of the Board and student may agree in writing to a date not conforming to this limitation.

The President of the Board, Board attorney, or other designated Board member shall preside at the hearing. The student may choose to be represented by legal counsel. Both the district administration and School Board also may be represented by legal counsel. The hearing shall be conducted in open session of the Board unless the parent, or student if age 18 or older, requests that the hearing be conducted in executive session. Any action taken by the Board shall be in open session.

During the hearing, the Superintendent, or designee, or representative will present evidence, including the calling of witnesses that gave rise to the recommendation of expulsion. The student, or his/her representative, may then present evidence including statements from persons with personal knowledge of the events or circumstances relevant to the charges against the student. Formal cross-examination will not be permitted. However, any member of the Board, the Superintendent, or designee, the student, or his/her representative may question anyone making a statement and/or the student. The presiding officer shall decide questions concerning the appropriateness or relevance of any questions asked during the hearing.

Except as permitted by policy 4.22, the Superintendent shall recommend the expulsion of any student for a period of not less than one (1) year for possession of any firearm prohibited on school campus by law. The Superintendent shall, however, have the discretion to modify the expulsion recommendation for a student on a case-by-case basis. Parents or legal guardians of a student enrolling from another school after the expiration of an expulsion period for a weapons policy violation shall be given a copy of the current laws regarding the possibility of parental responsibility for allowing a child to possess a weapon on school property.² The parents or legal guardians shall sign a statement acknowledging that they have read and understand said laws prior to the student being enrolled in school.

The Superintendent and the Board of Education shall complete the expulsion process of any student that was initiated because the student possessed a firearm or other prohibited weapon on school property regardless of the enrollment status of the student.

SEARCH, SEIZURE, AND INTERROGATIONS

The District respects the rights of its students against arbitrary intrusion of their person and property. At the same time, it is the responsibility of school officials to protect the health, safety, and welfare of all students enrolled in the District in order to promote an environment conducive to student learning. The Superintendent, principals, and their designees have the right

to inspect and search school property and equipment. They may also search students and their personal property in which the student has a reasonable expectation of privacy, when there is reasonable suspicion to believe such student or property contains illegal items or other items in violation of Board policy or dangerous to the school community. School authorities may seize evidence found in the search and disciplinary action may be taken. Evidence found which appears to be in violation of the law shall be reported to the appropriate authority.

School property shall include, but not be limited to, lockers, desks, and parking lots, as well as personal effects left there by students. When possible, prior notice will be given and the student will be allowed to be present along with an adult witness, however, searches may be done at any time with or without notice or the student's consent. A personal search must not be excessively intrusive in light of the age and sex of the student and the nature of the infraction.

The Superintendent, principals, and their designees may request the assistance of law enforcement officials to help conduct searches. Such searches may include the use of specially trained dogs.

A school official of the same sex shall conduct personal searches with an adult witness of the same sex present.

State Law requires that Department of Human Services employees, local law enforcement, or agents of the Crimes Against Children Division of the Department of Arkansas State Police, may interview students without a court order for the purpose of investigating suspected child abuse. In instances where the interviewers deem it necessary, they may exercise a "72-hour hold " without first obtaining a court order. Other questioning of students by non-school personnel shall be granted only with a court order directing such questioning, with permission of the parents of a student (or the student if above eighteen [18] years of age), or in response to a subpoena or arrest warrant.

If the District makes a report to any law enforcement agency concerning student misconduct or if access to a student is granted to a law enforcement agency due to a court order, the principal or the principal's designee shall make a good faith effort to contact the student's parent, legal guardian, or other person having lawful control by court order, or person acting in loco parentis on student enrollment forms. The principal or the principal's designee shall not attempt to make such contact if presented documentation by the investigator that notification is prohibited because a parent, guardian, custodian, or person standing in loco parentis is named as an alleged offender of the suspected child maltreatment. This exception

applies only to interview requests made by a law enforcement officer, an investigator of the Crimes Against Children Division of the Department of Arkansas State Police, or an investigator or employee of the Department of Human Services.

In instances other than those related to cases of suspected child abuse, principals must release a student to either a police officer who presents a subpoena for the student, or a warrant for arrest, or to an agent of state social services or an agent of a court with jurisdiction over a child with a court order signed by a judge. Upon release of the student, the principal or designee shall give the student's parent, legal guardian, or other person having lawful control by court order, or person acting in loco parentis notice that the student has been taken into custody by law enforcement personnel or a state's social services agency. If the principal or designee is unable to reach the parent, he or she shall make a reasonable, good faith effort to get a message to the parent to call the principal or designee, and leave both a day and an after-hours telephone number.

POSSESSION AND USE OF CELL PHONES AND OTHER ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Students are responsible for conducting themselves in a manner that respects the rights of others. Possession and use of any electronic device, whether district or student owned, that interferes with a positive, orderly classroom environment does not respect the rights of others and is expressly forbidden.

To protect the security of state originated tests that are administered as part of the Arkansas Comprehensive, Testing, Assessment and Accountability Program (ACTAAP), no electronic, device as defined in this policy shall be accessible by a student at any time during test administration unless specifically permitted by a student's IEP or individual health plan.¹ This means that when a student is taking an ACTAAP assessment, the student shall not have his/her electronic device in his/her possession. Any student violating this provision shall be subject to this policy's disciplinary provisions.

MEDICATION/ILLNESS/ACCIDENT/ DISEASES

COMMUNICABLE DISEASES AND PARASITES (Lice/nits)

Students with communicable diseases or with human host parasites that are transmittable in a school environment shall demonstrate respect for other students by not attending school while they are capable of transmitting their condition to others. **Students whom the school nurse determines are unwell or unfit for school attendance or who are believed to have**

a communicable disease or condition will be required to be picked up by their parent or guardian. Specific examples include, but are not limited to: chicken pox, measles, scabies, conjunctivitis (Pink Eye), impetigo/MRSA (Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus), streptococcal and staphylococcal infections, ringworm, mononucleosis, Hepatitis A, B, or C, mumps, vomiting, diarrhea, and fever (100.4 F when taken orally). A student who has been sent home by the school nurse will be subsequently readmitted, at the discretion of the school nurse, when the student is no longer a transmission risk. In some instances, a letter from a health care provider may be required prior to the student being readmitted to the school.

To help control the possible spread of communicable diseases, school personnel shall follow the District's exposure control plan when dealing with any bloodborne, foodborne, and airborne pathogens exposures. Standard precautions shall be followed relating to the handling, disposal, and cleanup of blood and other potentially infectious materials such as all body fluids, secretions and excretions (except sweat).

The District shall maintain a copy of each student's immunization record and a list of individuals with exemptions from immunization which shall be education records as defined in policy 4.13. That policy provides that an education record may be disclosed to appropriate parties in connection with an emergency if knowledge of the information is necessary to protect the health or safety of the student or other individuals.

A student enrolled in the District who has an immunization exemption may be removed from school at the discretion of the Arkansas Department of Health during an outbreak of the disease for which the student is not vaccinated. The student may not return to the school until the outbreak has been resolved and the student's return to school is approved by the Arkansas Department of Health.

The parents or legal guardians of students found to have live human host parasites (lice/nits) that are transmittable in a school environment will be asked to pick their child up from school. The parents or legal guardians will be given information concerning the eradication and control of human host parasites (lice/nits). A student may be readmitted after the school nurse or designee has determined the student no longer has live human host parasites (lice/nits) that are transmittable in a school environment.

Each school may conduct screenings of students for human host parasites (lice/nits) that are transmittable in a school environment as needed. The screenings shall be conducted in a manner that respects the privacy and confidentiality of each student.

STUDENT MEDICATIONS

Prior to the administration of any medication to any student under the age of eighteen (18), written parental consent is required. The consent form shall include authorization to administer the medication and relieve the Board and its employees of civil liability for damages or injuries resulting from the administration of medication to students in accordance with this policy. All signed medication consent forms are to be maintained by the school nurse.

Unless authorized to self-administer, students are not allowed to carry any medications, including over-the-counter medications or any perceived health remedy not regulated by the US Food and Drug Administration, while at school. The parent or legal guardian shall bring the student's medication to the school nurse. The student may bring the medication if accompanied by a written authorization from the parent or legal guardian. When medications are brought to the school nurse, the nurse shall document, in the presence of the parent, the quantity of the medication(s). If the medications are brought by a student, the school nurse shall ask another school employee to verify, in the presence of the student the quantity of the medication(s). Each person present shall sign a form verifying the quantity of the medication(s).

Medications, including those for self-medication, must be in the original container and be properly labeled with the student's name, the ordering provider's name, the name of the medication, the dosage, frequency, and instructions for the administration of the medication (including times). Additional information accompanying the medication shall state the purpose for the medication, its possible side effects, and any other pertinent instructions (such as special storage requirements) or warnings. Schedule II medications that are permitted by this policy to be brought to school shall be stored in a double locked cabinet.

Students with an individualized health plan (IHP) may be given over-the-counter medications to the extent giving such medications are included in the student's IHP.

Students taking Schedule II medications methylphenidate (e.g. Ritalin or closely related medications as determined by the school nurse), dextroamphetamine (Dexedrine), and amphetamine sulfate (e.g. Adderall or closely related medications as determined by the school nurse) shall be allowed to attend school.

Students taking Schedule II medications not included in the previous sentence shall be allowed to bring them to school under the provisions of this policy and shall be permitted to attend and participate in classes **only** to the extent the student's doctor has specifically authorized such attendance and participation. A doctor's prescription for a student's

Schedule II medication is **not** an authorization. Attendance authorization shall specifically state the degree and potential danger of physical exertion the student is permitted to undertake in the student's classes and extracurricular activities. Without a doctor's written authorization, a student taking Schedule II medications, other than those specifically authorized in this policy, shall **not** be eligible to attend classes, but shall be eligible for homebound instruction if provided for in their IEP or 504 plans.

The district's supervising registered nurse shall be responsible for creating both on campus and off campus procedures for administering medications.

Students who have written permission from their parent or guardian and a licensed health care practitioner to self-administer either an rescue inhaler or auto-injectable epinephrine, or both and who have a current consent form on file shall be allowed to carry and self-administer such medication while in school, at an on-site school sponsored activity, while traveling to or from school, or at an off-site school sponsored activity. Students are prohibited from sharing, transferring, or in any way diverting his/her medications to any other person. The fact that a student with a completed consent form on file is allowed to carry an rescue inhaler or auto-injectable epinephrine, or both does not require him/her to have such on his/her person. The parent or guardian of a student who qualifies under this policy to self-carry a rescue inhaler or auto-injectable epinephrine, or both on his/her person shall provide the school with the appropriate medication which shall be immediately available to the student in an emergency.

Students may be administered Glucagon in emergency situations by the school nurse or, in the absence of the school nurse, a trained volunteer school employee designated as a care provider, provided the student has:

1. an IHP developed under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 which provides for the administration of Glucagon in emergency situations; and
2. a current, valid consent form on file from their parent or guardian.

Emergency Administration of Epinephrine

The school nurse or other school employees designated by the school nurse as a care provider who have been trained¹ and certified by a licensed physician may administer an epinephrine auto-injector in emergency situations to students who have an IHP developed under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 which provides for the administration of an epinephrine auto-injector in emergency situations.

The parent of a student who has an authorizing IHP, or the student if over the age of eighteen (18), shall annually complete and sign a written consent

form provided by the student's school nurse authorizing the nurse or other school employee certified to administer auto-injector epinephrine to the student when the employee believes the student is having a life-threatening anaphylactic reaction.

Students with an order from and a licensed health care provider to self-administer auto-injectable epinephrine and who have written permission from their parent or guardian shall provide the school nurse an epinephrine auto-injector. This epinephrine will be used in the event the school nurse, or other school employee certified to administer auto-injector epinephrine, in good faith professionally believes the student is having a life-threatening anaphylactic reaction and the student is either not self-carrying his/her / epinephrine auto-injector or the nurse is unable to locate it.

The school nurse for each District school shall keep epinephrine auto-injectors on hand that are suitable for the students the school serves. The school nurse or other school employee designated by the school nurse as a care provider who has been trained and certified by a licensed physician may administer auto-injector epinephrine to those students who the school nurse, or other school employee certified to administer auto-injector epinephrine, in good faith professionally believes is having a life-threatening anaphylactic reaction.

The school shall not keep outdated medications or any medications past the end of the school year. Parents shall be notified ten (10) days in advance of the school's intention to dispose of any medication. Medications not picked up by the parents or legal guardians within the ten (10) day period shall be disposed of by the school nurse in accordance with current law and regulations.

STUDENT ILLNESS/ACCIDENT

If a student becomes too ill to remain in class and/or could be contagious to other students, the principal or designee will attempt to notify the student's parent or legal guardian. The student will remain in the school's health room or a place where he/she can be supervised until the end of the school day or until the parent/legal guardian can check the student out of school.

If a student becomes seriously ill or is injured while at school and the parent/legal guardian cannot be contacted, the failure to make such contact shall not unreasonably delay the school's expeditious transport of the student to an appropriate medical care facility. The school assumes no responsibility for treatment of the student. When available, current, and applicable, the student's emergency contact numbers and medical information will be utilized. Parents are strongly encouraged to keep this information up to date.

EMERGENCIES/WEATHER/BUS INFORMATION

BUS ROUTE POLICY FOR INCLEMENT WEATHER

PARENTS NEED TO DISCUSS WITH THEIR CHILDREN AN EARLY DISMISSAL PLAN OF WHAT TO DO AND WHERE TO GO.

- In case the road is glazed with snow or ice, the superintendent and or principals will contact the bus mechanic as soon as possible and announcements will be made on local radio station (KHOZ 102.9), TV station KY3 and text and email alerts for those signed up on the alert system concerning the closing of school or snow routes.
- If school is to be open with snow routes only, the superintendent or principal will notify the bus mechanic to decide which buses will run. Runs will be highways only both evening and morning. Those parents who choose to send their children will meet the bus at the highway both evening and morning. Some buses with more side roads than highway stops on the normal run may be informed to not run the bus on snow routes.
- If school is open with snow routes only, parents who bring their children to school must pick them up at school that afternoon, or make other arrangements for their transportation home.

EMERGENCY DRILLS

All schools in the District shall conduct fire drills at least monthly. Tornado drills shall also be conducted not fewer than three (3) times per year with at least one each in the months of September, January, and February. Students, who ride school buses, shall also participate in emergency evacuation drills at least twice each school year.

The district shall annually conduct an active shooter drill and school safety assessment may be conducted for all District schools in collaboration, with local law enforcement and emergency management personnel. Students will be included in the drills to the extent that is developmentally appropriate to the age of both the students and grade configuration of the school.

Drills may be conducted during the instructional day or during non-instructional time periods.

Other types of emergency drills may also be conducted to test the implementation of the District's emergency plans in the event of an earthquake or terrorist attack that might include the use of biological or chemical agents. Students shall be included in the drills to the extent practicable.²

Emergency drills signals:

- | | |
|-----------------------|--|
| • Fire Drills | Three consecutive rings |
| • Tornado | One long & one short ring |
| • Earthquake; | “Earthquake!” Shout from teacher
Take cover under desks/tables. |
| • Active Shooter | “Lock Down!” shout from
teacher/administrator |
| • Intruder | Continuous ring |
| • Act of terrorism; | Continuous ring |
| • Airplane crash | Continuous ring |
| • Chemical emergency; | Continuous ring |

SCHOOL TRAGEDY/CRISIS/ SUICIDE PLAN

A. General Information

School tragedy/crisis/suicide program plans should include a distribution of a suicide prevention public awareness program developed for distribution by the inter-program task force established by the Lieutenant Governor’s Teen-age Suicide Prevention Task Force. The task force has established a proposed model school response plan to youth suicide crisis as distributed by the Arkansas Youth Suicide Prevention Commission. It should include plans for crisis events that can be extraordinary and cannot be predicted. The human reaction to a crisis, however, is consistent and very predictable. Being aware of and understanding beforehand how people will react in a critical situation make it possible to implement a plan that defuses those reactions and prevents them from precipitating a secondary crisis.

1. A crisis team should be established, according to Lieutenant Governor’s guide, to be composed of at least two teachers (e. g.) one from elementary and one from high school), a school administrator (serving as chairperson), a school nurse, a school counselor, and a secretary.
2. The crisis team should receive specialized training in dealing with crisis situations. It is suggested that the training of a crisis team be done jointly with school personnel and mental health professionals from the region.
3. The crisis team should be ready to make assessments, be ready to adapt the plan to fit the crisis and deal with the aftermath of a crisis.
4. Crisis counseling should be made available to deal with the effects of trauma on the students, perceptions of death, short and long term effects, understanding grief, grief counseling, post traumatic stress disorder and preventing post-traumatic stress disorder.
5. Most suicide threats and attempts as well as other tragedies/crisis situations occur after school hours and off campus. School personnel are often perceived as important personal resources by students and their parents. For this reason school personnel may be called upon

at home and after hours to help in crisis. It is most important that formal guidelines for handling such emergencies be made available to, and followed by, school personnel. Doing so will ensure that these after hour emergencies are handled effectively.

6. There should be ongoing training for the crisis team as well as faculty and students in handling crisis situations. The crisis plan should be reviewed annually in light of all experiences and new developments in the field of suicide/crisis prevention/postvention and new laws as they emerge. Modifications should be made accordingly.

B. General Procedures to follow if a Tragedy/Crisis/Suicide occurs:

1a. General Crisis (if there is time for preparation)

The principal should contact all administrators and faculty members to attend a special meeting to review the situation and explain the day's agenda.

(b) The school counselor or an invited psychologist or trained professional should describe how students may react to the news and suggest how teachers might handle the situation.

(c) The Principal should meet with key people (counselor, nurse, crisis team) to plan the day's activities and to designate someone to be a spokesperson to communicate with the press. It is a good idea to have only one spokesperson.

1b. Immediate Crisis (if there is no time for preparation)

- (a) Principal or designee is in immediate charge of the situation.
- (b) Students will be housed in an appropriate place.
- (c) Appropriate agencies/authorities will be contacted.
- (d) If a student is in a life threatening situation, the student should not be left alone.

The Principal may want to arrange for an "outside expert" to be at the school to lend support and to help students and teachers.

For additional support, a crisis center should be established in the guidance office or other designated area. Students should be encouraged to escort friends to the center and to go there themselves if they need help. Some staff members and students may need to be taken home.

Teachers, guidance counselor, and administrators should concentrate on relating the facts and dispelling the rumors; unglamouring the event; advising students where they can go to discuss their feelings; discussing fears, guilt feelings of responsibilities.

School should return to normal as soon as possible.

A voluntary memorial service may be conducted to acknowledge that the official mourning period for a tragedy is over. In the case of suicide, a special effort should be made to call attention to the wrongness of suicide. Of course, memorials, such as plaques, may be permitted.

Some students and teachers may need support for as long as two to three years.

Guidance staff members should continue to work with individual students and always try to identify high- risk students.

Appropriate referrals are:

Fire, Emergency, Medical, Office of Emergency Services

Newton County Sheriff, Jasper 446-5124

Boston Mt. Rural Health at Deer 428- 5391

North Arkansas Medical Center, Harrison 414-4000

Helicopter Medical Services

Cox Air Care, Springfield 1-800-333-5269

Air Evac 1-800-247-3822

Suicide Ozark Counseling Center, Harrison 741-8216

Charter Vista Hospital, Springdale AR 521-5731

Suicide Hotline, Little Rock 1- 800-784-2433

Poison Poison Control Center, Little Rock 1-800-482-8948

Information taken from The Trauma of Adolescent Suicide, published by the National Association of Secondary School.

C. Arkansas Nuclear One Crisis

On receipt of information that a nuclear crisis has occurred at Russellville Nuclear Plant, immediate evacuation procedures will go into effect, utilizing the school’s fleet of buses.

Since Deer is in a peripheral area, students will be transported to a safe area, depending on wind direction and climatic conditions - i.e. Harrison, Mt. Judea, Kingston.

Conflict Resolution

Students will identify situations leading to conflict and will resolve minor disputes through peer mediation. Other conflicts will be dealt with appropriately by a responsible adult or by guidelines outlined in the student handbook.

ORGANIZATIONS

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES - ELEMENTARY

Definitions

“Extracurricular activities” are defined as: any school sponsored program where students from one or more schools meet, work, perform, practice under supervision outside of regular class time, or are competing for the purpose of receiving an award, rating, recognition, or criticism, or qualification for additional competition. Examples include, but are not limited to, inter/intrascholastic athletics, cheerleading, band, choral, math, or science competitions, field trips, and club activities.

“Field Trips” are when individual students or groups of students are invited to programs or events when there is no competition and the students are not interacting with each other for the purpose of planning, qualifying, or arranging for future programs or for the purpose of receiving recognition.

“Interscholastic Activities” means athletic or non-athletic/academic activities where students compete on a school vs. school basis.

“Intrascholastic Activities” means athletic or non-athletic/academic activities where students compete with students from within the same school.

Extracurricular Eligibility

The Board believes in providing opportunities for students to participate in extracurricular activities that can help enrich the student’s educational experience. At the same time, the Board believes that a student’s participation in extracurricular activities cannot come at the expense of his/her classroom academic achievement. Interruptions of instructional time in the classroom are to be minimal and absences from class to participate in extracurricular activities shall not exceed one per week per extracurricular activity (tournaments or other similar events excepted with approval of the All students are eligible for extracurricular activities unless specifically denied eligibility on the basis of criteria outlined in this policy.

A student may lose his/her eligibility to participate in extracurricular activities when, in the opinion of the school’s administration, the student’s participation in such an activity may adversely jeopardize his/her academic achievement. Students may also be denied permission to participate in extracurricular activities as a consequence of disciplinary action taken by the administration for inappropriate behavior.

Any student who refuses to sit for a State assessment or attempts to boycott a State assessment by failing to put forth a good faith effort on the assessment as determined by the assessment administrator/proctor, or whose parents do not send their student to school on the dates the assessments are administered or scheduled as make-up days shall not be permitted to participate in any non-curriculum related extracurricular activity. The student shall remain ineligible to participate until the student takes the same or a following state mandated assessment, as applicable, or completes the required remediation for the assessment the student failed to put forth a good faith effort on. The superintendent or designee may waive this paragraph’s provisions when the student’s failure was due to exceptional or extraordinary circumstances.⁴ Students falling under the provisions of this paragraph shall be permitted to attend curriculum related field trips occurring during the school day.⁵

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITY ELIGIBILITY FOR HOME SCHOOLED STUDENTS

Each school in the District shall post on its website its schedule of interscholastic activities, including sign-up, tryout, and participation deadlines, at least one semester in advance of those activities. A hard copy of the schedule shall be available upon request.

Home-schooled students whose parents or guardians are legal residents

of the school district will be permitted to pursue participation in an interscholastic activity in the student's resident school zone as permitted by this policy. Although not guaranteed participation in an interscholastic activity home-school students who meet the provisions of this policy, AAA Rules, and applicable Arkansas statutes shall have an equal opportunity to try out and participate in an interscholastic activities without discrimination.

The District shall abide by this policy and by the rules contained in the Arkansas Activities Association (AAA) Handbook governing interscholastic activity participation of students who are home-schooled. Areas of eligibility criteria, such as a student's age and semesters of eligibility, are the same for home-schooled and traditional students and are governed by the current AAA Handbook.

Home-schooled student means a student legally enrolled in an Arkansas home school and who meets or has met the criteria for being a home-schooled student, as established by A.C.A. 6-15-503.

Interscholastic activity means an activity between schools subject to regulations of the Arkansas Activities Association that is outside the regular curriculum of the school district, such as an athletic activity, fine arts program, or a special interest group or club.

The parent of any student wishing to participate in an interscholastic activity shall mail or hand deliver a completed application form 5.19.2F to his/her child's school's principal before the signup, tryout or participation deadline established for traditional students. The Superintendent shall approve those applications which meet the enrollment application requirements identified in this policy and AAA Rules and shall deny those that don't meet the requirements.

Approved applications shall apply only for the semester in which the student enrolls in the student's resident school zone. The student shall regularly attend the class in which the student is enrolled beginning no later than the eleventh (11) day of the semester in which the student's interscholastic activity participation is desired. If the student's desired interscholastic activity begins prior to the first day of the semester in which the student is enrolled, to maintain eligibility, the student must attend the practices for the interscholastic activity to the same extent as is required of traditional students.

A home-schooled student whose application has been approved; who has met the try out criteria; and who has been selected to participate in the interscholastic activity shall meet the following criteria that also apply to traditional students enrolled in the school:

Standards of behavior and codes of conduct;

1. attend the practices for the interscholastic activity to the same extent as is required of traditional students;
2. required drug testing;
3. permission slips, waivers, physical exams; and
4. participation or activity fees.

A student whose application for eligibility to participate in an interscholastic activity is accepted is required to enroll in no more than one course in the District's school where the student is intending to participate in an interscholastic activity. Home-schooled students shall meet the same enrollment criteria as are required for traditional students in policies 4.1—RESIDENCE REQUIREMENTS and 4.2—ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS and the parent or guardian's shall sign a form acknowledging receipt and understanding of the school's student handbook and to be bound by the applicable portions thereof.

If the student's desired interscholastic activity is associated with a specific class or course that meets during the school-day that the traditional students of the district are required to take, the home-schooled student shall take the required class or course to be eligible for the interscholastic activity.

If the student's desired interscholastic activity is **not** associated with a specific class or course that meets during the school-day, to be eligible to participate in the student's desired interscholastic activity, the home-schooled student shall enroll in a class or course that is age and grade appropriate for the student.

Students who participate in extracurricular or athletic activities under this policy will be transported to and from interscholastic activities on the same basis as other students are transported.

A student who withdraws from an Arkansas Activities Association member school to be home-schooled shall not participate in an interscholastic activity in the resident school district for a minimum of three hundred sixty-five days after the student withdraws from the member school.

FIELD TRIPS

Field trips are considered to be a good addition to academic areas and life experiences. It is necessary to prudently plan for field trips because of time taken from the classroom. Teachers of classes may plan for one field trip each year that relates to academics in their areas. Extra field trips may be planned for special events that may naturally occur throughout the year in areas K-3 and 4-6.

STUDENT PARTICIPATION

The student must have a signed permission slip from a parent/guardian in order to go on a field trip. All students are eligible to participate in field trips, unless the student commits a serious infraction of conduct rules before the field trip.

INTERMURAL/PEE WEE BASKETBALL/OTHER EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

The purpose of the "Pee Wee" Basketball program is to teach the basic fundamentals of sportsmanship. The program will stress teamwork, and the development of positive attitudes. All players and cheerleaders are expected to exhibit excellent citizenship.

Boys and girls in grades 4, 5, and 6 are eligible to participate, unless they:

- If at any time a student falls below grade level (less than 70%), he or she will not be able to participate, until performance is at, or above grade level.
- No student shall play in any ball game while serving a confinement. The student must miss at least one game for each confinement. Therefore, if a game isn't played during the confinement period, then he or she will miss the next game.
- No student shall play in any ball game or practice while serving a suspension; nor will he or she play in the next two games after the suspension period.

LIBRARY /ACCELERATED READERS

Any student with an overdue book may not check out another book until that book is returned/paid for. Full price will be charged for damaged or lost books.

SCHOOL ORGANIZATIONS

School fraternities and secret societies are banned in Arkansas Public Schools. See Arkansas Code Ann. 6-18-603 (Repl. 1993)

FUNDRAISING

- Student participation in fundraising programs is voluntary.
- Students who do not participate will not forfeit any school privileges
- Students may not participate in fundraising without written parental permission
- An elementary school student who sells fundraising merchandise door-to-door must be accompanied by a parent or adult
- Unless the school provides supervision, parents must accept responsibility for appropriate adult supervision

LEGAL INFORMATION

GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE (Student/Parent)

Definition of Grievance

A grievance is any claim by the aggrieved person or his/her representative that there has been a violation, misrepresentation, or misapplication of any established policy or practice of the Board, or a violation of the student's/parent's right to fair treatment or any act of discrimination as defined by Title VI (race), title IX (sex), and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973(handicap).

No reprisals of any kind will be taken by the superintendent or by any member of the administration or the Board of Education against any aggrieved person or any party in interest, or any participation. The student/parent may be represented at all stages of the grievance procedure by him/herself, or a representative of his/her choice.

The purpose of the grievance procedure is to secure, at the lowest possible level, equitable solution to the problems which may from time to time arise, affecting students/parents; all parties agree that the proceedings will be kept confidential.

Level One – Principal

The aggrieved person may request an informal conference with the appropriate principal or other immediate superior within five days after he/she becomes aware of the grievance. The aggrieved person may re-request a witness, or witnesses in an effort to resolve said grievance.

Level Two - Superintendent

If the aggrieved person is not satisfied with the disposition of his/her grievance at Level One, or if no decision is rendered within five school days, or mutually agreed on time, the grievance may then be filed with the superintendent who will meet with the aggrieved person and his/her witness, or witnesses, in an effort to resolve said grievance.

Level Three - School Board

If the grievance is not resolved at Level Two, the aggrieved person may refer the grievance to the School Board by addressing a written communication within twenty working days of the alleged specific incident, to the President of the Board, requesting a hearing by the Board. Each party shall have the right to representation. Within five working days of the meeting, the aggrieved shall be proved with the Board's written response.

Level Four

A compliant or grievance concerning compliance with Title VI (race), Title IX (sex), may be submitted directly to the Office of Civil Rights, and the State Department of Education Affirmation Action Officer.

Any complaint in this area should be directed to the Superintendent who is the compliance coordinator.

**Deer/Mt. Judea School District
Handbook
Parent/Guardian Acknowledgement Form**

Student Name _____ Grade: _____

I have received the Student/Parent Handbook complete with discipline, bus procedures, residency requirements, acceptable use, attendance, homework, and other policies and procedures for the 2014-2015 school year.

Yes _____ No _____

I have read the Deer/Mt Judea School District Student Handbook for student conduct, discipline, and other policies/procedures, and I understand that the student must adhere to them while at school and school sponsored activities. In the event that we are not entirely certain of some aspects of school policy, we will contact the principal for clarification within one week after receipt of this policy.

Yes _____ No _____

PLEASE SIGN AND RETURN TO THE SCHOOL.

_____ Date _____
Student's Signature

_____ Date _____
Parent/Guardian's Signature

MEDICATION SELF-ADMINISTRATION CONSENT FORM

STUDENT'S NAME (PLEASE PRINT)

The following must be provided for the student to be eligible to self-administer asthma inhalers and/or auto-injectable epinephrine. Eligibility is only valid for this school for the current academic year. This consent form must be renewed each year and/or any-time a student changes schools.

- A written medical statement from a health-care provider who has prescriptive privileges that he/she has prescribed the asthma inhaler and/or auto-injectable epinephrine for the student and that the student needs to carry the medication on his/her person due to a medical condition;
- The specific medications prescribed for the student;
- An individualized health care plan developed by the prescribing health-care provider containing the treatment plan for managing asthma and/or anaphylaxis episodes of the student and for medication use by the student during school hours; and
- A statement from the prescribing health-care provider that the student possesses the skill and responsibility necessary to use and administer the asthma inhaler and/or auto-injectable epinephrine.

If the school nurse is available, the student shall demonstrate his/her skill level in using the asthma inhalers and/or auto-injectable epinephrine to the nurse.

Medications for self-medication shall be supplied by the student's parent or guardian and be in the original container labeled with the student's name. The parent or guardian may choose to provide the school with additional appropriate medication (use form 4.35F) for the school to have available to deal with an asthma or anaphylaxis emergency.

My signature below is an acknowledgment that I understand that the District, its Board of Directors, and its employees shall be immune from civil liability for injury resulting from the self-administration of medications by the student named above.

PARENT OR LEGAL GUARDIAN SIGNATURE

DATE _____

GLUCAGON ADMINISTRATION AND CARRY CONSENT FORM

STUDENT'S NAME (PLEASE PRINT)

The school has developed a Section 504 plan acknowledging that my child has been diagnosed as suffering from Type I diabetes. The 504 plan authorizes the school nurse or, in the absence of the nurse, trained volunteer district personnel, to administer Glucagon in an emergency situation to my child.

I hereby authorize the school nurse or, in the absence of the nurse, trained volunteer district personnel designated as care providers, to administer Glucagon to my child in an emergency situation. Glucagon shall be supplied to the school nurse by the student's parent or guardian and be in the original container.

I acknowledge that the District, its Board of Directors, its employees, or an agent of the District, including a healthcare professional who trained volunteer school personnel designated as care providers shall not be liable for any damages resulting from his/her actions or inactions in the administration of Glucagon in accordance with this consent form and the 504 plan.

PARENT OR LEGAL GUARDIAN SIGNATURE

DATE _____

OBJECTION TO PHYSICAL EXAMINATIONS OR SCREENING

I, the undersigned, being a parent or guardian of a student, or a student eighteen (18) years of age or older, hereby note my objection to the physical examination or screening of the student named below.

Physical examination or screening being objected to:

_____ Vision test

_____ Hearing test

_____ Scoliosis test

_____ Other, please specify _____

Comments: _____

Name of student (Printed) _____

Signature of parent (or student, if 18 or older)

Date form was filed (To be filled in by office personnel) _____

**PERMISSION TO DISPLAY PHOTO OF STUDENT
ON WEB SITE**

I hereby grant permission to the Deer/Mt Judea School District to display the photograph or video clip of me/my student (if student is under the age of eighteen) on the District's web site, including any page on the site, or in other District publications without further notice. I also grant the Deer/Mt Judea School District the right to edit the photograph or video clip at its discretion.

The student's name may be used in conjunction with the photograph or video clip. It is understood, however, that once the photograph or video clip is used or misused by persons with computers accessing the District's web site.

Name of student (printed)

Signature of student (only necessary if student is over 18)

Signature of parent (required if student is under 18)

Date

STUDENT INTERNET USE AGREEMENT

Student's Name _____ Grade Level _____

(PLEASE PRINT)

School _____ Date _____

The _____ School District agrees to allow the student identified above ("Student") to use the district's technology to access the Internet under the following terms and conditions which apply whether the access is through a District or student owned technology device:

1. **Conditional Privilege:** The Student's use of the district's access to the Internet is a privilege conditioned on the Student's abiding to this agreement. No student may use the district's access to the Internet whether through a District or student owned technology device unless the Student and his/her parent or guardian have read and signed this agreement.
2. **Acceptable Use:** The Student agrees that he/she will use the District's Internet access for educational purposes only. In using the Internet, the Student agrees to obey all federal and state laws and regulations. The Student also agrees to abide by any Internet use rules instituted at the Student's school or class, whether those rules are written or oral.
3. **Penalties for Improper Use:** If the Student violates this agreement and misuses the Internet, the Student shall be subject to disciplinary action. [Note: A.C.A. § 6-21-107 requires the district to have "...provisions for administration of punishment of students for violations of the policy with stiffer penalties for repeat offenders, and the same shall be incorporated into the district's written student discipline policy." You may choose to tailor your punishments to be appropriate to the school's grade levels.]
4. "Misuse of the District's access to the Internet" includes, but is not limited to, the following: using the Internet for other than educational purposes; gaining intentional access or maintaining access to materials which are "harmful to minors" as defined by Arkansas law; using the Internet for any illegal activity, including computer hacking and copyright or intellectual property law violations; making unauthorized copies of computer software; accessing "chat lines" unless authorized by the instructor for a class activity directly supervised by a staff member; using abusive or profane language in private messages on the system; or using the system to harass, insult, or verbally attack others; posting anonymous messages on the system; using encryption software; wasteful use of limited resources provided by the school including paper; causing congestion of the network through lengthy downloads of files; vandalizing data of another user; obtaining or sending information which could be used to make destructive devices such as guns, weapons, bombs, explosives, or fireworks; gaining or attempting to gain unauthorized access to resources or files; identifying oneself with another person's name or password or using an account or password of another user without proper authorization; invading the privacy of individuals; divulging personally identifying information about himself/herself or anyone else either on the Internet or in an email. Personally identifying information includes full names, address, and phone number; using the network for financial

or commercial gain without district permission; theft or vandalism of data, equipment, or intellectual property; attempting to gain access or gaining access to student records, grades, or files; introducing a virus to, or otherwise improperly tampering with the system; degrading or disrupting equipment or system performance; creating a web page or associating a web page with the school or school district without proper authorization; providing access to the District's Internet Access to unauthorized individuals; failing to obey school or classroom Internet use rules; or taking part in any activity related to Internet use which creates a clear and present danger of the substantial disruption of the orderly operation of the district or any of its schools; Installing or downloading software on district computers without prior approval of technology director or his/her designee.

5. Liability for debts: Students and their cosigners shall be liable for any and all costs (debts) incurred through the student's use of the computers or access to the Internet including penalties for copyright violations.

6. No Expectation of Privacy: The Student and parent/guardian signing below agree that if the Student uses the Internet through the District's access, that the Student waives any right to privacy the Student may have for such use. The Student and the parent/guardian agree that the district may monitor the Student's use of the District's Internet Access and may also examine all system activities the Student participates in, including but not limited to e-mail, voice, and video transmissions, to ensure proper use of the system. The District may share such transmissions with the Student's parents/guardians.

7. No Guarantees: The District will make good faith efforts to protect children from improper or harmful matter which may be on the Internet. At the same time, in signing this agreement, the parent and Student recognize that the District makes no guarantees about preventing improper access to such materials on the part of the Student.

8. Signatures: We, the persons who have signed below, have read this agreement and agree to be bound by the terms and conditions of this agreement.

Student's Signature: _____

Date _____

Parent/Legal Guardian Signature: _____

Date _____

OBJECTION TO PUBLICATION OF DIRECTORY INFORMATION

(Not to be filed if the parent/student has no objection)

I, the undersigned, being a parent of a student, or a student eighteen (18) years of age or older, hereby note my objection to the disclosure or publication by the Deer/Mt Judea School District of directory information, as defined in Policy No. 4.13 (Privacy of Students' Records), concerning the student named below. The district is required to continue to honor any signed opt-out form for any student no longer in attendance at the district.

I understand that the participation by the below-named student in any interscholastic activity, including athletics and school clubs, may make the publication of some directory information unavoidable, and the publication of such information in other forms, such as telephone directories, church directories, etc., is not within the control of the District.

I understand that this form must be filed with the office of the appropriate building principal within ten (10) school days from the beginning of the current school year or the date the student is enrolled for school in order for the District to be bound by this objection. Failure to file this form within that time is a specific grant of permission to publish such information.

I object and wish to deny the disclosure or publication of directory information as follows:

Deny disclosure to military recruiters _____

Deny disclosure to Institutions of postsecondary education _____

Deny disclosure to Potential employers _____

Deny disclosure to all public and school sources _____

Selecting this option will prohibit the release of directory information to the three categories listed above along with all other public sources (such as newspapers), AND result in the student's directory information not being included in the school's yearbook and other school publications.

Deny disclosure to all public sources _____

Selecting this option will prohibit the release of directory information to the first three categories listed above along with all other public sources (such as newspapers), but permit the student's directory information to be included in the school's yearbook and other school publications.

Name of student (Printed)

Signature of parent (or student, if 18 or older)

Date form was filed (To be filled in by office personnel)

